



Marilyn A. (Trotta) Skermont

May 11, 1950 - December 22, 2022

UTICA - Marilyn A. (Trotta) Skermont, age 72, went home to the Lord when she passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, December 22, 2022.

Born in Utica on May 11, 1950, Marilyn was the daughter of the late Francis and Madeline (Milucci) Trotta. Raised and educated locally, she graduated with a Regents Diploma from T.R. Proctor High School/Class of 1967. She continued her education at SUNY Oneonta where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Education/Educational Psychology. She began her post graduate course work at the SUNY Cortland/Utica program where she received her Permanent New York State Teaching Certification in Elementary Education, Nursery, and K-6 grades, and also earned 30 Graduate Hours in Reading. She then enrolled in Utica College of Syracuse University where she completed Math Course Work and received her Permanent New York State Teaching Certification in Math 7-9 grades, and also earned 24 Graduate Hours in Math. Lastly, she enrolled in the SUNY Cortland Graduate Program where Marilyn received her Certificate of Advanced Studies in School Administration and her Permanent New York State School District Administration Certification (SDA) as well as 36 Graduate Hours (CAS). At one time, Marilyn was married to Paul Skermont, and to that union came the blessing of their only daughter.

Marilyn was the first woman appointed as Superintendent of the Utica City School District, a position she held from 2006 until her retirement in 2009. Her interpersonal skills and gentle demeanor made her an excellent communicator

and mediator. She made sound decisions in her leadership role in overseeing personnel matters and informing and supporting the Board of Education. She was a professional who worked well with teachers, principals, administrators, staff, parents, and students. After she retired, Marilyn wrote grants for the Rescue Mission of Utica and successfully obtained the funds needed through her grant-writing expertise. For years, she consistently contributed to many charities, especially those involving children and veterans.

Marilyn's term of endearment for all her loved ones was "Dolly". She always put her family first, especially her daughter Kelly who was her pride and joy. Her sisters Adrienne and Francine were so very near and dear to her heart, and she loved spending time with them even if it was just talking on the phone. She missed her parents and brothers so, and mentioned them often. She had a love of plants and flowers and could grow them like no other. Gift-giving and finding the perfect items for everyone was a joy for her. Her favorite team was definitely the NY Yankees, and in recent years she became a Las Vegas Raiders fan. There wasn't a Hallmark movie she hadn't seen and she always looked forward to the new ones. A member of the Zonta Club of Utica for several years, she loved everything the club stood for and all it helped. She enjoyed being a part of the annual brunch every year. At one time she served as the club's president. The family offers a special thank you to Greg St. Denis for being the incredibly loving, attentive son she never had. His daily kindness, love, and care was second to none and she loved him dearly, as he loved her. She so enjoyed watching baseball, football, and even wrestling and UFC with her "Greggy".

Marilyn's great-niece, Megan, wrote a heart-felt tribute to share her insights with all who knew and loved her aunt: "On December 22, heaven gained the sweetest angel that has ever walked this earth. My great-aunt Marilyn was taken from us way too soon. I have never met anyone in my life as pure as my aunt. She was very involved with charity work and it always inspired me to help when others needed it. She was the Superintendent of Utica City schools through my middle school years, and nobody loved helping young kids as she

did. She was a devout Catholic and NEVER passed judgment, and never even said a sour word about anyone, even if they wronged her. She loved me for me. She loved my photography and makeup and always reminded me how proud she was of me. Just earlier this year she had me draw her eyebrows on for fun to see if she would like it, and she did! When I was at my lowest this year, she opened her arms to me and helped me out. I got to spend a bit of time with her, and I'll never forget the stories she told me. She loved with her all. There's a piece of my heart that will never be filled, now that she's no longer here. But her memory will hold strong with us and the community. It's devastating, but God must have needed her pure heart to add to his host of angels".

To know Marilyn was to know love, which she gave abundantly and freely. Her soft-spoken, humble desire to listen and offer moral support and inspiration was a gift of grace God gave to her. She was a devout Catholic who never wavered from her faith in the Lord. She was a communicant of Historic Old St. John's Church.

Marilyn is survived by her daughter, Kelly Skermont and Greg St. Denis; her sister and brother-in-law, Adrienne and Louis Kloster; her twin sister, Francine Trotta; and the memory of her brothers, Dominick Trotta, and Joseph Trotta who preceded her. She also leaves her nieces, nephews, great-nieces and nephews, great-great-nieces and nephews, cousins; in-laws, Anita Trotta, and Helen Trotta; her lifelong friends, Francis Komiak, Carla Percia, Bernadette Kapps, and Diane Fortugno Skermont prior to her passing in 2015; and her longtime co-workers. Marilyn also leaves behind her dog 'Storm' and her grand-dog 'Schotzie' whom she loved to pet and reward with treats. These loyal canine companions loved her as much as she loved them.

The family would like to thank her longtime physician, Dr. Arul Kannan for his care and medical guidance; and the doctors and staff of the ICU at MVHS at St. Elizabeth Medical Center for their constant care and compassion.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Marilyn's Mass of

Christian Burial and Celebration of Life which will commence on Saturday afternoon, December 31 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at Historic Old St. John's Church, 240 Bleecker St., Utica. There will be an opportunity to greet the family at the conclusion of the service. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Marilyn's name may be directed to the American Diabetes Association online at <https://diabetes.org/> or by mail to <https://diabetes.org/ways-to-give/by-mail>. Envelopes will also be available at the service. Entombment will take place in Christ Our Savior Mausoleum at Calvary Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Cemetery Details

Christ Our Savior Mausoleum at Calvary Cemetery

2407 Oneida Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 735-2727

Tribute Wall

FK

“ Mar,
I will never have another friend like you. We shared laughter and tears and my Mom`s homemade meatballs on Sunday mornings. There were good times and bad times and we lived thru it all. We had so much fun at the Casinos we went to- we were making plans recently for another Casino adventure. We laughed and talked about when the time came we would meet at the casino in the clouds. We were friends since the 7th grade and we have shared so many memories- tears are running down my face as I think of them now. I look forward to seeing you again because this Friendship will never end .Love you forever my Matron of Honor.

Frances Komiak

Frances Sarafina Komiak - December 31, 2022 at 04:27 PM

CP

“ Marilyn was my best friend. I met her through work over 35 years ago and we clicked instantly. We could talk about anything and always knew what the other one was thinking and feeling. We supported each other through good times and challenges. Mar was the most kind generous person I know. She was always extending her warmth and generosity to others. She was a consummate professional and loved the children and teachers of the Utica City School District. Marilyn was also a great listener and because of that she helped many people. She loved her daughter Kelly so much and was happy when Greg entered Kelly's life. She also loved the rest of her family and enjoyed being with them. We shared many laughs and good times over the years - especially our Atlantic City and shopping trips. I will miss her laughter, smile, and friendship. God needed her goodness . Rest in peace! Until we meet again.
Love, Carla

Carla Percia - December 30, 2022 at 06:54 PM

DB

“ Marilyn and I have been friends for over 50 years one of the sweaters and most loving people you will ever have the privilege to meet REST IN PEAS, MY OLD FRIEND THIS WAS WRITTEN WITH A HEAVY HART

Dennis Bova - December 29, 2022 at 03:01 PM

TV

“ The Shinn's & The Rivero's from Virginia purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Marilyn A. (Trotta) Skermont.



The Shinn's & The Rivero's from Virginia - December 29, 2022 at 01:27 PM

HT

“ To Dearest Marilyn: It is with much sorrow & joy that I recall the many memorable talks we’ve had down thru the years—especially those concerning what lies beyond this veil called life. But you need wonder no more. You fought the good fight & you are now enjoying the rewards you so greatly deserve. Your never-ending compassion, love & humility are the qualities that made you a woman after God’s own ❤️ & a person that was endearing to everyone who had the privilege of crossing your path in this life. I thank God & am proud to have had you as my sister-in-law. Please give Joe, my husband & your brother, a kiss for me & tell all our loved ones that I await, in joyful expectation, that glorious day of our reunion where we can share Eternity together in peace & joy, with no more pain & no more tears with Jesus & all the angels & saints. Nicole sends her love along with mine. Until we meet again, rest in Heavenly peace. With all my love, Helen

Helen Trotta - December 29, 2022 at 12:07 PM

MS

“ Kelly so sorry to hear of the passing of your dear mother. Please know you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. The Rivero and Shinn families from Virginia.



Maria Shinn - December 29, 2022 at 11:31 AM

DL

“ My deepest 💔 😭 sympathy. My memories of my youngest years are of Marilyn and sisters until I moved away. They were always so sweet. They were my role models. Love ❤️ to everyone. Wish I had seen you one more time.

D Lamb - December 29, 2022 at 11:14 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Marilyn A. (Trotta) Skermont.*



December 29, 2022 at 09:18 AM



“ *Kelly, so sorry to hear of your moms passing. Sending thoughts and prayers to you, Greg, and your whole family. -Andrea Amrhein & Heidi Kloczkowski*

Andrea Amrhein - December 29, 2022 at 07:26 AM



“ *To the family of Marilyn Skermont my deepest sympathy of the loss of your loved one. Sincerely, Michele Maio Morawiec.*



michele maio morawiec - December 29, 2022 at 06:31 AM



“ *I am so sorry for the loss of Marilyn. I was in Zonta with Marilyn and as a new member Marilyn was kind and supportive to me. Marilyn always supported all of our causes and always provided the centerpieces for our annual Brunch. Marilyn will be truly missed by all of her Zonta Sisters.*

Bea Allison - December 28, 2022 at 09:37 PM

CA

“ So sorry to hear of the passing of this wonderful woman. She always had a smile and a wave when we would see each other. Sending thoughts and prayers to the family. Joe and Colleen, next door neighbors.

Colleen Ancona - December 28, 2022 at 08:24 PM

JY

“ I was in Zonta with Marilyn.. She was an incredibly warm and welcoming person. I am happy she was able to attend our end of year picnic where I spent almost all of the time there talking to her. I missed her very much as she had stopped attending the meetings. Although she wasn't physically there, I knew she was always supportive of her Zontian Sisters. She will be missed.

Jennifer Yanowitz - December 28, 2022 at 07:18 PM

AB

“ I worked with Marilyn for a long time. She was the consummate professional and I considered her a dear friend. She was so loving , caring and nurturing to all she encountered...unique qualities in this day and age. God took her away too soon, but she now soars the heavens free from pain. My condolences to her family. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you. May she rest in peace. ❤️🙏❤️

Angela Brooks - December 28, 2022 at 04:20 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Marilyn A. (Trotta) Skermont.



December 28, 2022 at 03:17 PM