



Mary G. Wilding

December 16, 1928 - April 19, 2017

Mary Geraldine Wilding was born to Edmund L. and Winifred Mullally Battersby on December 16, 1928 at Hotel Dieu in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. She grew up with four brothers: Chris, Brian, Eddie and Mike and two sisters: Eileen (O'Brien) and Winifred (Beltowski). As a child, her family moved to Highland Park where she attended St. Benedict's School. She proudly became a nationalized citizen of the United States in 1939. Edmund worked for the Detroit Terminal railroad as a detective and got Mary a job as a switchboard operator. That was where she met Doug, the love of her life and eventually married him. Douglas and Mary were wed at St. Benedict Catholic Church in Highland Park in 1953 and would remain together for almost fifty seven years until Doug's death in 2010. In 1954, they had their first child and Mary became a stay at home wife and mother as their family grew to five children, three girls: Suzi (Gordon), Colleen (Smits) and Sheila (Pittman) and two boys: Mark and Gerard Wilding. Mary had a passion for taking care of her husband and children and joined St. Mary's Catholic Community where their children attended school. She loved attending family gatherings and reunions and taking family vacations. Her family traveled to Florida every year at Easter time to visit with her husband's parents and went camping to Otsego Lake near Gaylord. She was an avid knitter, loved to sew and did crossword puzzles. She never learned to drive but got around just fine on the city bus system. When her father died, she and her siblings took turns caring for their mother. She would take the bus twice a week to spend time with her. Mary

loved going to lunch with her sisters and talked to them regularly on the phone. When Doug retired from the City of Royal Oak, they traveled by car to many US destinations, still going to Florida regularly to visit Mary's brother Brian. At 62, Doug was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and Mary became his full time caregiver and lovingly cared for him. She once said she would have loved to pursue a nursing career in her youth. It was easy to see she would have been a wonderful nurse by the way she cared for her husband. She never left his side, supporting and loving him to the end. Mary and Doug were the perfect couple, so it was no surprise that after his death she developed dementia and slowly escaped our world. She was always a pleasant, happy and faithful person and took every challenge in stride. When she broke her hip last July, she began her slow decline and finally on April 19th joined her husband and family in Heaven. She often said she missed her husband and family very much but was in no hurry to die. She is survived by her five children: Suzi (Bill) Gordon, Mark (Charlene) Wilding, Gerard (Joanie) Wilding, Colleen (Eric) Smits, and Sheila (Bill) Pittman; eighteen grandchildren: (Suzi) Teresa Feathers, Barbara and Angela Gordon; (Mark) Markanque, Ryan and Courtenay Wilding; (Gerard) Matthew, Marc, Michelle Motyl; (Colleen) Diana, Eddie and Caty Smits, DeDe Balderson and Ethan Smits; and (Sheila) Jordan, Alex, Travis and Erika Pittman and fifteen great grandchildren and one future great grandchild. She was blessed to have many wonderful nieces and nephews who visited and sent her cards regularly. Visitation Friday 2-8 p.m. with a 7:00 p.m. Rosary at the Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home, 705 W 11 Mile Road (4 blocks E of Woodward), Royal Oak. Instate Saturday 10:30 a.m. until the time of Mass 11:00 a.m. at St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church, Madison Heights. Memorials to the St. Patrick's Senior Center, 58 Parsons St., Detroit, MI 48201 are appreciated. Share your memories at www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 28. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak
705 W. Eleven Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067
(248) 541-7000
royal@sullivanfh.com
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

Rosary

APR 28. 7:00 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak
705 W. Eleven Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067
(248) 541-7000
royal@sullivanfh.com
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

In State at Church

APR 29. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church
28353 Herbert Street
Madison Heights, MI 48071

Funeral Mass

APR **29**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church
28353 Herbert Street
Madison Heights, MI 48071

Tribute Wall

FF

“ From Mike and Patty Laverty and Family purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Mary G. Wilding.



From Mike and Patty Laverty and Family - April 25, 2017 at 08:43 PM

SM

“ Sorry I can't be their with you put I am praying you Mark and family

Steve Moody - April 23, 2017 at 09:05 PM

FM

*To all of the Wilding family, sorry to hear of the passing of your dear mother. You have our deepest sympathy. Praying God will comfort and strengthen you. "We trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all" I Timothy 4:10 KJV
Frank & Atherine Moody*

Frank & Atherine Moody - April 24, 2017 at 11:42 AM

WR

Your mother will be missed by you but rest assured that she loved you all and had a special place in her heart especially for You. I was happy and enjoyed your mother for the time i spent with her and cared for her. She was a joy and always had a smile for you. Sending blessing and prayers for you all at this time. Take care

Willa Rayner

willa rayner - April 28, 2017 at 05:07 AM