



Mary J. Gruenke

June 20, 1939 - November 22, 2008

Gruenke, Mary J. Loving Wife, Mother, Grandmother Age 69 of Burnsville, died November 22, 2008. Mary is finally at peace after struggling eight years with Alzheimer's. Preceded in death by, parents George and Alma Zimmer; brothers, LeRoy, Harold and Francis. Survived by husband, Bernard; sons, David (Karen) and their children Megan and Molly, and Dale (Mary) and their children Elizabeth and Patrick, daughter, Jill (Greg) Thompson and their children, Sean, Mikayla and Ben; Brothers, Walter, Gene (Marlys), Paul (Audrey), Stanley, and Tom (Lynn) Zimmer; sisters, Margaret Huls, Marcella Keating, Rita (Jack) Wear, Lois (Harold) Arnold; and many nieces, nephews and friends. Mass of Christian Burial Wednesday 10AM at MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH, 3333 Cliff Road E, Burnsville. Visitation Tuesday evening 5-8:00PM in the chapel on the lower level at Mary Mother and also on Wednesday beginning at 9AM in church. Interment Fort Snelling National Cemetery. Memorials preferred to Alzheimer's Association or MN Veteran's Home.

Tribute Wall

NC

“ *Bernie and family,
I always remember Mary for her kindness and her laughter. She had
a great sense of humor and an obvious love for her family. You are
in our thoughts and prayers.
Nita, Steve and family*

Nita Carey - December 04, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ *Dear Bernie, Dave, Dale and Jill, and families, and all the Zimmer
family,*

*We join you in thanking God for giving Mary to us. These last few
difficult years can not blot out the wonderful grace of her presence
during those many happy times we had together.*

*You will be in our thoughts and prayers this thanksgiving, and no
doubt, as Mary enjoyed a nip or two, we will have one or two in her
honor.*

Love,

Bob , Catherine and all.

Bob Reinhardt - November 26, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ *Bernie, David, Dale and Jill:
I will always have fond memories of Aunt Mary from those few years we spent in Burnsville back in the 70's. She was a warm-hearted person with a great sense of humor. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.*

John Keating

John Keating - November 24, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ *Dear Jill and Family,
I know how difficult the journey with your mother has been. I hope that the memories you share of your mother will bring you all comfort and a smile.*

*Love,
Dianne Greenwood*

Dianne Greenwood - November 24, 2008 at 12:00 AM

EW

“ *Dear Bernie,
I am sorry to hear through Dick Mlodzik's Melrose Memories that your wife Mary passed away last weekend. You and Mary will be in my prayers during this difficult time. Though we haven't seen each other much in recent years, our Melrose school days give us a common bond. God bless you and your family. Ed*

Ed Wensman - November 24, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JZ

“ our deepest sympathies/condolences to everyone in both the gruenke and zimmer families

*stanley zimmer
and joanne zimmer pierce*

joanne zimmer pierce and stan zimmer - November 24, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SZ

“ My sincere condolences to Bernie, David, Dale and Karen. Even though I only remember meeting her once or twice I'd like to consider Mary as my favorite Minnesota Aunt.

Stan Zimmer - November 23, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BZ

“ Thinking of you and know that you are in our prayers.

Chris

Bruce Zimmer - November 23, 2008 at 12:00 AM

PD

“ Dear Bernie, David, Dale and Jill,
We loved Mary so much and this news of her passing is so bitter sweet. She was such a great aunt! Did she ever get riled up? I will always remember her love and lasagne and dedication to her family. We were blessed to have her and I wish her God-speed as she meets all of our family who has gone before her! Peace to all of you, it has been a long journey for you, the hardest journey and praise God, it is over for all of you. All of our love and prayers and deep regrets for NOT being able to be with you this week. Patty and all of the Donovans

Patty and Dan Donovan - November 23, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ Sent by Kathy on behalf of Marcie Keating. My mom wanted you all to know that you are in her prayers. She also said how she has so many wonderful memories of her sister like Mary's last visit to SLC in 1997. She will not be able to make it back for the funeral but you will be in her thoughts.

Marcie Keating - November 23, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ My deepest sympathies to Bernie, David, Dale & Jill and their families. I will always remember the summer vacations at Grandma Zimmers when our families were both able to be there at the same time and the fun we had. Mary and my mom (Lois) were always so close and I was blessed to have Mary as part of my extended family and as my Godmother. Mary is in heaven now and I look forward to celebrating her life with everyone in a few days!

Carleen Mack & family - November 23, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BZ

“ Thinking of all of you during this difficult time.

Brian Zimmer - November 23, 2008 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ Dear Uncle Bernie, David, Dale and Jill, Our thoughts are with you. My mom and I were remembering Aunt Mary this afternoon and all the fun times we had when we lived by you guys in Minnesota. We love you all and have you in our prayers. Love, Kathy and Marcie

Kathy (Keating) Hewitt - November 23, 2008 at 12:00 AM