



Mary Ellen Lasch

February 5, 1934 - August 27, 2020

Loudonville-On August 27, 2020, Mary Ellen Lasch of Loudonville passed peacefully in the comfort of her home surrounded by family and close friends. Mary Ellen was born in Albany on February 5, 1934, the daughter of Philip J. Gallagher and Mary Nally Gallagher. The second of four children, she was affectionately called by her father, Chickadee. She graduated from the Academy of the Holy Names in 1951 and loved seeing her daughter and several of her granddaughters also graduate from the school.

After a short career with New York Telephone, Mary Ellen began her true calling as a wife and mother. She married Robert P. Luddy in 1954 and together they had seven children in six years. Their life was joyous but short as Bob died tragically in a car accident in 1963. Mary Ellen's family and friends provided love and support during those difficult years. In 1965, Mom married Frank J. Lasch, and Frank adopted the seven children. Within three years, Frank and Mary Ellen welcomed two more.

Mary Ellen's community involvement included the St. Peter's Auxiliary Committee, The Academy of the Holy Names Board, and the Garden Study Club. She was also a reading volunteer at Holy Cross Grade school, an enthusiastic member of the Dine-a-Round, and, along with Joanne Lenden,

helped create the Colonial Christmas Party at the Fort Orange Club which has been an annual tradition for over 50 years. Most of all, Mary Ellen created a home of love, warmth, and joy for her family of eleven. It was a home filled with humor, music, laughter, and activity. She loved bringing family and friends together and was the quintessential hostess. Her children fondly recall growing up with Mom singing and playing the piano, a passion instilled in her by her parents. Mary Ellen loved traveling, and she and Frank saw much of the world, many times with their nine children and our grandmother in tow. She loved her years at Lake George with her children and grandchildren and regaled her family with stories of her childhood summers at Burden Lake.

Mary Ellen is survived by her nine children, Margaret (Andrew) Carroll, Mark (Lori) Lasch, Susan (Stephen) Helmer, Kathleen (George) McNamee, Karen (Tim) Welles, Christopher Lasch, Elizabeth (Paul) Clark, Mary Teresa (Alexander) Edwards, and Michael (Alicia) Lasch of Albany, Slingerlands, Loudonville, Saratoga Springs, Manlius, and Pitlochry, Scotland. She is survived by her sister Theresa LeRoy of Malone, NY, her Brother-in-Law, R. Anthony Malone of Vancouver, Washington, and her Sister-in-Law, Gloria Gallagher of Albany. Meema is also survived by grandchildren Kathleen, Siobhan, and Martha Mahoney; Emma, Robert, and Grace Lasch; John (Jacqueline) Helmer, Maura (John) Conway, Caroline, and Margaret Helmer; Hannah, Daniel, and Roger McNamee; Lauren (Christian) Freyer, Kathryn, Thomas, and Grace Welles; Patrick Lasch; Michael (Amanda) Clark, Erin (Gregory) Lakeway, and Conor Clark; Duncan, Mairi, and Eilidh Edwards; William, Christian, and Alexandra Lasch; great-grandchildren Eleanor and Evelyn Helmer, Mary, Annie, and John Conway, and Teddy and Harper Clark; and many nieces and nephews.

Mary Ellen was predeceased by her two loving husbands, her parents, her

brother Philip Gallagher, sister Barbara Malone, brother-in-law William LeRoy, and sister-in-law Eleanor Gallagher.

The family would like to thank Mom's dedicated and devoted caregivers Ivener Dalberiste, Lisa Fortner, and Comfort Yarmeto for their love and care the last several years. The family also thanks the St. Peter's Hospice, especially Jamie Borge, and Dr. Kevin Costello for his committed care of our both our parents.

Due to COVID-19, services will be private. Please remember our mother in your prayers. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Mary Ellen's name to the Academy of the Holy Names. 1075 New Scotland Road, Albany, NY 12208 or The Community Hospice, Gift Processing Center, 310 S. Manning Blvd., Albany, NY 12208. To leave a message for the family please visit www.McveighFuneralHome.com

Cemetery Details

St. Agnes Cemetery

48 Cemetery Ave
Menands, NY

Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Ellen Lasch*

October 08, 2023 at 09:24 PM



“ *The Michael Dollards share their deepest sympathies with all of the Lasch children and their families. What a lovely and gracious woman Mary Ellen was to all she met. She made us feel like family at every event we wiggled out way into. What a wonderful example of caring and giving you have had modeled for you. Our heart and prayers to all of you.*

Michael A Dollard - September 07, 2020 at 05:11 PM



Thank you to all the Dillard's. Always family ❤️❤️❤️❤️

susan helmer - September 08, 2020 at 07:36 PM



“ *Dear Lasch Family,*

I share in your sadness with the death of your mother. I have fond memories of her gracious hospitality and joyous effervescent personality. Mostly, I will always remember her voice that had a uniquely hers musical quality. I am grateful to have known her.

Ed Nolan

Edward Nolan - September 05, 2020 at 11:48 AM



Thank you to all the Nolan's. Grateful for long-standing friendships.

susan helmer - September 06, 2020 at 12:52 PM

ER

“ Nothing but fond and happy memories of Mary Ellen as kids from 60 years ago on Verplanck St! Always will remember her happy smile and the picket fence next door!

May Mary Ellen rest forever in peace.

Ed Rosen & family

Ed & Margo Rosen - September 03, 2020 at 10:56 AM

MV

“ Dear Susan, Kathleen, Karen and Family:

I am saddened to hear that your beautiful mother has passed. We share so many memories growing up together as young children on Homestead Ave and Melrose Avenue, and later to Manning Blvd. I had the opportunity to see her after so many years when Kathleen and she came into the Co-op a couple of years ago. I couldn't wait to tell her something so simple as my love for blackberry jam and peanut butter came from my fond memories of eating lunch with you all as children. She said she loved that memory and it was still her favorite, too. She always was smiling and so welcoming. You will all be in my prayers and heart.

Love to you all, Mary Vogel and Family

Mary Vogel - September 01, 2020 at 09:41 PM

SH

*Thank you Mary ❤️❤️
I too have beautiful memories from Homestead and Melrose, with you Mark and Don 💙*

susan Lasch Helmer - September 02, 2020 at 07:01 PM

PD

“ To the Lasch children, we were sorry to hear of your mom's passing. Your mother was truly a warm and kind woman and with a great sense of humor. I hadn't seen her in many years but she remembered me stopping by the house in Lake George with the Sagamore garbage truck and making who ever was available run and round up the garbage. She and I had a little laugh over such a simple thing. You guys are blessed to have had the parents that you did. Pete and Cheryl Doody

Pete Doody - September 01, 2020 at 07:31 PM

SH



susan Lasch Helmer - September 02, 2020 at 07:03 PM



“ To the Lasch family whom I had the pleasure to get to know through my work with John Bucher... I have very fond memories of Mary Ellen, and each of you as well. I enjoy the occasions when our paths cross again briefly and my heartfelt sympathies to you at a time of difficult transition in so many ways. With love, Eva Gigandet

Eva Gigandet - September 01, 2020 at 07:04 PM

LC

“ Please accept the most heartfelt sympathies of Le Moyne College. We hope the love and memories you will forever hold in your heart bring you peace and comfort during this difficult time.

Le Moyne College - August 31, 2020 at 03:24 PM

JR

“ We were so sorry to hear of Mary Ellen's passing. She was a great lady who made everyone feel welcome. We never remembered her without a smile on her face and a heart full of love. You are all in our prayers!

Keith and Judy Reynolds

judy Reynolds - August 31, 2020 at 01:07 PM

DF

“ The story of Mary Ellen's life captured the love and joy that radiated from her. The photograph showed her beauty but her inner beauty was even more glorious. I am grateful for the friendship we shared, the happy times with Frank and Mary Ellen, and the funny stories that brought tears to many eyes. I am sure she is gracing her eternal home as she graced the amazing home she and Frank created in Loudonville. My sincere sympathy to her beloved family. Her memory will always be a treasure. Doris Fischer

Doris P Fischer - August 29, 2020 at 09:01 PM

DA

“ We are sorry to hear of her passing. But many fond memories with the whole family at Tapawingo, putting on shows while your mom played the piano, swimming, pi g po g and flash light tag. Much love going out to the whole family. You are in our prayers.

Daren Arakelian - August 29, 2020 at 07:36 PM

BD

“ Our thoughts and prayers to the whole Lasch family.

Bob & Cathy Daley - August 29, 2020 at 04:38 PM

NG

“ *What a sweet neighbor. Maryellen was all about love and family. I remember not wanting to leave a holiday party while the whole family sang songs by the piano. I enjoyed our chats after church on Mondays. She will be missed.*

Nancy Gallitelli - August 29, 2020 at 03:25 PM

NC

“ *To the Lasch family, Tom and I are sorry for your loss. Your mother, grandmother, was a beautiful and loving woman. She is in our prayers. Nancy Carey Cassidy*

nancy carey cassidy - August 29, 2020 at 01:53 PM

CF

“ *To the Lasch Family: Mary Ellen lit up a room with her loving energy. Her smile made me feel I was the most important person in the room. She was so proud of her lovely family. The obituary is a glowing tribute to a wonderful person. Mary Ellen will be missed.*

Christine A Ford - August 29, 2020 at 01:21 PM

JP

“ *Another Burden Laker leave us for paradise. Mary Ellen was my brother Frank's age but I remember the Gallagher and Crinnigan girls at our round porch table playing cards and joking around! Beautiful reading of her life and family. May your memories bring you smiles eventually!*

Judy Devane Pinto - August 29, 2020 at 12:38 PM

JB

“ My dear Lasch cousins, I am so saddened to hear of mom’s passing. I will remember my aunt Mary Ellen as one of the kindest and sweetest women I had ever met. I will always cherish the memories of the warm embraces, beautiful simile and the contagious laugh.

She was clearly the pillar of this beautiful family. Her kindness, sense of humor and grace lives on in all of you.

With love,

Cousin Jerry

Jerry Bucher - August 29, 2020 at 12:25 PM

PJ

“ So sorry for your loss! She was a beautiful lady who led a blessed life. Truly a matriarch who leaves behind a wonderful family to continue in her tradition...

Patty Joyce-O'Toole - August 29, 2020 at 10:33 AM

TE

“ To my beautiful mother! You are with me always and forever! 💜



Terry Edwards - August 29, 2020 at 06:08 AM

KF

*It's the story of a lovely lady...thanks for all the wonderful memories❤️
My condolences to the Lasch family.*

Katie Foote

katherine foote - August 29, 2020 at 08:26 AM

SB

To all of the Lasch family - we are so saddened to hear about your Mom - what a wonderful lady who will be sorely missed by so many. You all are living tributes to the kind and gracious lady that was your role model. Sending you deepest sympathy, hugs and prayers at this difficult time. It is so challenging to lose our MOM!!! Love, Susie, Eric, Maddie, Will and Daniel Burnett

susie burnett - August 29, 2020 at 09:35 AM

KL

To my dear cousins, We are so very sorry for your loss of your wonderful mother. She was amazing; a talented, gracious, charming, kind, and giving person. Aunt Mary Ellen made everyone she interacted with feel important and special. She always made the effort to connect with each and every person in the room. A conversation with Aunt Mary Ellen always left me feeling that what I was doing was interesting and worthwhile - even trapping woodrats! Her passing is the end of an era. We will all miss her. Much love, Kathleen and John

Kathleen LoGiudice - August 29, 2020 at 11:33 AM

TT

To all of you I am so sorry to hear about your Mom's passing. I have so many memories of her, especially she and my mom, enjoying life to the fullest. You had a great mother. I am so sorry.

Terry Tracy - August 29, 2020 at 12:10 PM

PR

To the entire Lasch Family, our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult loss of your mother and grandmother. What an incredibly beautiful person who inspired so many. We remember her cheering on Will, Chick and Allie during the Roost swim meets like there was no tomorrow! She will be dearly missed. Sending our deepest sympathy to you all. Love, Pat, Tricia, Patrick and Madeleine Reuss

Patrick Reuss - August 30, 2020 at 10:41 AM