



Mary Louise Dwyer

JUL 24, 1939 - AUG 8, 2022



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MORAN & GOEBEL
FUNERAL HOME AND
CREMATION SERVICES

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Mary Louise Dwyer

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Mary Louise Dwyer, 83, of Decatur, passed away August 8, 2022 at Memorial Medical Center in Springfield, Illinois.

Mary Lou was born in Lebanon, Kentucky on July 24, 1939, the daughter of Charles and Martha (Jolly) Haydon. She grew up in Springfield, Kentucky, and was immensely proud of her Kentucky heritage. Mary Lou attended Georgetown Visitation Junior College and graduated from St. Louis University.

After graduation, Mary Lou was a social worker at the Pruitt-Igoe joint urban housing projects in St. Louis. She married Donald P. Dwyer in 1963. Upon their divorce, she single-handedly raised five children in Decatur. She then worked for many years at the Decatur Public Library as a children's librarian. After retirement she continued to volunteer at the library, and also served as a volunteer docent at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois. She was a member of Holy Family Parish in Decatur.

Mary Lou was a survivor: in recent years, she successfully battled stage IV lymphoma and endured a subsequent house fire. She loved living independently at her beloved home of 42 years in Decatur with her cat Churchill, and regularly joined friends for brunch, book club, and theater performances.

Mary Lou is survived by her children: Bridget Anne (Mark) Marry of Los Lunas, New Mexico, Margaret "Molly" Moran (Al Mauro) Dwyer of Kansas City, Missouri, Kathleen "Katie" Duffy (David) Klein of El Paso, Illinois, Patrick Haydon (Rob Rubin) Dwyer of New York City, and Michael Ryan (Brett Stallone) Dwyer of Springfield, Illinois; brother Joseph Jolly Haydon of Fredericksburg, Virginia and William Kendall "Kenny/Duke" (Diana) Haydon of St. Louis, Missouri; grandchildren Christopher Marry, Matthew Marry, Kelly Marry, Sophia Mauro, Francesca Mauro, Abigail Klein, and Benjamin Klein; sister-in-law Mary Alice Dwyer-Dobbin; nieces and nephews Rex and Nene Haydon, Macus Haydon, Cory Haydon Jamison and Mark Jamison, Caleb and Joanna Haydon, and Beau Haydon; and great-nieces and nephews Forrest



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Haydon, Carmela Haydon, Alicia Haydon, Haydon Jamison, and Josie Jamison; and many, many close friends who have supported and loved her through the years.

She was preceded in death by her parents, former spouse Donald P. Dwyer, daughter Mary Dwyer, sister Susan Haydon, sister-in-law Coreen Coryell Haydon, granddaughter Megan Elizabeth Marry, and nephew Joseph Jolly "Jay" Haydon Jr.

In accordance with her wishes, Mary Lou's body has been donated to St. Louis University. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial donations be made to the Children's Department at the Decatur Public Library. Please write "in memory of Mary Lou Dwyer" on the check, and mail to the Decatur Public Library, 130 N. Franklin Street, Decatur, Illinois 62523.

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated at 11am on Thursday, August 11, 2022 at Holy Family Church in Decatur. A visitation will begin at 10:00am prior to the Mass. Condolences may be shared with the family at www.moranandgoebel.com



Events


Mary Louise Dwyer

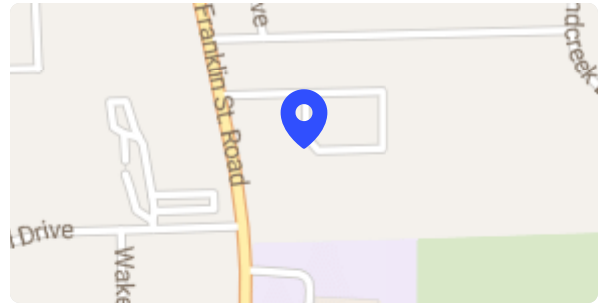
JUL 24, 1939 - AUG 8, 2022

Visitation

 **Thursday**, August 11, 2022


 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM CT


 **Holy Family Catholic Church**
2400 S. Franklin, Decatur IL 62521

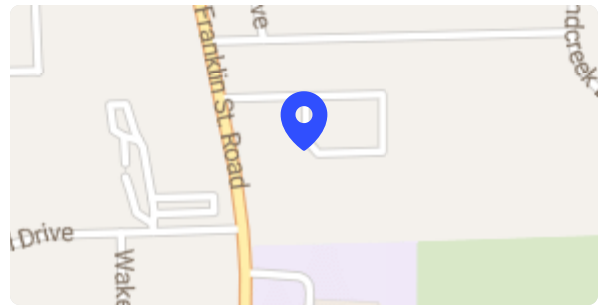


Memorial Mass

 **Thursday**, August 11, 2022

 11:00 AM CT

 **Holy Family Catholic Church**
2400 S. Franklin, Decatur IL 62521





Tribute Wall

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PH

Patrice Hunt posted:

Mary Louise Dwyer was such a lovely woman and an accomplished lady. I first became acquainted with her as I was Patrick's Spanish teacher at EHS. After that I wound often see her at Mass or at a theater production. She was such a positive person and always spoke lovingly of her children; she was so proud of each of them. I only recently read of her death ad we have moved out of state but know that I am praying for the eternal rest of her soul.

August 24 at 10:43 AM

JN

Judy Nichols posted:

With heavy heart we learn that our beloved friend has passed to her eternal home. I met Mary Lou my first day on the job at DPL, and she opened her arms and her heart to welcome me, sharing her family along with everything else in her world. Her generosity was bottomless, as was her tenacity. I admired her courage, joy, and the scope of her compassion. Today we hold Bridget, Molly, Katie, Patrick and Michael close in our hearts. May all your beloved memories begin to fill the empty spaces inside. You know she's still looking after you... just from a new window. With love and tears, Judy and Jim Nichols. Dunedin, FL.

August 24 at 3:25 AM

PF

Pat Farley posted:

Bridget, Molly, Katie, Patrick, Michael and families - we are so sorry for the loss of your mom. She was always so sweet. Fond memories even back to when Bridget was born. Fun memories with Albertina and Paul. Always loved that she wore her coin bracelet! Losing your mom is never easy. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Enjoy all of the great memories. We are so sorry that we were not able to make the service. Love Pat and John Farley

August 22 at 6:44 PM

SP

Sue Powell posted:

What an amazing lady your Mom was! She raised a beautiful family and, in a way, raised a whole city of kids through her work as a librarian. Always sharing a smile, a story, family updates - you kids were her heart. Thinking of you, Patrick, Michael and the whole crew. Mary Lou will be so missed by all of us. With prayers and love,Sue Powell

August 13 at 6:26 AM



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Sarah Peterson posted:

Your mother was the best! Cheeriest, instant friendship, pulled in as a friend immediately! You all are as wonderful as she. Sorry to read this news. Sarah Milligan Peterson

August 11 at 10:59 AM



Seth M. posted:

My sincerest condolences to Patrick, Mike, and the rest of the family. She was so kind, thoughtful, and adored you guys. Warmest thoughts for everyone...

August 11 at 5:55 AM



Jane Slifer posted:

Bridget, Molly, Katie, Patrick, Michael and families - my deepest sympathy to all of you. Your mom sure was a sweet lady, and I know you will miss her so much. Sending love and hugs. ❤️❤️

August 10 at 7:04 PM



Anonymous sent a Love's Journey to the Dwyer family.



August 10 at 8:08 AM



Anonymous sent a Blue Caribbean Bouquet to the Dwyer family.



August 10 at 2:27 AM



Anonymous sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Dwyer family.



August 9 at 6:23 PM



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Linda Van Doren posted:

Dearest Patrick, Rob and family, sending heartfelt condolences and loving wishes during this terrible time of tremendous loss. Keeping you close in our hearts ❤️ Linda and Dean

August 9 at 6:18 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Mary by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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