



Mary Elizabeth Wolfe

December 31, 1928 - March 2, 2019

Mary Elizabeth Wolfe, age 90, loving wife, mother of three children, and grandmother, from Savanna, Illinois, died on Saturday, March 2nd, 2019 at the Carroll County Good Samaritan, Mt. Carroll. Cremation Rites have been accorded. A memorial celebration on a beautiful spring day will be announced in the near future. Burial of her cremated remains will take place in the Savanna Township Cemetery.

Mary was born on December 31, 1928 in Savanna, the daughter of Roy and Bertha (Beaver) Hummel. Her mother passed away shortly after child birth. As an infant, Mary was adopted by Henry and Ruby Winkler of Savanna. At the age of 11 Mary was informed she was adopted, and at 21 she was invited to Lanark to meet her biological family. To her surprise, she met her father Roy, who she had recognized as one of her regular drug store cafe customers. She also met four sisters and three brothers.

At this time in her early twenties, Mary was moving on from a short first marriage and walked away with a loving son, James Allen Engleking. Mary raised James as a single mom into her thirties. Train trips to see the country with James including a rodeo in Wyoming was her greatest joy at the time.

Mary worked several jobs as a single mother. On her walks along Chicago Avenue in Savanna to her railroad clerk job, she noticed a gentleman taking breaks on the porch of Law-Jones Funeral Home. The gentleman, referred to as “the friendly undertaker” started waving to her. She had met the love of her life on those walks and two years later on February 20, 1965 she married Donald Stewart Wolfe. They raised two sons, Scott and Tim. In addition, Don adopted James.

In the following decades Mary thrived as a mother creating a traditional and loving home. She could always be found in the kitchen where she found great joy in cooking but most importantly how it connected her family around the dinner table. Holidays were spent baking and decorating her home. As the boys grew older she opened her home to all of their friends and mothered them all. She created a life better than the challenges she

faced with the goal of providing every opportunity for her children, and a safe loving home to come back to.

Later in life she cared for Don, who was stricken with Alzheimer's. She selflessly spent most days at his side and was there to say goodbye to him in the end. The idea of her reunion with the "the friendly undertaker" is a sweet thought.

Mary will be dearly missed by her two sons, Scott (Lisa) Wolfe of Savanna and Tim (Heather) Wolfe of Chicago; a daughter-in-law, Joy Wolfe; four grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; several cousins, nieces, and nephews. Mary was preceded in death by her parents and adopted parents; a husband, Don Wolfe; one son, James Wolfe; and her siblings.

Comments



“ You are in my thoughts and prayers, I am so sorry for your loss.

Jean Ferris - March 08 at 03:45 PM



“ My deepest condolences at the loss of such a beautiful spirit and tirelessly loving Mother..may you find peace in the memories which make you smile and in the knowledge she was respected, admired, and loved by so many...

Tonya Schafer-Hanrahan - March 06 at 10:21 PM



“ Scott, Tim and Family...You are all in my thoughts and prayers. What a wonderful woman your Mom was. God bless. Erin (Murphy) Wiebenga



Erin Wiebenga - March 06 at 12:13 PM



“ Rita Promenschenkel-frazier lit a candle in memory of Mary Elizabeth Wolfe



Rita Promenschenkel-frazier - March 06 at 12:07 PM



“ I'm sorry to hear that your one of God flowers, I have know you since my Savannah jones had work for year's you found each at the same place as still live on today we will miss seeing there but you take of all the love one now rest in peace

Agnes Jones - March 06 at 10:09 AM



“ Vicki Curboy lit a candle in memory of Mary Elizabeth Wolfe



Vicki Curboy - March 05 at 11:03 PM



“ I have wonderful memories of Mary when I worked with her at Sullivan’s Super Market, while I was in high school and college. She was always so very kind to me and my mother. She will certainly be missed.



Tymothy Williams - March 05 at 10:55 PM



“ Mary Ann Eirhart lit a candle in memory of Mary Elizabeth Wolfe



Mary Ann Eirhart - March 05 at 08:12 PM



“ Matt Atherton lit a candle in memory of Mary Elizabeth Wolfe



Matt Atherton - March 05 at 07:06 PM



“ Your Good Samaritan family sure will miss you sweet Mary



Amy Sedivy - March 05 at 06:55 PM



“ Mary Wolfe was a wonderful wife and mother. I babysat Tim and Scott once in a while and she was extremely kind to me. She made the best shrimp dish, I think she said shrimp newberg. She also took care of her little old Uncle. She was a friend of my mother's and I considered her my friend too. RIP sweet Mary.

Patty Drake Hall - March 05 at 04:29 PM



“ I was so sorry to read about Mary's death. Her husband Don and I were very good friends beginning in high school until his passing. Mary was a very sweet lady and was a wonderful wife for Don and a very good friend to Eleanor and I. To the family, you have my deepest sympathy.

Don Siedenbug - March 05 at 02:51 PM



“ Bill Mullen lit a candle in memory of Mary Elizabeth Wolfe



Bill Mullen - March 05 at 01:12 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to the family. She was a wonderful lady. I worked with Mary at Sullivan's in Savanna. i remember stories of her childhood and her wonderful family. She was so proud of her them. I can picture her and the "friendly undertaker" together again. Hugs and prayers.

Diane Pidde



Diane Pidde - March 05 at 12:59 PM



“ So Sorry for your loss..

Donna Quick - March 05 at 12:04 PM



“ Penny McGinnis lit a candle in memory of Mary Elizabeth Wolfe



Penny McGinnis - March 05 at 11:01 AM



“ My Mother, Jean Davis & Mary were Dear Friends. I have many wonderful memories of Mom & Mary laughing around the kitchen table, sipping coffee. I can't think of Mary without thinking of Mom too. R.I. P. Mary. You will be missed. I love the Memorial that was written. It was very loving, just like Mary!

Margo - March 05 at 10:59 AM



“ Margo & Dennis Hull lit a candle in memory of Mary Elizabeth Wolfe



Margo & Dennis Hull - March 05 at 10:54 AM



“ So sad to hear. She was a sweet lady and will be dearly missed

Amy Hearne - March 05 at 10:45 AM



“ Carolyn Painter lit a candle in memory of Mary Elizabeth Wolfe



Carolyn Painter - March 05 at 10:40 AM