



Mrs. Margaret Rose (Ryan) Greco

May 25, 1926 - February 20, 2018

DEERFIELD - Mrs. Margaret Rose (Ryan) Greco, age 91, passed away on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center with her loving family by her side.

Born in St. Paul, Minnesota on May 25, 1926, Margaret was the daughter of the late John and Rose (Gobeil) Ryan. Raised and educated in St. Paul, she graduated from St. Joseph's Academy in 1944. She attended St. Benedict's College and graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1949 with a degree in Education. On June 29, 1957 she married Joseph A. Greco with whom she shared the joys of a 44-year union prior to his passing on November 18, 2001. Margaret held various teaching positions in Minnesota and Quantico, Virginia from 1949 to 1957. Her husband's military career led her to reside in diverse locations including Maine, England, Florida, and Illinois. Upon Joseph's retirement, the couple relocated to Utica. She then pursued graduate studies at SUNY Cortland earning her Master's degree in 1974. Margaret obtained a teaching appointment at West Frankfort Elementary School, the position from which she retired in 1985. Her dedication to education was profound and it prevailed after her retirement when she returned to the classroom as a substitute teacher with the Frankfort/Schuyler, Utica, New Hartford, and Catholic School systems. Teaching and reaching her students brought her a joy that remained with her long after her retirement. Every student who came into her classroom knew of her wisdom, compassion, encouragement. At home, she enjoyed gardening, arts & crafts, and interior decorating, always

enhancing the beauty of her surroundings with the products of her talents and efforts. She was a wonderful mother and the arrival of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren was an additional blessing. She cherished these children, and they loved her and remained involved in her life. She was a member of the New York State Teachers Association. A devout Catholic, she was a faithful parishioner of Historic Old St. John's Church.

Margaret is survived by her children and their loves, Mary Rose and Richard DiFiore, Joseph J. and Stephanie Greco, Anne and Anthony Lanza, and Joan, who was so dedicated in caring for her mom, and her husband Vincent Restive with whom she shared their home; her grandchildren, Michael and Elizabeth DiFiore, Mark and Jennie DiFiore; Jack Ryan Greco; Alisha Ann Restive, and Dominic Restive; and her great-grandchildren, Jacob, Catherine, Charlotte, and Allison. She also leaves many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and in-laws, Gloria and Tom Yacono, and Joan Ryan. Also, several longtime teacher friends including Mary Ann, and Cynthia who would visit and hoot it up with Margaret. She was predeceased by her sister and brother-in-law, Eileen and Col. Jino J. D'Alessandro; her brothers and sisters-in-law, Dr. John and Catherine Ryan; her in-laws, James Ryan, Theresa and Joe Basile, Ann and Louis Cuzzivoglio, and Jack and Ann Greco; and her nephew, Les Cuzzivoglio.

The family extends sincere appreciation to Dr. Naji El Khoury and Kerry Ruia, FNP who provided long and loving care to Margaret; to the members of the Deerfield Volunteer Fire Company for their constant support; Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center Emergency Room and Allen Calder Wing 2nd floor staffs for their patience, information, and compassion; the kindness of Margaret's home Health Aide, Rosalie, who was heaven sent and became part of the family. Also a special note of thanks to Eucharistic Minister Maureen for providing Holy Communion; Sister Sharon Whellahan for her pastoral guidance; and Fr. John Buehler who Margaret appreciated so much for his prayers and visits.

The family will honor and commemorate Margaret's life at a private time.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Margaret's funeral service and Celebration of Life which will commence on Monday morning at 9:30 at Historic Old St. John's Church where her Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Fr. John Buehler. The family will receive visitors at the conclusion of Mass. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Margaret's honor may be made to the Historic Old St. John's Faith Formation Program (Religious Education) or the Historic Old St. John's Scholarship Fund; envelopes will be available at the service.

Tribute Wall

BZ

“ Mrs. Greco was by far, one of the most devoted teachers I ever knew. I had her for a substitute in elementary school. She was so much fun and would come up with super unique ideas, that would engage EVERYONE. She was also a great friend and neighbor to my grandparents, Elaine and Chick Roehrig. Prayers to the whole family.

Bess Zarnoch

Bess Zarnoch - February 25, 2018 at 02:12 PM

JC

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Jeanne Gobeil Coonan - February 23, 2018 at 02:15 PM

JC

*MN cousins reunion.
Lt to Rt Eileen, Joan and Jim Ryan, Margee Gobeil Evans, Jino,
Jeanne Gobeil Coonan, and Peggy.*

Jeanne Gobeil Coonan - February 23, 2018 at 03:20 PM

JB

“ Mrs. Greco was my second grade teacher. And I loved her to bits. I sat next to her as we watched the Challenger explode, and she held our hands and helped us try to understand. She once moved my seat to the back of the room along with my partner in chatterbox crime, Jessica, so that we could continue our chatting without disturbing others. She was stern and special, serious and sweet. May she rest peacefully. Much love, Julie (Sacco) Bastedo

Julie (Sacco) Bastedo - February 22, 2018 at 09:05 PM

MS

“ God placed precious Peggy in my life 45 years ago across the hall at West Frankfort Elementary School. I was blessed with a superb coworker and a friend forever. She helped me through the most difficult time in my life. I'll miss her gentle demeanor and frankness. Our conversations always lifted my spirits whether they were in person or over the phone. I know she's exactly where she's supposed to be , reunited with Joe in their heavenly home. My deepest sympathy to her beautiful family, we all have another angel looking over us.

Mary Ann (Zakrzewski) Schaller - February 22, 2018 at 08:03 PM



“ Multicolor Bright Sympathy Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Margaret Rose (Ryan) Greco.



February 22, 2018 at 12:17 AM

BR

“Peggy used to babysit me when I was a child! I remember she took me to the movie theatre once and snuck a bag of popcorn that she had made for me earlier in her purse. The entire time I questioned her as to why we couldn't just buy it there. I just remember her laughing and smiling at my curiosity. That's what I remember most about her. She was always smiling! I know my my mom treasured her friendship throughout the years and even was lucky enough to visit her recently. I'm deeply saddened by her passing and wish to pass my condolences to your family - Brian Zakrzewski

Brian - February 21, 2018 at 07:52 PM

MV

To the Greco family, my condolences to your family. My family was very close to the Greco family.
With love and many memories, Maryann Ciccone Vesnaver

maryann vesnaver - February 22, 2018 at 05:43 PM

NM

Peggy was one of my "quad-mates" at West Frankfort Elementary. We would often be there after hours correcting papers and she would say "Oh dear, bread and beer" and we would have a good laugh and know it was time to leave the papers and head home. She was a true delight to have as a colleague and friend.
Noreen Ketz Metz

noreen ketz metz - February 23, 2018 at 12:57 AM

MS

WE ARE SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS.MARGARET WAS A WONDERFUL LADY WHO NEVER FAILED TO MAKE ME LAUGH. OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU ALL. GOD BLESS. MARGUERITE& JOE SPANO & FAMILY

MARGUERITE SPANO - February 23, 2018 at 02:53 PM

MQ

Mary and family, so sorry to hear of your mom's passing. She certainly had an amazing impact on so many! RIP.

Mark / Linda Quilter - February 26, 2018 at 11:10 AM