



Sharon K. McEwen

February 6, 1948 - August 19, 2016

Sharon K. McEwen, age 68, went home to the Lord as she passed away on Friday, August 19, 2016 in the comfort of the Abraham House with her family by her side.

Born in Little Falls, NY on February 6, 1948, Sharon was the daughter of the late Robert L. and Jane (Andrilla) McEwen. She was raised and educated in Little Falls. She traveled for a period of time and eventually made Utica her home. Sharon enjoyed her career and the responsibilities of her positions at the St. Elizabeth Medical Center where she worked as a secretary in the Trauma Department, and an Administrative Assistant in the Pharmacy, retiring in 2016.

Sharon was a sweet, nurturing soul and an independent, strong-willed woman. You could go to her and receive guidance and great advice while keeping confidentiality. She was a single mom who not only survived, but thrived while raising her child. She loved her son and when he married, she became part of her daughter-in-law's family, the Giruzzi clan. Her grandchildren generated the happiest moments of her life. She displayed great enthusiasm and gentle instruction with great care. Christmas season was a time of cheer and a time to cherish those she loved. Over time, she began to embrace interests that were outside of her norm and her excitement with new endeavors was a joy for everyone. She loved and collected Victorian dolls, and her artistic side showed in her scrapbooking projects that chronicled family events. But more than anything else, she loved her son — the person

he became, his work ethic, his business talents, and the loving family man, father, and husband he was and will always be.

Sharon was a silent giver and her faith sustained her. She read the bible, took lessons from parables and scripture, and believed with all her heart in God's plan. She shared a personal relationship of prayer and adoration with her Lord. The World Vision and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital were her favorite charities of need.

Sharon is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Ryan and Danielle L. McEwen of Frankfort; and her grandchildren, twins Robert James and Giuliana Magdelina "Giugu" McEwen. She also leaves her cousins, especially acknowledging Lorraine and Rick Smith with whom she shared a lifelong relationship; her best friend, "Aunt" Mary Jane Bello, with whom she shared everyday events for 40 years; and Filomain and Joe Talerico, amazing people who found their way into Sharon's life and shared so much love. Those she considered her family, Jim and Denise Giruzzi, Jimmy and Gianna, Audrina Giruzzi, and "Poppy" Vinny Pristera; Vinny and Gina Pristera and their children, Brianna and Krista; Frank Giruzzi and his family, Carla Giruzzi Keena and Lou Montero. Also close to her heart was Marie Pristera who preceded her.

The family extends heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Mathew Ulahannan; the staff of the St. Luke's Memorial Health Care Center 6th Floor oncology staff; the personnel of Hospice & Palliative Care, Inc. and the staff of Abraham House; and Rev. Anthony LaFache for sharing his spirituality. These professionals and volunteers cared for Sharon and for those in need with the ultimate selflessness and compassion.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend her funeral service and Celebration of Life which will commence on Wednesday afternoon at 1:00 at St. Joseph & St. Patrick Church where her Memorial Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. Anthony P. LaFache. The family will receive visitors at the conclusion of Mass.

Previous Events

Funeral Service

AUG **24**. 1:00 PM (ET)

St. Joseph & St. Patrick Church
702 Columbia Street
Utica, NY

Tribute Wall

EH

“ Dear Ryan and Family,
Your Mom and I were friends in our teens and twenties. We would go to Lake George in the Summer and eventually we both lived in Utica in the late 60's. I married and moved to Wisconsin. I never forgot the fun your Mom and I had when we were young. Memories of your Mom will always make me smile. She was a unique woman. I know she will be missed by her loving family. Rest in peace my dear friend.
Eileen Toher Hauser

Eileen Toher Hauser - August 25, 2016 at 09:18 AM

JS

“ Ryan and family - I am so sorry to hear of your mother's passing. We were neighbors for many years and she was a lovely person.
Jeanine

Jeanine Stevens - August 24, 2016 at 04:05 PM

K(

“ I new Sharon as a young person she was friends with my mom and she was probably only 27 at the time.....she was always beautiful inside and out she will be missed my condolences to her family.

Kathy Pararcka (Gray) - August 24, 2016 at 12:30 PM

LL

“ Dear Ryan and family,
We are so sorry to hear of Sharon's passing, as you know, we go way back with your mom, what can we say. She was just an extraordinary, beautiful lady. She will remain in our hearts forever. May all good memories with her help you through this sad time. Peace be with all.
- John and Lu Latini

Lucille Latini - August 24, 2016 at 10:01 AM

TC

“ So very sorry to hear of Sharons passing. We had just connected about a year ago on face book and enjoyed seeing each others families.
My prayers and sympathy to all her family and friends.
Rest in peace--
Teresa Restante Cool

Teresa Restante Cool - August 23, 2016 at 05:55 PM

LF

“ Love, Rick, Lorraine and family purchased the Simply Lily for the family of Sharon K. McEwen.



Love, Rick, Lorraine and family - August 23, 2016 at 02:13 PM

MA

“ *Maryrose Abdoo lit a candle in memory of Sharon K. McEwen*



Maryrose Abdoo - August 23, 2016 at 06:55 AM

PB

“ *Ryan,*

We are so sorry to learn of the passing of your Mom. I don't know if you knew that we were friends all through grade school and high school, graduating together in 1966. It was always nice to see her occasionally at your grandparent's house when we lived behind them on Gansevoort Street. You were a great friend to our kids (Aaron, Paul, Jessica) and always a part of the Monroe, Gansevoort, and Dale Place gang in our yard! I would love to see you again but we regret we cannot attend the funeral on Wednesday. We will be praying for you and your family through this difficult time. God Bless you.

Pat & Phyllis Brown

Phyllis Brown - August 22, 2016 at 06:35 PM

PF

“ Like so many others who have posted here, I, too only recently learned of Sharon's serious illness. I was sadly shocked at her passing. Forty-nine years after graduating from High School together, I finally was able to reconnect with her and we caught up with one another's lives at a luncheon get-together a year ago. I was delighted to learn that she had not changed in both looks and personality in all that time! I was hoping to be able to again enjoy her company this summer, together with some other high school friends.....but that was not to be. I am so sorry she had to leave us so unexpectedly and I am thankful we were able to laugh and share some wonderful memories and life stories before she got sick. Life can be so unfair sometimes.....especially to people so sweet and loving as Sharon. She will now forever be in my thoughts and I am truly sorry to all her family and friends who must now experience the void Sharon's passing has left. I have never met anyone quite like her.....she was a beautiful person. <3

Paulette Ferraro (High School friend)

Paulette Ferraro - August 22, 2016 at 01:35 AM

DP

“ Dear old friend, How many good memories we had while in high school. Going to your house, your mom and dad still alive in the apt. upstairs on Monroe St. in Little Falls. I was so sad to think you were ill and I never knew. I would have got a hold of you somehow to reconnect. Ryan, I never got to meet you, but I hope to meet you and your family on Wed. at your Moms' service. God Bless, Donna Perry

Donna Perry - August 21, 2016 at 08:17 PM

RU

“ Ryan and Danielle,
My thoughts and prayers and with you during this difficult time. Your mom's passing has really hit me hard and I can't tell you how much I am going to miss my dear sweet cousin. Every time I came home I always looked so forward to seeing her and she would always tell me how much she wanted to come to Atlanta and visit us. I always looked up to her and she had such a positive impact on my life growing up. There are so many fond memories I have and I will cherish them forever. Stay strong and God Bless! Love Rich

Rich Ullman - August 21, 2016 at 08:12 PM

DL

“ Ryan & Danielle,

I am so very sorry about Sharon-we were friends since 2nd grade and I can't believe this. She was so proud of you Ryan and loved her daughter in law very much. Those adorable grandchildren meant so much to her. I know you miss her already and this is so hard. Just remember-she will always be near you. I kept wondering why I hadn't heard from her on facebook lately-I never knew she was sick. My prayers go out to you and her whole extended family.

Robert & Debbie Licari

Deborah Licari - August 21, 2016 at 04:17 PM

DM

“ Debra Manley lit a candle in memory of Sharon K. McEwen



Debra Manley - August 21, 2016 at 02:33 PM

DM

Ryan and Dani,

I am so sorry for your loss. My prayers go out to you and your family.

Debra Manley - August 21, 2016 at 02:34 PM

DM

“ *Dear Friend,*

My heart skipped a beat today when I saw your name in the obituary. Even though we have not seen each other in many years I still considered you a good friend. We have just re-connected on Facebook and have enjoyed seeing photos of you and your wonderful family. That old saying "Don't put off till tomorrow what you could have done today." holds so true right now. I wanted to get to see you so we could re-hash old stories of our fun filled days in high school. We did have a blast didn't we.

You know I am sitting here writing this and still can't believe you are gone. You never let on you were sick. Please know I will forever hold dear our friendship of days gone by.

Rest peacefully dear friend.

Debra Manley - August 21, 2016 at 02:30 PM

BL

“ *Although I never met Sharon's son and family my thoughts and prayers go out to them. I new Sharon all through high school and only recently connected with her with several lunches with other high school friends. She will be missed. So sorry for your loss.*

Barbara Longacre - August 21, 2016 at 07:54 AM

BD

“ *Barbara Diamond lit a candle in memory of Sharon K. McEwen*



Barbara Diamond - August 20, 2016 at 07:35 PM

RU

“ *On prayers are with you and family. Ryan you had a great mother who will always be remember as a person who worked hard and always supported her family all the time. Our prayers are with you during these hard days. She will be missed ut she is now resting in peace. Ron and Debby ullman*

Ron and debby ullman - August 20, 2016 at 06:15 PM

RU

“ *Ron And Debby Ullman lit a candle in memory of Sharon K. McEwen*



Ron and debby ullman - August 20, 2016 at 06:08 PM

LS

“ *Love Rosemary and George Scholl purchased the Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers for the family of Sharon K. McEwen.*



Love Rosemary and George Scholl - August 20, 2016 at 10:30 AM

TF

“ Ryan, Danielle and family ,
So sorry for your loss . She was a great woman and we glad we had
the chance to share special events with her . May she rest in peace
. We love you guys .
Phil , Janene , Alex and Alena Tirado

Tirado family - August 20, 2016 at 08:26 AM

KS

“ Ryan and Dani. So very very sorry for your loss. I know your Mom
was very proud of you and she is smiling down on your beautiful
family. Ryan you have and will continue to make her proud of the
son and family man you have become. Our thoughts and prayers
are with you and Dani and your wonderful family. We love you.
Mother Kay and Dana. Xoxo

Kathie Scalise - August 20, 2016 at 08:04 AM

MA

“ Ryan and Danielle, We are so very sorry for
your loss. She will forever be watching over you
and your beautiful children.

Maria and Dan Post



Maria - August 20, 2016 at 05:59 AM

JR

“ So sorry for your loss. May God send an
angel to guide her home.



Jo Ann and John Russo - August 20, 2016 at 03:05 AM

SC

“ Sharon's obituary is the most beautiful obituary I have ever read. She would love it! Ryan was indeed the very, very best thing in her life. Many of our conversations were about our love of our children and then our Grandchildren. She was besotted with those two beautiful children. I loved when Danielle's family welcomed her into their hearts. She was set in her ways so it was amazing to watch her gradually accept becoming part of a family filled with love. Sharon was so cautious with everything she did, needing to look at everything from all directions before making a decision. Her passion for animals as well as people going through sad times was another trait I loved. She was a good listener and I cherished the times she would sit and listen as I "unloaded." I loved, love, loved our trauma service celebration of birthdays and of Christmas. She spent hours finding the perfect gift for each of us and was like a child on Christmas morning on those days. Sharon is gone way too soon but I am sure she is in a very special place where she can be free from pain. RIP dear friend. 💕
Love, Sally

Sue Cooper - August 19, 2016 at 11:00 PM

GS

“ Gina Spinelli lit a candle in memory of Sharon K. McEwen



gina spinelli - August 19, 2016 at 10:04 PM