



Mary Backstrom

February 8, 2015

Mary Backstrom, 74, passed away on Sunday afternoon, February 8, in the loving presence of her family. Her passing ended her brief and unexpected battle with cancer, which she fought admirably and full of life and vigor.

Mary Sophie Mason was born in Superior, WI, on May 24, 1940. She made her home in Hibbing, MN, with the love of her life, Jerry Backstrom, and 5 beautiful children. Mary worked as a Nurse's Aide until she graduated as an LPN in 1988, the same year her youngest son graduated High School. After retiring from Golden Crest Nursing Home, she and Jerry found their second home in Mesa, AZ, to escape the harsh MN winters. Mary adored her second family at Ambassador Downs in Mesa, and continued to make this her winter home after Jerry sadly passed in 2008.

Mary defined "living life to the fullest", and not a day passed without laughter. Mary's priority was always her family and friends. In the spring and summer months, her home in Hibbing was always open and full of visitors. Mary had an unparalleled sense of humor, an adorable love for rap music and Nintendo, and kept us all laughing with her "Mary-ism's", such as: "ta dot, ta dot, ta dot...", "It's Miller Time", or "Sadie, my lady". She even learned to text at the age of 67 to keep in touch with her 10 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

Mary is survived by 4 children: Randy (Marie) McKay, Kelly (Jamie) Tindal, Tim (Mary Lou) McKay, and Rob (Carolyn) McKay; Daughter-in-law Jody McKay; siblings: Pauline (Gary) Peterson, and Jerry (Diane) Mason; and several grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

Preceded in death by her parents, Paul Mason and Mary Patricia (McHugh) Mason; husband of 29 years, Jerry Backstrom; son, Michael P. McKay; and brother, Paul "Gene" Mason.

Visitation:

Washburn-McReavy Funeral Home/Chapel

2300 W. Old Shakopee Road

Bloomington, MN 55431

Saturday, February 14, 2015

10 AM--12PM, with lunch to follow

An additional memorial will be held in Hibbing on May 23, 2015. Further details to come at a later date.

Tribute Wall

LA

“ Laurie lit a candle in memory of Mary Backstrom



Laurie - May 24, 2024 at 05:16 PM

DS

“ All our sympathy to the family of Mary! She was always the sweetest little lady and always willing to help!! We will miss her at Ambassador Downs! Bob and Darlene Solomon!

Darlene Solomon - February 13, 2015 at 09:28 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mary Backstrom.



February 13, 2015 at 11:23 AM

PL

“ Paul, Nicky, & Lisa purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mary Backstrom.



Paul, Nicky, & Lisa - February 13, 2015 at 09:32 AM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Backstrom.*



February 13, 2015 at 07:51 AM



“ *Nick says he always went over and had coffee with little Sweet Pea, while waiting for his wife to get ready. Mary loved having me take her to Steinmart, here in AZ...I haven't been there yet this year. Such good memories of our dear friend.*

rita and Nick Frost - February 12, 2015 at 09:13 PM



“ *To the family of Mary, and also her Ambassador Downs Family. Mary will be missed so very much. Always the smile, and 'how can I help' attitude. She told us so many times that she loved our motorhome parked in back of her unit as it made her feel safer. No real reason, just reassuring that someone she cared about lived so close. She will be missed by so many people. We are blessed to have known her.*
Muriel & Tom Dougherty

Muriel Dougherty - February 12, 2015 at 08:15 PM



“ *So very sorry for your loss. I remember when we lived in the projects and we always kept an eye on each other's kids. Some good memories. She was always so kind to me. I was and still am moved by the going away party they threw for me when we moved.*

Judy Magnuson - February 12, 2015 at 06:05 PM

JE

“ *SUCH A SWEET, KIND LITTLE LADY, OUR LITTLE MARY, MISS YOU.*

ED AND JEANNETTE

JEANNETTE - February 12, 2015 at 01:54 PM

JM

“ *You are the best mother- in- law I could have ever hoped for! I love you with all my heart and will miss you more than you could know.*

Love, Jody McKay

Jody McKay - February 12, 2015 at 01:35 PM

BK

“ *I don't know how much more I can say about this beautiful little lady that hasn't already been said. God has certainly gained another Angel. Danny and Bev Kosloski*



Beverly Kosloski - February 12, 2015 at 11:06 AM