



Colleen Mary Gilligan

September 22, 1929 - November 3, 2019

Mom, leave it to you (someone who religiously enjoyed scanning the obituaries) to have an obituary appear TWICE! After passing away late last year, it is finally time to complete the process:

Colleen Mary Gilligan, age 90, passed away on November 3, 2019. She was preceded by husband Richard in 2013. Survived by her children, Michael (Cheri), Pat (Kim), Kathy (Dave), and Peggy (Brian); grandchildren, Ryan, Patrick, Ian, Grant, Chris, Erin, Jeff, Ben and Paul; great-grandchildren, Ruth Anne, Mary, David and Kalayna.

Colleen, besides being the best dessert-maker and best wife of a fisherman, worked early on at Brooklyn Center Bank, then at Birch Grove Elementary school for many years, taking lunch money from unsuspecting school children. She and dad loved playing bridge with friends at our home on Bryant, enjoyed trips to Potato Lake with the Janskes, loved a good steak on the grill, any excuse for breakfast at a restaurant (with HOT coffee), a COLD glass of water, she was a die-hard Twins fan, loved a refreshing glass of "vino," and was always up for traveling to whatever locations that life and her airline privileges would take her: the Bahamas, the North Shore, Ireland, Arizona, San Diego and all points between. She was always enthused about whatever was coming next, and loved ANY time spent with her children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and friends. She was quite a lady and will forever be missed."

Her joyful funeral mass will be at St. Edwards Catholic Church, 9401 Nesbitt Avenue South, Bloomington, 55437. Service time will be 11 a.m. on Friday, October 9, with interment to follow at Fort Snelling Cemetery.

Previous Events

Mass of Christian Burial

OCT 9. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

St. Edward's Catholic Church
9401 Nesbitt Avenue South
Bloomington, MN 55437

Graveside Service

OCT 9. 12:45 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Fort Snelling National Cemetery
7601 34th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55450

Tribute Wall

JF

“ *This just got real that I won't see her at kathys in a few weeks. No one to take us to breakfast. No one sitting up with us all night at the cry lounge wondering why we think it is all so blue. She was always smiling, laughing, and loving every minute she had. God mother I knew and know you are in heaven playing bridge with billy and mary, but I did not feel you were gone. Come visit me tonight in my dreams. I need a laugh, and ok a hug will go a long ways.*

Joannie Frank - October 09, 2020 at 11:44 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Colleen Mary Gilligan.*



October 04, 2020 at 01:47 PM

KV

“ Colleen was mom's dearest friend and was in part responsible for the matching up of my folks (who were married for 53 years before dad's passing.) Colleen and mom spent childhood years together and then after they married, Dick and Colleen were my parents dear friends and favorite bridge partners. For years they would alternate homes on a Saturday night and fix each other dinner, playing bridge until late into the evening. When I was young, she came to every stage performance my siblings and I were in. I treasured her like a 2nd mom. It was always a joy to meet up with Colleen for lunch. Sometimes I brought mom, sometimes it was just Colleen and I. She was such an inspiration for how to age gracefully - perpetually upbeat with a positive outlook on life - independent and sharp right up to her last day on earth.

My mom was heartbroken to hear of Colleen's passing. She will be dearly missed by both of us. Our deepest condolences to her wonderful children and extended family. She was lucky to have such a great support system. I have no doubt she is now in heaven with Dick and family members who have gone before her. I will always remember Colleen as a bright spot in both mom's life and mine.

Kathy Vilendrer (and Marge Kremer)

kathy Vilendrer - November 10, 2019 at 12:04 PM

NK

“*May Colleen be in the hands of the Lord. Over my whole life, I always loved when Colleen came to visit with my Mom. Colleen was always so cheerful, so positive, such a wonderful heart and kind words. More recently, I was staying with Mom when Mom had hip surgery and Colleen came to visit. She's in her 80s by this time and she hops into the big comfy chair like a 15 year old girl, then crosses her legs in her lap up on the chair! I break out laughing, "Colleen, how are you even doing that?" Colleen throws up her arms, shrugs her shoulders and laughs with me, "I don't know, I've been doing it my whole life!" Then, of course, as the conversationalist that she is, she quickly changes the subject to ask about my life in Los Angeles.*

Young in heart, young in mind, young in spirit. The woman never really grew old. Such an inspiration.

*All my love to the family,
Nancy*

Nancy Kremer - November 07, 2019 at 09:24 PM