



Mary Irene Verbeke

June 29, 1936 - February 15, 2026

She was the beloved wife of Charles Verbeke Jr. for 60 wonderful years. They were married on July 3, 1958, in Roseville, and built a life centered on faith, family, and love.

Mary was the loving mother of Deb Lawniczak; Charles J. III and Pamela Verbeke; John Verbeke; Joseph Verbeke; Michael and Louise Verbeke; Thomas Verbeke; Timothy and Zakia Verbeke; Dawn and Craig Allard; and Jason Verbeke.

She was a proud grandmother to David and Stacie; Laura; Charles J. IV; Megan and Chris; Jacob; Joseph and Rachel; Torii; Angela and Peter; Aliyah; Adam; and Craig Jr. She was also blessed with six great-grandchildren: Chloe, Arianna, Amya, Kaitlyn, Joseph, Autumn, and Elijah.

Mary is survived by her siblings James, William and in laws Judy, Jerry, and Sandra.

She grew up in Iron Mountain with her loving brothers and sisters. After marrying the love of her life, Charles, she worked as a registered nurse in Detroit, Michigan, for many years before dedicating herself fully to raising their nine children. She later became a devoted homemaker and was always present for her family.

Mary was deeply involved in helping her children raise their own families and treasured her role as grandmother and great-grandmother. Known as the "neighborhood nurse" while her children were growing up, she was always ready to help - whether caring for a scraped knee or assisting at the scene of a car accident on Groesbeck.

Mary will be remembered for her kindness, strength, and the deep love she had for her family. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Family and friends will gather to celebrate Mary's life with a visitation and service on Thursday, February 26, 2026 at the Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 8459 Hall Road, (3 Blks E. of Van Dyke) Utica from 10 am until the time of services 12 pm.

Mary's funeral service will be livestreamed, please follow link ~
<https://together.oneroomstreaming.com/65Q9HU>

Cemetery Details

Great Lakes National Cemetery

4200 Belford Road
Holly Township, MI 48442

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **26**. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Utica
8459 Hall Road
Utica, MI 48317

Funeral Service

FEB **26**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Utica
8459 Hall Road
Utica, MI 48317

Tribute Wall



“ *Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors created a Mary Verbeke Funeral Service in memory of Mary Irene Verbeke*



Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors - February 25 at 03:49 PM

DA

“ Mom... I've said everything I wanted to say to you while you were here. Made sure to tell you, "I love you" every time I was on the phone or in person with you. I also made sure to tell you that you were the best mom ever, of course each time you proceeded to tell me... "I am not sure about that". And I would say to you, "Well I'm the kid, so I would know better than you". It's true, I do know better on this best mom debate.

I have been thinking about that trip you and I took to Chicago, when we took the bus. Oh that was so fun! I wanted a trip with just the 2 of us and I am so glad we did that. We had a great time talking, seeing family, and meeting some interesting people too.

You are my most favorite person to be around, I am surely going to miss you. Until we see each other again... I love you mommacita!!



Dawn Allard - March 06 at 06:47 AM

MP

“ Mary was a very sweet, loving mother, grandmother and friend.. Whenever we saw her, she always had a smile on her face.. My fondest memories of her were when the Verbeke and Allard families were together.. Our Mom, Roberta, and Mary would sit together, laugh and share stories.. Loved those moments.. I know Mary is happy now in heaven with her loving husband and soul mate.. May the tree planted in her honor grow like her love and care for her family, friends and others has grown over these many years of life.. We love you Mary.. And sending our heartfelt sympathy to the entire Verbeke family and especially our sister in law Dawn (a/k/a Sunshine), my brother Craig and our nephew, Craig Jr.. Love you all! Joe and Michele (a/k/a Chief and Bella)

Michele & Joe Pomante - February 26 at 02:30 PM

DA

Thank you Bella and Chief for the kind words, love, and support you have given us during this difficult time. We love you both very much!! Xoxo

Dawn Allard - March 06 at 06:15 AM

MM

“ Michele M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Irene Verbeke.

Michele M. - February 26 at 02:18 PM

TF

“ The Bullock family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mary Irene Verbeke.



The Bullock family - February 20 at 05:38 PM



“ *Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of Mary Irene Verbeke.*



February 19 at 12:12 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mary Irene Verbeke.*



February 18 at 08:30 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mary Irene Verbeke.*

February 18 at 08:30 PM



“ *Dennis, John, Bob, Mark DC & families purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mary Irene Verbeke.*



Dennis, John, Bob, Mark DC & families - February 18 at 02:09 PM

BB

“ So many great memories, she loved to laugh, had an amazing sense of humor, and could always get under her husband's skin (while giving you wink and a smile). They were forever partners and she was the glue. Blessed to have her as a mother and hope she is surrounded by her many loved ones that passed before her. She is probably playing euchre already, flicking her finger nails, and doing the worst trash talking to whomever she is beating 🙄 Love and will always miss you MaMa

Baby boy - February 17 at 10:19 PM

SV

Every word about Large Giving Nature, will Fit Mary - and wishing my next comment, will make all of her children Smile, as not many of them may know of it
... I love remembering She & My times , Prior to her even marrying my Brother. * she had an Apt. across the street from the hospital She was taking Her Nursing Classes, And I would go over, after her class schedul, And we'd go to a show, or to dinner.. And Delightfully "hang-out" for a girls night.
She was funny, witty, great to bounce deep ideas off of, and she always gave insentive & momentum .. to reach further into hopes for future
Love, Forever * Sandra Fay Verbeke

Sandra Verbeke - February 25 at 07:33 PM

DA

Thank you Aunt Sandra (but I've always called you Aunt Sandy). It does make us smile to read the memories you had with our mom. She has shared in the past the many fond memories you 2 had together, she loved having a little sister to hang out with. We love you very much!! Xoxo Dawn

Dawn Allard - March 06 at 06:21 AM