



Mary Pursell

October 11, 1928 - September 3, 2009

The world is a little sadder today as Mary Louise (Philbin) Pursell has left this life, surrounded by her family, to begin another with the Lord. Although we who knew her mourn for ourselves, we recognize that she left here a better place for all she touched. Mary Lou was a New Haven local. She was born in West Haven on October 11, 1928 to the late John Joseph and Catherine Agnes Philbin and moved to New Haven at an early age. She was married to her loving husband William L. for 55 years. She was active with Alumni activities at both her high school (Hillhouse class of '46-one of her favorite monikers "First in war-First in peace") as well as college (St Joseph's College, West Hartford BS Nursing class of '50) She also earned a Master's degree in Public Health from SCSU. She worked 5 years for the VNA of New Haven and 25 years as Supervisor of Nursing Services for the West Haven Board of Education, retiring in 1995. Her life was marked by service to others-family, church and community. She grew up and lived her whole life within a 10 mile radius, but influenced many in that small area. Mary Lou was a member of the New Haven's Women's Club, Notre Dame Mother's Club and St. Aedan's School Board for many years. She was ardent about her Irish heritage-enjoying St. Patty's day gatherings, step dancing, the Irish Rovers, and relished a trip to the ole sod years ago. She was an accomplished pianist. an avid crossword puzzler (actually finishing some), an inspiring knitter, and she counted yoga and swimming among her other interests. Another passion was scouring tag sales for that perfect item because she could always find a silver

lining in another person's cloud. There are many future Tag Salers who did not know Mary Lou, but will surely be impacted by her passing. Although these endeavors and hobbies were significant, she was most proud of the family that she and her husband raised. She was a staunch believer that education could improve one's lot in life. She provided solace in times of sorrow and guidance with everyday issues. Every time one of the family picks up an instrument, knits a qui lt. bakes Irish Soda bread or donates some time and effort for a cause, we can thank Mary Lou for providing the training and guidance. We are eternally grateful for the values she instilled in us and will attempt to be true to her legacy by the passing of those ideals to those around us. Until we meet again-God bless. Mary Lou's loving family includes husband, William and her children (William J and Patricia of Wallingford, Kenneth .I Pursell. MD and Jacqueline Pongracic, MD of Chicago, Mary Catherine and Guy Dupont of Wallingford, Thomas B, ESQ and Mary Brunell Pursell of New Haven, Susan E Pursell. MD and Michael Wack, MD of Newburyport. MA, Robert A and Denise Callahan Pursell of Wallingford, and Joan E and Christopher Fleming of Fairfield CT) and 17 grandchildren (Kelly, Meghann and Bill Pursell, Shannon Czaplicki, Charlie and Dan Dupont, Florette and Caitlin Pursell, Skyler,, Dylan and Demi Wack, Robert, Brendan, and Julia Pursell, Mikaela, Collin, and Keira Fleming). She was pre-deceased by brother John J. Philbin. Donations to Connecticut Hospice at 100 Double Beach Rd. Branford, CT 06405-4906 in Mary Lou's name would preferred in lieu of flowers. Friends may call Monday September 7th from 4 to 8 pm.. at Sisk Brothers Funeral Home, 3105 Whitney Ave Hamden CT. A Catholic Funeral Mass will be held at 10:00 am Tuesday, September 8th, at St Aedan's Church in New Haven CT. Internment will follow at All Saints Cemetery in North Haven CT.

Tribute Wall

JS

“ To Sue Pursell and her family; we extend our deepest and most heartfelt sympathy on the loss of your wonderful mother...you are in our prayers. Love, Joan and Danny Stamp

Joan Stamp - September 16, 2009 at 07:34 PM

JE

“ Mary Lou was a remarkable woman, a person of courageous heart and dedicated spirit. She gave much to many, and will be dearly missed.

Jack & Mary Easley - September 09, 2009 at 12:52 PM

SJ

“ Knowing the right words of comfort are difficult at times and so what better words to share with you than the very comforting words found in the Bible. Isaiah chapter 41, verses 10 and 13 says: Do not be afraid, for I am with you. Do not gaze about, for I am your God. I will fortify you. I will really help you. I will really keep fast hold of you with my right hand of righteousness. For I, Jehovah your God, am grasping your right hand, the One saying to you, Do not be afraid. I myself will help you.

Know matter how you feel, you are not alone.

Psalms 147:3 says: He is healing the broken-hearted ones, and is binding up their painful spots.

Our almighty father knows your hearts desire and he promises at Psalms 145:16 that he will satisfy the desire of every living thing.

We hope these scriptures will provide you all comfort during this very difficult time. We love you all. Scott and Gabby Jones

Scott and Gabby Jones - September 08, 2009 at 09:00 PM

TD

“ *Ken, Jackie and Family:
Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you all at this very unsettling time.*

Timothy Doyle - September 08, 2009 at 03:29 PM

JC

“ *May God bless you and may you rest in peace. Our greatest sympathies to Bill and your whole family.*

John, Becky, and Johnny Cox - September 04, 2009 at 05:35 PM

TE

“ *Mary Pursell*

Terry Easley - September 04, 2009 at 03:08 PM

HP

“ *Ken Pursell, My thoughts and prayers to you and your family during this difficult time. I will light a candle...in memory.
In Sympathy, Helen*

Helen Pytlewicz - September 04, 2009 at 03:01 PM

PD

“ *Marylou will be dearly missed by all who came into contact with her. Her love of family has touched all of us deeply. Our only peace comes in knowing she is now in Heaven and watching over all of you. Our love, prayers and blessings are with all of you during this time.*

With deepest love and sympathy, Peggy, Ajay & Kishan

Peggy & Ajay Dev - September 04, 2009 at 02:34 PM

BC

“ *To the Pursell Family,
Our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this time.
Jimmy, Betsy and Adam Camerato*

Betsy Camerato - September 04, 2009 at 11:32 AM