



Mary Schmelz

March 22, 1927 - November 29, 2024

Mary Rae Schmelz (Walters) of Minnetonka (formerly Edina) beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend passed away peacefully on November 29, 2024, at the age of 97. Mary was born March 22, 1927, in Minneapolis, MN to Marvin and Emogene Walters. After graduating from Roosevelt High School, she joined the Ice Follies, traveling the US and Canada for five years and considered this to be her college education. Mary's love for skating continued, on backyard rinks with family and ice dancing with friends into her 80s.

She married Douglas Schmelz in 1952, and, over the years, their family grew to include four children, ten grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Mary was actively involved in St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Edina, attending daily Mass, was a member of St. Cabrini's guild, and volunteered extensively.

Mary lived life to the fullest, finding joy in entertaining, baking, sewing, knitting and quilting. She made Afghans for many and heirloom quilts for each grandchild.

She enjoyed many travels with Doug, extended family, friends and her children.

Mary was a guiding light to all who knew her, offering unconditional love and

support. Her strong faith and positive attitude are inspirational.

Preceded in death by her beloved husband Douglas and four siblings, Mary will be greatly missed and lovingly remembered by her children, Mary (John) Desautels, Paul (Vicki) Schmelz, Tom (Debra) Schmelz and Kathleen (Bob) Gazich; grandchildren, Christie (Chad), Barret (Deanna), Rebecca (TJ), Patrick (Sarah), Claire, Nick, Thomas, Jack, Maria and Eliana; great-grandchildren, Baily, Avery, Grace, Chloe, Bear, Harrison, Lochlan, Violet and Holden.

Funeral Mass to be held on Thursday, December 5 at 11 AM (visitation at 10 AM) at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 13505 Excelsior Blvd, Minnetonka. Luncheon to follow at the church. The service will be live streamed at church website (ihm-cc.org).

Memorials can be made to Hope for Uganda, ICA Food Shelf or the charity of your choice.