



Sally Rizzo

January 31, 1920 - April 14, 2020

Sally Rizzo, age 100, of Southfield, passed away April 14, 2020.

Sally was the oldest living female marine, she enlisted in Detroit in 1944 and served until 1946. She went on to work at General Motors in 1947 until retirement in 1979 as an executive secretary. Sally was young at heart and lived a very full life in her 100 years. She loved Latin music and ballroom dancing which she did with her husband of 35 years, the late Gus Rizzo. A lover of shopping, going out to eat and having a margarita with friends and family, Sally was a party girl and a true friend to all that knew her. If you asked Sally, being a United States Marine was one of her greatest accomplishments in life and throughout the years she was grateful to have felt the ongoing support of the Marine community. Sally had a wit like no other and vibrancy to her soul and a love for life that will be missed dearly.

Loving wife of the Late Gus Rizzo, stepmother of Joseph (Francine) Rizzo. Memorial donations to www.michiganhumane.org are appreciated. Burial will take place at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Share a memory at www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com.

Cemetery Details

Holy Sepulchre Cemetery

25800 W. 10 Mile Road
Southfield, MI 48033

Tribute Wall

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“Sincere condolences from the members of the Women Marines Association. “If the Army and the Navy ever looked on Heaven’s Scenes, they will find the streets are guarded by United States Marines.” (3rd stanza of the Marines Hymn). Take comfort in knowing your beloved Marine has left this life to take up her rightful place in Heaven’s detachment.

The Women Marines Association is dedicated to preserving the history of our veterans. We continue to build a diverse collection of uniforms, photos, papers and other artifacts donated by our members and their families. If you have items you would like to know more about or would like to have your loved one memorialized by donating items to the collection, our Historian, Nancy Wilt, would be happy to speak with you. She can be reached at: Nancy Wilt, WMA Historian, Curator of the Women of the Corps Collection, PO Box 633, Hunt, TX 78024, Phone: 830-238-3893, or niwilt@aol.com.

Eileen Skahill

National Chaplain

Chaplain@womenmarines.org

Eileen Skahill - July 01, 2020 at 01:02 PM

AD

“ My deepest condolences to Sally’s family and friends. Sally lived the saying “Once a Marine. Always a Marine”. She loved the Marine Corps and she loved her little dog Petey. Sally was funny and loving. She constantly gave to those in need. While riding in the car, she loved to tell her history. We would drive all around the state of Michigan and she would tell me about her days of ballroom dancing and point out historical locations. She described the wooden bridge of Belle Isle and the church with the gold statue next to her apartment building, that she lived in as a child. That building looks down on I-94. I learned so much from her and always enjoyed her company. Sally and Dorothea kept me laughing. I am so glad that we were able to celebrate her 100th birthday in January. Sally lived her life to the fullest and she was a wonderful person. Thank you for being my friend. Thank you for paving the way. Without you; there would be no us,. Love you and rest in peace.

Adrienne

Adrienne - April 17, 2020 at 04:48 PM

MM

“ Condolences and prayers to family and friends.

I first met Sally at one of MI2 meetings in Frankenmuth. Being new to the group she made it over to my table and gave me a hug. From that moment I knew she was more than a sister Marine, she was a very special woman.

I came to love her; her sparkling eyes and zest for life always put smile on my face whenever I thought of her or saw her. Visiting Sally was a pleasure, we'd just sit and talk of the Corps and her family and friends past and present, pointing them out to me from pictures on her dresser. One of Sally's early passions was dancing and when she spoke of her and her Gus out dancing she lit up as it did when she spoke of her precious pup.

Gonna miss you Marine and your trademark "well I'll be darned".

You, for this sister, was a Godsend. Rest peacefully dear sister.

Thank you for your service/paving the way and Semper Fi!!

Mary Joe Morrison

MSgt USMC

Mary Joe Morrison - April 17, 2020 at 07:50 AM

DD

“ *My sincerest condolences to family, friends and all that had the privilege of knowing Sally. I had met Sally when she was nominated to go to the WWII Honor Flight from Detroit. She was on the first Honor Flight that Ford Motor Company had sponsored. I had the honor of picking her up at her Condo and getting her to the airport. Sally loved the Marine Corps and I loved hearing of her experiences in the Corps. I will not forget her. Her memory will live on with all she came to know. I thank God I was blessed to spend a short time with her.*

Dan Duderstadt - April 17, 2020 at 07:11 AM