



## Ann E. Gallagher

April 27, 1932 - February 10, 2018

GALLAGHER (nee McCarthy), Ann E. 85, recently of Ocean City and formerly of Cape May, Born: April 27, 1932, passed away on February 10, 2018.

Ann earned her B.A. in Sociology at St. Joseph's College for Women, Brooklyn, New York in 1960 and later earned her M.S.W. at Fordham University, New York City, New York in 1962.

Ann spent the majority of her adult life helping others. She was a Catholic Nun, (Sister Jean Vianney) Missionary Servants of the Most Blessed Trinity, Philadelphia, PA; a Medical Social Worker at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital Camden, New Jersey; Director of Intake, Metropolitan Homemakers Incorporated. Philadelphia, PA; Administrator of Catholic Social Services, Bristol, PA; Administrator, Service to Unmarried Parents, Catholic Services, Archdiocese of Philadelphia and as a Caseworker in the Adoption Department of Catholic Services, Philadelphia, PA.

As a Catholic nun and as a social worker, Ann lived a life of service for her clients, friends and family. Ann's social work experience revolved around helping unwed mothers as well as families coping with a myriad of social problems and illnesses. As a caseworker and an administrator, Ann worked directly with families and improved the lives of thousands over the course of her career. Ann, will be forever remembered as being an integral part in facilitating the adoptions of two of her nieces and nephews. Without her caring love, they would not have had the kind and nurturing childhood and adolescence that they enjoyed. What a blessing she bestowed on them! Ann was a member of the Missionary Servants of the Most Blessed Trinity for over 20 years. After she left the community, she met and fell in love with John Gallagher, a former Catholic priest whom she met at a Cursillo meeting. They married on April 27, 1974. Theirs's was a life of faith, happiness, traveling, family visits and Bridge, (which she proudly taught John to play!). For many years after their marriage, and after John left his career as a hospital administrator, Ann and John traveled the world as John continued his priestly ministry presiding over weddings on cruise ships. Ann, the erstwhile traveler, enjoyed visiting many historic sites and experiencing

interesting cultures. When they retired to Cape May New Jersey, John continued his ministry marrying over 300 couples, mostly on the beach. Ann would serve as his secretary/assistant during many of these ceremonies.

A highly intelligent woman, Ann was well versed in many topics and enjoyed conversations about the politics of the day. She could be unapologetically to the point and was not for “skirting the issues” during conversations. Ann, like her three brothers and two sisters before her, was willing to give you her opinion! Ann loved a good story or joke and had an incredibly sharp wit. She enjoyed spending time with her loving husband John, her friends and family. John and Ann always welcomed the extended family to visit and stay over their homes in Blackwood, NJ and later in beautiful Cape May, NJ. Ann also loved her Irish setters, Shannon and Bridget. She loved playing and walking with them. Pictures of them together were beautiful as they were like an advertisement of the “Beauties of Ireland.”

At the end of their lives, Ann and John moved from Cape May to the “Shores at Wesley Manor” in Ocean City, New Jersey. There they lived their final years together. Ann continued with her need to be intellectually stimulated and became the resident liaison, a job she enjoyed. There, once again she was helping others...God bless Ann, may she rest in peace.

She is predeceased by her husband, John Gallagher (2016); her brothers, Charlie, John and Robert and sisters, Jean and Grace. Ann is dearly missed by her family which includes the entire McCarthy, Gallagher and Leggio families.

Ann’s Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday (May 12th) at 11am in Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, 525 Washington St., Cape May where friends will be received from 10am until 11am. Interment will take place on Monday (May 14th) at 10am in Holy Cross Cemetery, 626 Baily Rd., Yeadon, PA.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions to:  
Missionary Servants of the Most Blessed Trinity  
3501 Solly Ave.  
Philadelphia, PA 19136  
In Memoriam: Ann E Gallagher (Sr. Jean Vianney)

# Cemetery

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## Holy Cross Cemetery

626 Baily Road

Yeadon, PA, 19050

# Events

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**MAY** **Visitation** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

**12**

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Our Lady Star of the Sea Church

525 Washington Street, Cape May, NJ, US

**MAY** **Memorial Service** 11:00AM

**12**

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Our Lady Star of the Sea Church

525 Washington Street, Cape May, NJ, US

# Comments

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“ Thanks to all family, friends and Sisters that attended the beautiful Mass and luncheon on Saturday, May 12th and the interment of Ann's ashes on Monday, May 14. Your kind words, prayers and presence were a beautiful tribute to Ann (and John too!)

I pray that she smiled throughout those days!

Peace to you all.

Kevin McCarthy

Kevin McCarthy - May 15, 2018 at 11:27 AM

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“ Aunt Ann was a strong vibrant presence in this world. I miss her very much. I was blessed to have a few visits with Aunt Ann and Uncle John in Florida. Aunt Ann so reminded me of my Dad in her mannerisms and simple tastes in food. On her last visit she brought me a pill box that said, “Delight in life's little pleasures”. It gave me so much pleasure to cook for her and enjoy all our meals outdoors in the sunshine. The greatest gift Aunt Ann gave me was my cousin Kevin. He is one of the kindest and most loving souls I have ever known. I am so grateful for all the beautiful happy family memories that we share in our hearts. I love Aunt Ann and I love all of you.!

Diane McCarthy Greene - May 09, 2018 at 07:49 AM

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“ Aunt Ann was a great aunt to me and I will miss her very much. I so admire her life of service as a Catholic nun and social worker. She inspired me to become an adoption caseworker to bring new hope and new life to young children and families just as she did. She was a very direct, assertive and honest person. Although she at times could be impatient regarding small things when it came to "the big picture" she was always so accepting of what life brought her way. I never heard her complain about anything nor worry about what tomorrow may bring. What a great lesson for us all! She and dear Uncle John were the last links to our much loved parents and I trust they are all happily reunited now and sending their love and support to all of us who remain. May God bless you Aunt Ann and may you rest in peace. Gail McCarthy Kane

Gail Kane - May 02, 2018 at 04:31 PM

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“ I was blessed to have Aunt Ann in my life. Her willingness to let her Mother Superior know that my parents were still interested in adopting another child led me to a life of love and laughter in the McCarthy clan. Over the years we spoke a lot about that fact and laughed about how unpredictable life can be. She always encouraged me to investigate my past and even reached out to Catholic Services in an effort to assist me. It was partly through her encouragement that I was able to find my sister Sharon Ann. Aunt Ann was so happy that we found each other and even more delighted that Sharon Ann's family lived in Ocean City! I see God's loving hand in all of this!

I miss her and uncle John. I pray they are together in heaven, enjoying a game of Bridge with Eileen and Charlie. I can see her now, complaining to John that he played the wrong card!

I think of you both often...Rest In Peace. Until we meet again!

Kevin McCarthy

**Kevin McCarthy** - May 01, 2018 at 06:17 PM