



Edna Mary Murtagh McCullen

July 29, 1931 - January 22, 2016

Altamont-God called His ever-faithful servant, Edna Mary Murtagh McCullen, home on January 22, 2016. Welcoming her to Heaven are her predeceased family: daughter, Helen; parents, Mary (Ahern) and Patrick Murtagh; sister, Patricia; Aunt Edna; and in-laws Alice (McEneny) and Joseph McCullen.

Loving and devoted husband of 59 years, John “Jack” and his “Beautiful Bride” met in kindergarten, were classmates at the Miss Quinn School, dated in college, weathered Jack’s Navy enlistment and married at St. Vincent’s Grotto on June 16, 1956. Family was and is everything to this blessed union.

Mom is loved by her surviving “seven little monsters” MaryAlice (Jeff) Senecal, Ann Hess, Catherine (Doug) Cassady, John, Joseph (Lori Rafferty) and Edward McCullen. Her twelve grandchildren cherish Nana’s sage advice woven into memorable stories: Catherine (Dave), Jacqueline, AnnMarie, Ryan (Jodi), Jackson, Sean, Stefanie (Chris), Brooke, Kyle, Jared, Joshua and Gabrielle. Edna’s great-grandchildren will learn of her accomplished embroidery skill, love of reading, excellent board game play and marathon Uno games.

The Murtagh girls loved games. Edna and her identical twin, Ann (Sr. Mary Patricia, D.C.), pulled plenty of pranks. Younger sister, Peggy (Frank) Kelly, joined the fracas.

Edna made any excuse for a party and every family gathering became one. If she could throw a party today she would invite her treasured helpmates: Jen Hale and Debbie Gottobed, special angels; Fr. Paul Smith; Dr. Arenos; Dr. Fiorenza; retired Dr. Stephen Hillinger; Dr. Dudek and the Albany County Hospice; and would offer a seat to any “stray” who happened along and needed a home. There was always “room for one more.”

Giving comfort, especially to children, has always been at the center of Edna’s heart. She applied her education at the Academy of the Holy Names and The College of St. Rose to teach 4th grade at Vincentian Grammar School. Always a teacher to her children, and once of school age themselves, she returned to her beloved profession as a religion teacher at Holy Names. She flicked on and off the classroom lights declaring, “I’m going to turn you on to God, girls!” Edna also dedicated herself to all things “children” including fighting City Hall and Mayor Erastus Corning to get sidewalks on Krumkill Road for a safe walk to and from school.

Edna lived a full spiritual life as a prayerful Legion of Mary member, communicant of St. Lucy’s and a prayer warrior in her “prayer chair” where she said Mass and her catalog of daily prayers.

The McCullen family welcomes your prayers and any “Edna” stories you may have on www.McveighFuneralHome.com

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at St. Lucy’s, Altamont, on Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at 10:30 am.

Friends are invited to visit McVeigh’s Funeral Home Monday, January 25, 2016, 4:00 to 7:00 pm.

Memorial contributions may be made to The Community Hospice, 295 Valley

View Blvd., Rensselaer, NY 12144 or the Altamont Public Library , 179 Main Street, PO Box 662, Altamont, NY 12009.

To leave a message for the family, light a candle, obtain directions, or view other helpful services please visit www.McveighFuneralHome.com

Cemetery Details

St. Agnes Cemetery

48 Cemetery Ave
Menands, NY

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **25**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc.
208 N Allen St
Albany, NY 12206
(518) 489-0188
info@mcveighfuneralhome.com
<http://www.McveighFuneralHome.com>

Service

JAN **26**. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Lucy/St. Bernadette Church
113 Grand Street
Altamont, NY

Tribute Wall



“ *Edna Mary Murtagh McCullen*

October 08, 2023 at 09:24 PM



“ *MaryAlice Senecal lit a candle in memory of Edna Mary Murtagh McCullen*



MaryAlice Senecal - February 11, 2016 at 11:08 AM



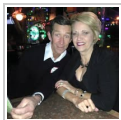
Thinking of you EVERY day mom. Miss you so much but I feel your love surround me. Thank you for being such a wonderful mother and a treasured friend. Rest in peace sweet lady.

MaryAlice Senecal - February 11, 2016 at 11:10 AM



“ *I'm so sorry to hear of your mother's passing Mary Alice Jeff Katie and Jackie she sounded like a terrific person. My thoughts are with you and your family*

Marie and Kevin McKinney - January 26, 2016 at 03:06 PM



Thank you so much for your condolences. We think of you both so often and hope all is well with you and your beautiful family!

MaryAlice Senecal - February 11, 2016 at 10:21 AM

DG

“ I was sent to Edna to make her passing as comfortable as possible. In turn I was granted life's finest gifts. I was able to watch a family full of love and faith. I watched Edna and Jack reminiscing of the past and how much fun it was getting there. There is so much more that Edna taught me in her last years here on Earth but most most of all was her blessing not to hold hate in your heart. I promised Edna and followed through just in time to save my sisters life. I truly believe that I was guided to the McCullens home by angels and found my Queen of them all. Thank you Edna you have touched my heart

Deborah Gottobed - January 26, 2016 at 07:00 AM

DG

Last days.....not years 🙏

Deborah Gottobed - January 26, 2016 at 07:04 AM

CB

“ When I bought my house next door to Edna and Jack, she came over just after we moved in with soup to welcome us to the neighborhood! Thoughts and prayers to Jack and the family.

Colleen Bryant - January 26, 2016 at 05:34 AM

CD

“ Colleen Draper lit a candle in memory of Edna Mary Murtagh McCullen



Colleen Draper - January 25, 2016 at 11:24 AM

LH

“ Mrs. McCullen was my 4th grade teacher in the "barn" at VI. I loved her. She was newly married and expecting her first child if my memory serves me correctly. She made all of our class happy to be in school and I admired her so much. She looks as sweet as she did back then. Seems she had a wonderful family and a great life. My condolences to all.

Lisa 'Van Guysling' Hanifan Albany, NY

Lisa Hanifan - January 25, 2016 at 07:04 AM



“ Laura Szczepanik lit a candle in memory of Edna Mary Murtagh McCullen



Laura Szczepanik - January 25, 2016 at 06:26 AM

AA

“ Ed and family I am sorry for your loss. Allan Andersen

Allan Andersen - January 25, 2016 at 04:17 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Edna Mary Murtagh McCullen.



January 24, 2016 at 03:01 PM

KL

“ *I am so sorry to hear about Edna's passing. She was one very special lady, and I have so many great memories of her and the family during our archery days. My deepest condolences go out to Jack and the family during this most difficult time. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. My mom also sends her condolences. Kathy Lopez*

Kathy Lopez - January 23, 2016 at 06:08 PM