



## Mona Russell

September 24, 1934 - June 20, 2024

On June 20, 2024, the world lost a glistening spirit as Mona Mary Mullen Russell peacefully started her next great adventure at the age of 89. She was predeceased by Peter, her husband of 53 years. Mona was born in East Greenwich, RI, she was the youngest of three girls born to Catherine Mona Coyne and Judge John E Mullen.

A mother of many generations, Mona leaves behind her six daughters: Catherine Russell, Elizabeth LeBlanc, Julia Robertson, Martha Mitchell, Veronica Belf and Joanna Bowers (Matthew Bowers), along with 14 grandchildren: Parker Turczyn, Taylor Turczyn, Cole (Jordan) Turczyn, Madeline LeBlanc, Emma Robertson, Evan Mitchell, Jane Mitchell, Rachel Belf, Robert Belf III, Matthew Bowers Jr, Casey Smith, Michael Bowers, Sydney Smith, and Brooks Bowers and four great grandchildren. Through her everyday actions, she instilled in them the value of kindness, resilience, and compassion.

Mona lived a full and vibrant life, filled with love, laughter, and a deep sense of faith. Her legacy lives on in the hearts of her family and all who were fortunate enough to know her, from her former students to her closest friends.

She had a knack for transforming the simplest moments into cherished memories, seeing beauty in all things great and small. This is reflected

throughout her life, from her artwork, her teachings and her children. From her early days as a teacher at St Mary High School to her last job as Assistant Principal at Bishop Foley High School, Mona never turned a student away. Her gentle hand, warm heart along with her legacy strength are testaments to the life she lived and the values she held dear.

Friends are invited to join the family on Thursday, June 27 from 1-3pm and 5-7pm at WM Sullivan & Son Funeral Home at 705 E. Eleven Mile Road, Royal Oak. A funeral mass will be held at St. Mary Church, Royal Oak on Friday, June 28 at 10am. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly suggests donations to the Homeless Shelter Ministry of St Mary, St Mary of Royal Oak Catholic Church 730 S Lafayette Avenue, Royal Oak, MI 48067 or the Capuchin Soup Kitchen 1820 Mt. Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207. <https://www.cskdetroit.org/more-than-about-food/>.

Her love and light will continue to guide and protect us all especially her "Russell Sprouts."

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 27. 1:00 PM - 3:00 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/>

## Visitation

JUN 27. 5:00 PM - 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/>

## Funeral Mass

JUN 28. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary Catholic Church  
730 S. Lafayette Avenue  
Royal Oak, MI 48067

# Tribute Wall

FT

“ Our sincerest condolences to the Mona Russell Family. Mona was an outstanding Teacher and Administrator for the Foley Family. It was a pleasure to work with her and see how she wonderfully interacted with all her students and colleagues. She truly exemplified “ To Teach as Jesus Did “. May Mona now rest peacefully in the arms of Our Lord and may Our Lord be increasingly with the Russell Family during this difficult time. Blessings, Frank and Pat Turk

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**Frank and Pat Turk** - June 27, 2024 at 01:46 PM

FF

“ Fisher Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Mona Russell.



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**Fisher Family** - June 27, 2024 at 11:43 AM

LL

“ Love, Mary and Bob Ligon purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mona Russell.



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**Love, Mary and Bob Ligon** - June 27, 2024 at 11:05 AM

HC

“ Veronica and family, I have fond memories of your mom and her art classes from St. Mary's. She lives on in you all. Love, Heather (Tiffany) Carmona

Heather Carmona - June 27, 2024 at 08:43 AM

AK

“ Amy Konja purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mona Russell.



Amy Konja - June 27, 2024 at 08:06 AM

SW

“ Sincerely - Stacy & Scott Wasserman purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Mona Russell.



Sincerely - Stacy & Scott Wasserman - June 26, 2024 at 08:34 AM

SW

“ Sincerely - Stacy & Scott Wasserman planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mona Russell.

Sincerely - Stacy & Scott Wasserman - June 26, 2024 at 08:34 AM



“ *My heart is sad at the loss of your sweet Mother. I loved the times I was able to spend with her when she visited Texas, as well as celebrating at Julia's and Elizabeth's weddings. She was so very proud of all her girls. She was a lovely, gifted and accomplished woman and I'm so proud to have had the opportunity to meet her. My deepest condolences on your loss. Stacy Wasserman*

Stacy Wasserman - June 26, 2024 at 08:27 AM



“ *Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Mona Russell.*



June 25, 2024 at 01:11 PM



“ *With Deepest Sympathy, Eris & Brody purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Mona Russell.*



With Deepest Sympathy, Eris & Brody - June 24, 2024 at 10:25 PM



“ *Robert and Brandi Leonhardt purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mona Russell.*



Robert and Brandi Leonhardt - June 24, 2024 at 08:52 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mona Russell.



June 24, 2024 at 08:17 PM



“ Palmquists, LaRussos and Lee planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mona Russell.

**Palmquists, LaRussos and Lee** - June 24, 2024 at 08:17 PM



“ Maliha S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mona Russell.

**Maliha S.** - June 24, 2024 at 06:21 PM



“ AON purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Mona Russell.



**AON** - June 24, 2024 at 06:07 PM



“ AON planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mona Russell.

**AON** - June 24, 2024 at 06:07 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mona Russell.



June 24, 2024 at 12:33 PM



“ Lise & Robert de Varennes & family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Mona Russell.



Lise & Robert de Varennes & family - June 24, 2024 at 12:27 PM



“ Lise & Robert de Varennes & family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mona Russell.

Lise & Robert de Varennes & family - June 24, 2024 at 12:27 PM



“ Mel Bali and his family purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Mona Russell.



Mel Bali and his family - June 24, 2024 at 11:56 AM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mona Russell.*



June 24, 2024 at 08:49 AM



“ *Megan, Haley and Kevin Cantalupo planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mona Russell.*

**Megan, Haley and Kevin Cantalupo** - June 24, 2024 at 08:49 AM



“ *We were lucky to be neighbors with the Russell gang. Mrs. Russell made us all feel like one of her girls, even when chores needed to be done! Our parents spent time together in Lexington and Mrs Russell loved to sketch. Our family treasures the artwork she left behind. 7 Kenberton sends Love and Prayers.*



**Marianne MacDonald Davidoff** - June 23, 2024 at 08:25 PM



*Veronica and family, have fond memories of your mom at St Mary's. Love and prayers to you all. Anne Brancaleone*

**Anne Brancaleone** - June 27, 2024 at 10:36 PM

PW

“Mona was a second mom to a many of us. Once during one of her wonderful art classes at 4Ridge, I was working on a farm scene with a beautiful sunny sky. The kid next to me shook a brush, and a clump of black paint ended up in the middle of the sky. Frustrated and tearful, asked how to remove it, Mona looked at over my shoulder and calmly said, “Look at it and use it to make something beautiful. I know you will figure it out.” What resulted was one of my favorite pieces; a dark and stormy sky with a little clear sky forming at the edge.

That lesson has carried me through so many frustrating moments, turning a potentially derailing moment into a creative and lovely solution. I am so grateful to have had Mona in my life. The world is a bit dimmer without her, but her light glows in all she touched. My deepest condolences to her fabulous daughters and all the Russell Sprouts.

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**Pat Wells** - June 23, 2024 at 02:47 PM

CS

“Cory and Glen Sexton purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mona Russell.



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**Cory and Glen Sexton** - June 23, 2024 at 11:03 AM