



Mary F. Stark

September 28, 1947 - February 24, 2019

Mary F. Stark, a resident of the Cadillac, MI area since 1957 died Sunday, February 24, 2019 hours before the storm that has ravaged the country reached Michigan as a blizzard. Mary was born September 28, 1947 in Bad Axe, Michigan to Cash J. Cook and Dolores Cook-Rambo. Her father preceded her in death in June 1987 and her mother just 7 month ago in July 2018.

While her parents moved back to Bad Axe in 1964, Mary stayed in Cadillac her Senior year to graduate from Cadillac High School in 1965. Mary went on for further education as a bookkeeper.

After meeting David V. Stark at her father's Phillips 66 station in Cadillac, they married on August 13, 1966 in Bad Axe. They settled in Cadillac and thus began their 52 years together. They managed Robo Carwash and were founding members of the Cadillac Area Rolling Relics (CARR Club).

Mary most enjoyed being around and interacting with people. This was evident in her many varied professions over the years. Mary worked at Hillcrest Restaurant, Ace Hardware, Moore Paint, St. John's Furniture Company, Rempco, Probate Court and Council on Aging.

Following in her father's musical footsteps, Mary started as a church organist

at age 11 and continued in music ministry for the next 40 years, most of those years at St. Ann/St. Edward. In her last hours she directed her beloved choir as she listened to the CD they together produced, With a Song. She continued to create the church bulletin after retiring from St. Ann.

In 1998 Mary became owner of Wexford Wood Workings. This labor of love united her with many in the community and most especially those who worked with and for her there. In a loving gesture to Mary they built her casket, as she has always wished to have made.

Mary fought for what she believed! This was most notable in her political views. She spent many years attending countless meetings attempting to straighten out Wexford County and Haring Township. She strived to affect change through her work with the Republican Party, as Wexford County Commissioner, and Haring Township Supervisor.

Mary was involved in many volunteer endeavors over the years--most notably the Wexford County Historical Society, After 26 Depot, and most recently a valiant attempt to save the Octagonal Barn at the Wexford County Fair Grounds. She would want you to know this project still needs fighting for to save it.

She created many special memories with her dear friends, Mary Zakrajsek, Sandy Harris, and the late Peggy Cook as well as her Sunday morning breakfast group.

While Mary has crossed Over the Rainbow she is survived by her husband and her children Chantelle and Jim Kroll of Grand Rapids Mi and Brad and Amy Stark of Tustin Mi. She is also survived by her grandchildren (her very favorite Munchkins) Matthew and Adam Kroll and Kay-Leigh, Carter and Seth Stark.

She is also survived by her siblings Cash J. Cook Jr. of Kalkaska, MI and Barbara Partaka of Bad Axe, MI; Brother-in-law's Gene Stark and Jim Stark, Sister-in-laws Barbara Hankins and Annie (Ruth Ann) Stark as well as many nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by father and mother in law, George and Ethel Ruth Stark, step-father Peter Rambo, sister-in-law Patsy Stark, brothers-in-law Dale Hankins and Willy Auda.

Visitation will be held on Sunday, March 3 from 4-8 pm with scripture service at 7:30 pm at Peterson Funeral & Cremation Services in Cadillac. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, March 4, 2019 at 11:00 am at St Ann Church with Fr. Michael Janowski as celebrant, with visitation on hour prior. A luncheon will follow in the Parish Hall. Burial will take place at Mt. Carmel Cemetery in Cadillac on a later date.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to a charity of your choosing. An online guestbook is available at www.petersonfh.com.

Tribute Wall

GL

“*Mary I only new you for a short while but grew to love you as a dear friend. Your thoughtfulness and kindness was always appreciated. Mary was a great lady and true friend to many. God bless her now on her new journey.*”

Gloria Langworthy - March 05, 2019 at 01:11 PM

CJ

“*Loved working with you on the Octagonal Building! What an inspiration and friend you have been to me. I will miss you dearly!*”

Crystal Lake Johnson - March 03, 2019 at 08:47 PM

MS

“*Dave, I am so very sorry for your loss. Mary was the sweetest person and I loved talking to her. She had many stories to tell about the family and I loved listening to her. She will be in my heart forever.*”

Marilou Kosal Szerszen - March 03, 2019 at 05:28 PM

DT

“*My deepest sympathy to the Stark and Cook families. May God give you the strength, courage and peace through these times. It's never easy to lose a loved one, however knowing that she is in the presence of Jesus is comforting.*”

David Tripp, Denton TX - March 03, 2019 at 04:51 PM

VH

“ Our condolences to each of Mary's family and friends. We have appreciated this tireless woman of God's heart, that always served her family and community with all her passion and integrity. The Cadillac community is a better place - because Mary was here. She will be missed, but her memory and what she taught us will live on. Charlie and Vicki Huffman.

Vicki Huffman - March 03, 2019 at 11:11 AM

BP

“ What a blessing to have been associated with Mary when she provided the trim for our new home. Then there were other projects that our upholstery business and Wexford Woodworking shared in. May the God of all comfort and peace provide that for you, Dave and your family.

Ben Pike - March 01, 2019 at 03:43 PM

JH

“ So very sorry to hear of Mary's passing. She was a special lady. My thoughts and prayers are with the family during this time.

Jenn Hofstra-Horina - February 28, 2019 at 10:29 PM

SL

“ Such a wonderful, sweet person. Mary will be truly missed. Sorry I will be unable to attend but you are all in my thoughts and prayers.

Sue Lewis - February 28, 2019 at 09:55 PM

SL

“ I'm sorry I won't be able to attend the services. Mary was such a special person. She will be very missed. Prayers and hugs to all of you for your loss. Thinking of you.

Sue Lewis - February 28, 2019 at 09:50 PM

DC

“ I have known Mary since I was a little kid. We had so much fun together and she was the most kindest person I have ever met. She always had a smile on her face and made you feel special. Mary you will be missed by many. Love to Dave and the family.

Donna Cieslak - February 28, 2019 at 03:33 PM

CC

“ Dave & family. You probably don't remember me, but Mary was one of the most accepting and loving people I have ever met. We worked together at St. Johns and became good friends. She was always picking dandelions in the front yard of St. Johns to make wine for Mr. Petrie, the owner. She also ended up with the massive walk-in safe door from St. Johns. She called me to get the code so she could get it open. Although I know it is hard, you have so many treasured. wonderful memories of her to hang on to. I know I do. God give you peace. Carol Cochran

Carolyn Cochran - February 28, 2019 at 01:13 PM

PS

“ Our most sincere condolences on your loss. She was definitely one of a kind. You are all in our prayers. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let the perpetual light shine upon her. And may the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

Paul and Shani Skutt - February 28, 2019 at 12:36 PM

VJ

“ Mary, you will be forever missed by all. As my Sister Linda said.... I will never forget your Senior year when you lived with us! Scrambled eggs with catsup on them....yuck! Never heard of it before! You have always been there for my Mom and us girls when my parents were ill and had passed! Enjoy your reunion with your parents and mine, and the rest of their friends....prayers going out to you and your family! God Bless you Mary!

Vicky (Westman) Johnson - February 28, 2019 at 12:18 PM

BK

“ Dave We were so sorry to hear of Mary's passing. Our hearts go out to you and your family.

Bill & Bev Knudsen - February 28, 2019 at 09:39 AM

RV

“ Like many of us at Four Winns and now Beneteau, will miss Mary very much. She is a gem and over the years took great care of us not only professionally but as a life long friend. She always knew how to get a smile out of someone due to her ability to provide one no matter the situation. Thank you Mary and WWW for the forever memories. RV

Rick Videan - February 28, 2019 at 08:17 AM

JH

“ Dave and Family We send our heartfelt condolences on Mary's passing. We pray for God's comfort and peace for all of you.

Jack & Pat Hankins - February 28, 2019 at 01:05 AM

AW

“ *More than a sister in law much more like a sister. Your smile and your laughter will forever be in my mind and in my heart.*

Annie Stark-Auda (RuthAnn) was - February 28, 2019 at 12:16 AM

MD

“ *Rest in Peace Mary. Another Angel got her Wings.*

Mary Dean - February 27, 2019 at 11:00 PM

LW

“ *You will be dearly missed, Mary. I will never forget our senior year when you lived with us so you could graduate from CHS class of 1965. It was a great year. You have forever been a wonderful friend to all, especially during my parents passing. Now you will be reunited with your parents, my parents and Si as Del. It's time to start over again. Prayers for you and your family. Bless you.*

Linda Westmn. - February 27, 2019 at 10:47 PM

SC

“ *The sweetest lady I've ever meet. God be with you and your family. Hugs, many prayers and never forgotten!*

Sean Cook - February 27, 2019 at 10:20 PM