



Mary Cunney

August 10, 1923 - August 24, 2019

Mary Louise Cunney, nee Beall, 96, of Raleigh, NC, died on August 24, 2019 at Springmoor Health Center after a brief decline in health. Mary Lou was born in Washington, DC on August 10, 1923, daughter of the late John Andrew Beall and Mildred Chesley Lauder.

After graduating from Washington & Lee High School, Mary Lou attended Mary Washington College for one year. She began a career, first in banking and then as a legal secretary.

Mary Lou married Eugene (Gene) Cunney on October 23, 1948. Their courtship included dancing under the stars at the Washington Canoe Club on the Potomac River. The majority of Gene's career was as an accountant with the Army and Air Force Motion Picture Service and, as a consequence, Gene and Mary Lou lived and traveled over much of the world. Residences included Springfield, Virginia, Wiesbaden, Germany, Arlington, Texas and Honolulu, Hawaii.

On Gene's retirement they moved to Annapolis, Maryland, where Mary Lou completed an AA degree in medical technology at Anne Arundel Community College with a perfect record of As. Seeking warmer weather, they retired a second time to Siesta Key, Florida and later, a third time to Wilmington, North Carolina. They shared a love of the beach, sailing, boating, bridge, traveling, reading and playing golf. Mary Lou also enjoyed entertaining, cooking, crafts, art, music, solving puzzles, jogging, water aerobics and volunteering.

Mary Lou's volunteerism started during WWII, wrapping bandages and making supplies to be sent overseas. In Germany, she was a "Gray Lady" at the local armed forces hospital, helping patients and nurses. The term comes from the color of the apron the volunteers wore. In Florida she volunteered in the medical community to help low income clients get health care. Well into her 80s, Mary Lou volunteered at Catholic Parish Outreach, which is the largest Triangle Area food bank. Mary Lou had a tender heart and respected all who

needed assistance.

Mary Lou was preceded in death by her parents, her husband of 54 years, Gene, and her brother, John Andrew (Evelyn) Beall.

Mary Lou is survived by her daughter, Christine, and husband James Mills of Raleigh. She is also survived by nieces Anne Cunney, Pamela (David) Faust, Georgann Cunney, Margaret Vanwormer, Susan Sheldon, nephew William (Jan) Stevens, god-daughter Kathy (William) House, and many cousins, great and great-great nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held at Saint Raphael Catholic Church, 5801 Falls of Neuse Road, Raleigh, 27609 on Friday, September 6, 2019. Visitation with the family will begin at 11 a.m. and the funeral mass will be held at noon in the Chapel, followed by the commitment prayers at the Columbarium. All are invited to fellowship and light refreshments in the Lewis Room after the service.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Mary Lou's memory to Catholic Parish Outreach, <https://www.cporaleigh.org/> or the Springmoor Endowment Fund, <https://springmoor.org/2016/09/the-springmoor-endowment-fund/> or your favorite cause.

The family would like to extend a special thanks to the doctors, staff and caregivers at Springmoor, Transitions Hospice, and Mary Lou's devoted home health aide, Marcy Spruill.

Events

SEP 6 Visitation 11:00AM - 12:00PM
St. Raphael the Archangel R.C. Church
5801 Falls of the Neuse Road, Raleigh, NC, US, 27609

SEP 6 Memorial Mass 12:00PM - 01:00PM
St. Raphael the Archangel R.C. Church
5801 Falls of the Neuse Road, Raleigh, NC, US, 27609

SEP 6 Reception 01:30PM
St. Raphael the Archangel R.C. Church
5801 Falls of the Neuse Road, Raleigh, NC, US, 27609

Comments



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mary Cunney.



September 05 at 11:40 AM



“ Chris and Jim -

We so enjoyed the many times we spent together with Mary Louise! Christmas, Thanksgiving, Sunday dinners and other times we were invited to share wonderful times together. Maryland, Florida, North Carolina - we were so welcomed! Our daughters were also privileged to enjoy wonderful and loving times with Mom. She is now at peace, having lived a life full of joy, friendship and love!

Bill and Sherrie Mills



Bill Mills - September 03 at 09:13 PM



“ I am blessed to the nephew of multiple, wonderful aunts and uncles in my family. Aunt Sugar (such an apt descriptive) will be with me forever. She was the sweetest person and always kind and considerate.

I know she is now with the love of her life, my Uncle Gene.

God Bless.

Bill Stevens - September 03 at 07:52 AM



“ Carpenter, Mills and Van Zee families purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mary Cunney.



Carpenter, Mills and Van Zee families - September 02 at 11:10 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Cunney.



September 01 at 10:32 AM



“ Chris and Jim,

Ralph and I are remembering the laughter and holiday cheer your Mom brought to a Christmas Eve dinner at our house a couple of years ago. She was such an elegant and charming woman and she added so much happy energy to the evening. We're very glad to have shared some time with her. We're wishing you the comfort of good memories.

Hugs
Ralph & Nina

Ralph & Nina Yeager - August 28 at 08:40 PM



“ Chris and Jim,

We have such fond memories of the days we would sit with your mom in the sitting area of Springmoor and laugh and share past adventures. Her smile was contagious and we will hold those special moments in our hearts.

Wishing you and your family strength and peace. Julie & Alex Lewis

Julie & Alex Lewis - August 28 at 02:52 PM