



Mary Ann Gaffney

January 24, 1934 - May 16, 2017

GAFFNEY (nee Stokes), Mary Ann, of Cape May passed away peacefully in the comfort of her home on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 with her family at her side. Born in Philadelphia, PA, Mary Ann has been a resident of Cape May since 1981 after moving here from Medford Lakes. Over a 28 year span, she worked as a tour guide for the Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts in Cape May. Having a great love of history, she served as a member of the Historical Preservation Commission in Cape May including many years as the Chairperson. A woman of great faith, she was a devoted and active member of Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, Cape May where she volunteered for many church causes and functions; she was also a Eucharistic Minister for over 30 years. One of her greatest traits was her kindness and caring for others in need. She delivered food to families. She organized relief for a refugee family from Cambodia. She drove many people to their doctor appointments during illnesses. She was always there when someone needed her. A woman full of spirit and life, she held many interests from gardening, sewing, quilting, reading, to painting and fixing up her beloved old home. She immensely enjoyed her bridge club and friends, but above all, she loved spending time with her family. Hosting family dinners, baking cookies with grandchildren, sitting on the porch sipping wine and spending late afternoons on beach with Jerry gave her so much joy. Her family will forever miss her. She is predeceased by her beloved niece, Mary Kay Stokes and nephew, Timothy Stokes. Mary Ann is dearly missed by her loving family which includes her husband of 61 years, Jerry Gaffney; five children, Mary Pat Myers (and Guy Portewig), Katie (and Joe) Silvernail, Ann (and Frank) Zilinek, Teri (and Donny) Arndt and Jerry (and Debby) Gaffney; seven grandchildren, Derek, Joshua, Hunter, David, Kristina, Abigail and Benjamin; three siblings, as well as nieces and nephews. Mary Ann's Memorial Mass will be celebrated on Saturday (May 27th) at 11am in Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, 525 Washington St., Cape May where friends will be received by the family from 9:30am until 10:50am. Interment has taken place privately in Cold Spring Cemetery, Lower Twp. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are suggested to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or online at stjude.org

Events

MAY **Visitation** 09:30AM - 10:50AM

27

Our Lady Star of the Sea Church
525 Washington Street, Cape May, NJ, US

MAY **Service** 11:00AM

27

Our Lady Star of the Sea Church
525 Washington Street, Cape May, NJ, US

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Spilker Funeral Home - May 27, 2017 at 10:38 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with the entire Gaffney family. I consider myself so very lucky to have been so significantly influenced by this amazing woman. Over the years, she has been many things to many people, including myself. I have so many memories flooding my mind. She will live forever in my memory as, Mrs. Gaffney, the fun Girl Scout leader that made her backyard the most incredible campground ever. I am so grateful to have had the chance to know her.

I'm holding the Gaffney family close in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Noreen DiPadova

Noreen DiPadova - May 26, 2017 at 05:45 PM



“ So sorry for the loss of your loved one Mary Ann Gaffney; May the God of comfort grant you peace at this sad time. May God also be a refuge and give you strength in your time of distress.

C. Ford - May 22, 2017 at 12:14 PM



“ Hardin Family lit a candle in memory of Mary Ann Gaffney



Hardin Family - May 20, 2017 at 11:39 AM



“ My condolences to Jerry and family. I knew Mary Ann through our work with MAC. She will be missed and remembered.

Les Aungst - May 20, 2017 at 11:25 AM



“ Susie again....I will always remember Mary Ann's brightly colored shirts. One of the pretty shirts with a skirt or pair of shorts and she was dressed for the day; good to go! She had such pretty colors; and always with that "Infectious Smile :-)" We will miss her so.....



Mike Aiken and Susie Glickman - May 19, 2017 at 07:51 PM



“ Rosellen Muniak lit a candle in memory of Mary Ann Gaffney



Rosellen Muniak - May 19, 2017 at 07:13 PM



“ To the Gaffney family - So very sorry for your lose. You are in my prayers.

Rosellen Muniak - May 19, 2017 at 07:18 PM



“ I have known May Ann for more than 30 years.
We did fashion shows, MAC Board , tours ,festivals
Questers and just some times just shared a few minutes
to say hello or share family news .
My Heart and Prayers are with Gerry and the family
Love to you all, Christy Igoe

Christy Igoe - May 19, 2017 at 03:50 PM



“ Gerry and family - Maryann was a good friend and I (we George & I)were so lucky to
have her as our friend. I am so sorry. I will miss her and keep special memories in my
heart! Phyllis D.

Phyllis Douglass - May 19, 2017 at 09:31 AM



“ Carin Ruzicka lit a candle in memory of Mary Ann Gaffney



Carin Ruzicka - May 19, 2017 at 08:58 AM



“ Mary Ann you were always full of life. I will miss you as well as Jerry and your family. Jerry
and family you are in my prayers. My deepest sympathy, Carin Ruzicka

Carin Ruzicka - May 19, 2017 at 09:01 AM



“ Gerry and Family,
I have known Mary Ann for....a handful of decades and she was a lovely, lovely lady. I am the librarian in the Cape May library and I always looked forward to her visits . We would chat away about so many things! I will always remember her smile and her buoyant outlook on "life".... she enriched my life in intangible ways. Speaking for all of us
who knew her here, she will always be remembered and will always be held in our hearts. My deepest sympathies....
Linda Smith

linda smith - May 19, 2017 at 08:41 AM



“ Mary Ann was a pillar of the Cape May community. She was keen witted and generous of spirit, an exceptional combination. Her contributions to the City for preservation and decent governance and her kindness to her fellow parishioners will not be forgotten.
You will be missed for a long time, Mary Ann. Thank you.

Bernard Haas - May 19, 2017 at 07:24 AM



“ Mary Ann was one of the most kind-hearted, generous, and genuine woman I have ever known. She will be sorely missed by all who ever knew her; and I don't think that anyone in Cape May did not know her...and love her :-) A true GEM of a person; a wonderful Mom to her lovable children; MP, Katie, Ann, Teri, and Jerry and a wonderful wife to her charming husband, Jerry...and a terrific Grandmother to her "7" beautiful Grandchildren and a dear friend to anyone who crossed her path; welcoming everyone to her home at The Beach. Cape May will never be the same; a horribly sad loss for all. I will always have the fondest memories of our visits to Cape May along with the annual Christmas card that I would receive...every single year. I will miss that card now...and her beautiful smile whenever she would walk into a room; the whole room would light up. RIP Mary Ann. With great sympathy and much sadness, Susie Glickman

Sue Glickman - May 18, 2017 at 11:06 PM



“ Mary Ann will surely be missed. She had a great sense of humor. I drove Mary Ann on many of her trolley tours and her tours were always lighthearted and interesting. She was a storehouse of information about the town. She also was a good cook. One time on a group tour we had time between groups and rather than going home and coming back she invited me to her house for a bowl of soup she had just made. It was delicious.

Betty Wieslawski

Betty Wieslawski - May 18, 2017 at 09:00 PM



“ I remember Mrs. Gaffney as a kind person with a very good sense of humor. She has contributed much to Cape May.

Jack Fichter

Jack Fichter - May 18, 2017 at 04:20 PM