



Mary Ellen Kalled

November 11, 1933 - July 6, 2021

Albany-Mary Ellen (Cunningham) Kalled, 87, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, classical pianist, died on Tuesday, July 6, 2021, with her dear family at her bedside. Mary Ellen was born in Johnson City, NY to the late Frank and Louise Cunningham. In 1956 she received her Bachelor degree in Music from Boston University School of Fine and Applied Arts.

She was a longtime communicant and active member of Blessed Sacrament Church, Albany. For 26 years she devoted her energy to serving others in the food pantry and thrift shop. Her many contributions also included bringing communion to the homebound as a Eucharistic Minister, serving as President of the Rosary Guild, working at the annual bazaar and cleaning the church. The quality of her public service was recognized by the the Friends of Fontaine, and in 2018 by the NY State Senate and Assembly, when she was honored with the Senior Lifetime Achievement Award by the Capital District Senior Issues Forum.

She worked for the NYS Energy office for 16 years. In her capacity as Energy Conservation Program Specialist she earned a special recognition that stated: "Mary Ellen symbolizes what public service should be all about, she simply does what she does because she cares".

Her greatest pride and joy in life was her family, who loved her deeply in return. She enjoyed watching and sharing in the adventures of her children and grandchildren, summer trips to NH lakes and visits to the ocean. Her most treasured trips were with her husband to Greece and the Holy Land.

She was the beloved wife of the late Emil J. Kalled; dear mother of Barbara Kalled of Wolfeboro, NH, Kevin Kalled of Rotterdam, NY, Susan Kalled of Concord, MA and the late David Kalled of Albany; mother-in-law of Michael Lucontoni and Donna Kalled; dear grandmother of Christian (deceased), Ryan, Chelsea, Victoria and Sophia; sister of late brothers Peter, Robert and John Cunningham, and is survived by several nieces, nephews and friends.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Mary Ellen's family Wednesday, July 14, 2021 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the McVeigh Funeral Home, 208 North Allen Street, Albany, NY 12206. Please only enter the funeral home from the rear parking lot doorway; unvaccinated individuals must wear a mask and practice social distancing.

Funeral services Thursday, July 15, 2021 at 10:30 am at Blessed Sacrament Church, 607 Central Ave. (Father John Bradley Way) Albany, NY 12206 where her Funeral Mass will be celebrated.

The Rite of Committal will be held at St. Agnes Cemetery, Menands, NY immediately following the Funeral Mass.

To leave a message for the family please visit <http://www.McveighFuneralHome.com>

In lieu of flowers, those wishing to remember Mary Ellen in a special way may send contributions to Friends of Fontaine, PO Box 11376, Albany, NY 12211, which supports St. Gabriel's School in Fontaine, Haiti.

Cemetery

Events

St. Agnes Cemetery JUL

48 Cemetery Ave
Menands, NY,

14

Visitation 04:00PM - 06:00PM

McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc.
208 N Allen St, Albany, NY, US, 12206

JUL

15

Service 10:30AM

Blessed Sacrament Church
607 Central Ave (Father John Bradley Way), Albany, NY, US

Comments



“ My Mom, Mary Ellen, practiced the teachings of the Great Prophet, Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in a robust and substantive manner, throughout her lifetime. She was a genuine Servant-Leader. Her life experience could (and should!) be used as a teaching model, for others who desire to follow Christ.

Jesus instructed Christians to forgive, "...seventy times seven." Or in other words, all the time. I have been the recipient of my Mother's Forgiveness and Radical Grace, more times than I care to admit. That Forgiveness was largely unearned and undeserved, especially by my own standards. Yet, she saw fit to extend to me Christ's Grace and Forgiveness, always. I can only classify that action as remarkable, significant and extraordinary. I must conclude, that I no longer can measure myself, nor others, according to a standard that I could not live up to. No. I will use her standard.

The sting of the difficulties in my life as an adult, which were the result of my own actions, borne of great anger for what I have always believed to be gross injustices in my life, no longer hold the same effect over me, now that I have aged and recognize the amazing Grace and Forgiveness which my Mom, Mary Ellen, has extended to me from 1986 onward.

Now, I merely desire to carry that same quality of Grace, Mercy and Forgiveness, which she exemplified in her walk. I am healed, not only by the power of my faith, but by the extraordinary Love extended to me, by my Mother, Mary Ellen.

It is because of her commitment to Compassion, Mercy and Love - and her genuinely robust application of these principles throughout her lifetime - that I am still here and able to reap the rewards and positive experiences from my earthly journey.

Now, I make it my mission, from this day forward, to try and approximate even a portion of her commitment to Christ's Love, Mercy, Grace and Forgiveness. I know I will fall far short of her achievement. Yet, I believe that goal is a truly worthy one.

I thank you Jesus, for giving me the most valuable gift any son could have in this life - the unconditional Love of his Mother. I thank you Mom - you extraordinary woman - for the Love and Radical Grace you've given me. That gift is valuable to me, beyond words and beyond the recognized wealth of this world. Only Christ's Love surpasses that which you have given me in my lifetime. I Love you dearly, and willingly and painfully carry the burden of missing you daily. Your Love was, and is, admirable and extraordinary.



“ Hello Kalled Family

My name is Gerry Weber Vickers and my Mom, MaryAlice Weber, was very good friends with your Mom. Just wanted to send our condolences for your Mom's passing. Your Mom and Dad lived above my husband's house on Peyster St. years ago; ironic my husband's family lived in the same house as my Mom's dear friend. (My husband was a musician too!).

Please know that we share your loss yet find solace in the many memories such a kind and beautiful soul leaves us with.

Take care one and all,

Sincerely,
Gerry Weber-Vickers

Gerry Vickers - July 16, 2021 at 10:46 PM



“ Dear Kalled family. I'm so sorry that I will be traveling this week as I would have appreciated the chance to tell you in person what a wonderful woman your mom was, and how privileged I was to know her, and for many years to have her be my supervisor at the Energy Office.

She was such an intelligent, kind, thoughtful, insightful woman and a particularly hard worker. I know that her work ethic and integrity was of the highest level, and recognized as such within the Office. Yet with all this, she was always approachable. Mary Ellen always thought first of the other person, a point that I'm sure that you as family were especailly aware.

I'm know she is gracing heaven with her piano playing and any work that the Lord needs doing.

Blessings and prayers be with you all.

Kathleen Pruzek aka Kass

Kathleen Pruzek - July 13, 2021 at 09:39 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mary Ellen Kalled.



July 13, 2021 at 04:48 PM



“ I knew Mary Ellen from our days together at the New York State Energy Office. Mary Ellen was a valued colleague and a wonderful person. My sincerest condolences to her family.

Bill Saxonis

Bill Saxonis - July 13, 2021 at 11:49 AM



“ Mrs. Kalled remained in touch with us in the years following Dave's passing. She was a loving and deeply devout and will be missed by those who knew her.
George and Kathy Doody

George Doody - July 13, 2021 at 11:39 AM



“ Frank D was kind enough to send this to me. Barb, I have the fondest memories of your sweet Mom. She was always so nice to us kids, and seemed to really like engaging with us. We sent each other Christmas cards for years. She was a loving Mom, and I know you will miss her. God bless. Gisele

Gisele - July 12, 2021 at 12:04 PM