



Betty Jane (Gaffney) Mears

April 17, 1926 - May 14, 2014

MEARS

BETTY GAFFNEY

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Betty Jane Gaffney Mears on May 14, 2014

at Ebeid Hospice after a short illness. Betty was born on April 17, 1926 to John and Helen (Quinn) Gaffney in Toledo, Ohio. She attended Rosary Cathedral and St. Ursula Academy.

She married James G. Mears on October 28, 1972. He predeceased her. Betty was a Real Estate agent for Northside Realty most of her life and actively sold Real Estate both in Toledo and Marietta, Georgia. She was a member of the Million Dollar Club often. Betty was also active in the Democratic Party, starting with her involvement in the "Young Dems". She was active in many political campaigns, including helping to elect John F. Kennedy to the Presidency. Currently, she was a member of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians in Toledo and loved all things Irish, especially her family. She was involved each year with planning the annual "Quinn" reunion. Betty's favorite toast was "Cheers"! She was also known and was recognized for her love of hats. She was a cheerful and generous soul. Some of her most endearing greetings were "What's new?" or "Tell me something good, kid!". Betty was preceded in death by her husband Jim, her parents, sisters Helen Keeler, Kathleen Weisenburger and Mary Aubry and nephew Patrick

Weisenburger. She is survived by nieces & nephews: Sue (Dave) Stitcher, Mike (Pam Harper) Weisenburger, Bill (Kathy) Aubry, Dan (Helen) Aubry, Peggy Tressler, Janet (Jim) Lankey, John (Stephanie) Aubry, Adrienne (Robert) Castellanos, Tim (Kimberly) Aubry and Pat (Amy) Aubry. She is also survived by her brother in law, Bill Aubry, Sr., many 1st cousins including Bishop Robert Donnelly, Rev. Martin Donnelly, Patrick Hendricks, JC Grote, Sr. M. Bernard, Kathryn (Grote) Weiher, Sr. Carollette Grote, Eileen (O'Doherty) Stipe, and Patricia O'Doherty and many great nieces, nephews and cousins.

Friends and family are invited to celebrate Betty's life at a Memorial Mass at St. Clement Church; 3030 Tremainsville Rd, Toledo, OH 43613 on Saturday June 7, 2014 at 10:00 am. Betty generously donated her body to The University of Toledo Medical Center. Memorial donations may be made to: Masses, Cole Eye Institute at Cleveland Clinic, The Visitation Convent, St. Clements Parish, St. Martin de Porres Parish, Ursuline Convent or to the Charity of the donor's choice.


Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN 7. 10:00 AM (ET)

St Clement Catholic Church
3030 Tremainsville Rd.
Toledo, OH 43613-1901
(419) 472-2111

Tribute Wall

 Susan
Johnson

“ 3 files added to the album *New Album Name* ”



Susan Johnson - December 25, 2014 at 05:43 PM

 Susan
Johnson

“ I will never forget the first time I met my Aunt Betty. My Uncle called my mom and told her he was getting married and we were to fly to Toledo Ohio for his Wedding. Our Family is incredibly small as a matter of fact I had just 1 Uncle, my Uncle Jim, who was my mothers brother. My Father was an only child and died from a heart attack at 41 years old when I was just 6. My mother never dated or remarried. Both my grand fathers were dead and I had just 2 Grandmothers and that was the extent of my Family. So you can imagine how overwhelmed I was at 14 when my Uncle told me that I now had "a whole bunch of "New Cousins" and I was flying to Ohio to meet them all. I have to say that I was quite spoiled and overindulged by my mother and grandmothers who were always trying to "Make up" somehow for my fathers death. I can only say that my Uncle had to be the luckiest man in the world to have met and married my Aunt Betty. Although I never was able to have a close relationship with her due to the distense between our homes, the time I spent in her presences was a learning experience I will never forget. In this life you will only meet a handful of truly Good Righteous wholesomely Real People who are truly a priveledge to have known and this woman was one of those people. She was one of the warmest, cheerful, uplifting people I have ever known. My only regret is that I didn't make the effort to try and get to know her better... I know that the Lord welcomed her into his kingdom of heaven with all her family and friends and my Uncle Jim waiting by his side to greet her. She was a truly dynamically beautiful Good person and I know she is missed my many. I feel blessed to have had the opportunity to have known her and call her family. May she rest in peace.

Susan Johnson - December 25, 2014 at 05:34 PM

KF

“ *My Deepest Sympathy to All the Family and Friends of Betty Mears*

I am an S.T.N.A....(nursing assistant) at The Franciscan Care Center of Sylvania.

It was my good fortune to be able to take care of Betty....two of the three times Betty was a resident there. She was a Joysuch a wonderful person...so upbeat.

Betty always took the time to ask about my family. She especially liked hearing that my husband played and sang in an Irish Band.

Betty enjoyed the flowers I brought her....I am so very glad I did !! I will miss her dearly. Rest in Peace my dear friend.

.....maybe my husband Ernie is playing Irish music for her now :

)

I am sorry I missed the Memorial Service....

Karen Fisher - June 07, 2014 at 01:39 PM

PS

“ *In Loving Memory - from Patricia Sinyangwe*

At this time I imagine Aunt Betty's Memorial has just been completed and everyone is gathered, sharing thoughts and memories of her. My last memory of being with her was when I travelled from my home in England to a family gathering in Ireland twenty years ago. She gave us an amazing red waterproof hat which caused a lot of enjoyment all round. I imagine she has a hat now which is more of a crown. I found her so full of love for all around her and was very taken with her smiles and laughter. She has extended her love to me over this long distance ever since, with her cards and messages - she has been part of my life down these years. I miss her now. I can still ask her to think of me and I know she will continue to send me her love.

Patricia Sinyangwe, London, UK.

Patricia Sinyangwe - June 07, 2014 at 06:06 AM

TQ

“ *I first met Betty when she moved to Atlanta to be with her husband, Jim Mears. I met*

Jim through my brother, John, at the boarding house that we were living in Atlanta. I found Betty to be so alive, and so spirited - more so than anybody that I have ever met.

She was a joy to be with, and pleasure like positive thinking that would be passed off to anybody who would be within earshot. I never met anybody like her, and I never will in my limited future. May she rest in peace, and await her eternal reward.

Tim Quilter - June 06, 2014 at 08:50 PM

DB

“ We first met Betty when she was dating Jim, and he introduced her to our family. Our friendship grew over the years while playing bridge, and in later years, Betty would come over for dinner and a "game" with us 'girls'..Her excitement and laughter when she won was a joy to see. In fact, the last time Mom spoke with her, she was looking forward to getting home, and coming over for dinner and a 'game'..Betty was a remarkable woman..always full of Irish laughter and good spirits, no matter the situations she faced. She continued to be an inspiration to all, and was the most caring and thoughtful and "involved" person I have ever met. She is greatly missed. We love you Betty and will see you again! We send you a hug!!! Debbie and Muriel Borregard

Debbie Borregard - June 06, 2014 at 06:37 PM

SS

“ We have many fond memories of Betty from years past, and wish we could be with you Saturday. I have a 5 day meeting in Toronto beginning Friday, so will not be able to attend the services. Betty was a wonderful person with a great sense of humor - and a great laugh! Her Irish eyes are smiling! Prayers for all. Bob and Sue Savage

Sue Savage - June 03, 2014 at 11:34 AM

CR

“Betty told us she grew up on Rockwood Place during a time when neighbors knew each other, all families attended the Cathedral and all children its Parochial school.

“All of us kids would play for hours and hours,” she recalled gaily, “playing games until dusk when we had to go inside.”

Rockwood Place is a short one-block street tucked amongst longer streets that run for several blocks. Today, as I turned onto Rockwood, I noticed that the first residence on the left was badly burned and stood amongst foot-tall grass. However, hope for the home came in the form of a young black man who was steadfastly mowing the grass.

“Someone cares.” I thought, and I felt relief. Perhaps it was Betty’s childhood home, perhaps not; it didn’t matter. The point was that someone cares about Rockwood Place, this home, its past, and its future. As I slowly drove on, I noticed, on both sides of the street, the many large homes and how nicely they are tended to and cared for.

Betty has not lived on this street for many, many years. Yet, there is an undeniable sense of caring and community that would bespeak her memory and would make her smile. But then, perhaps she is – smiling from Heaven.

CJ Ruff

Cynthia Ruff - June 01, 2014 at 12:33 PM

MR

“ *She was just a good wonderful amazing happy person whom I'll carry in my heart forever and ever.....She's been a special part of my life from my very first surgery when I was just a little thing going back and forth to Toledo and my parents stayed at her parents house while I was in the Hospital. She has always made me smile made me laugh and always made me feel beautiful:) SLAINTE TO YOU AUNT BETTY UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN!!!!*

Mary Ann Rivera - May 29, 2014 at 02:48 PM

JL

When I was a kid I never knew about your surgeries. Thanks for sharing this about Aunt Betty and Grandma and Grandpa Gaffney. See you Saturday, Mary Ann. Janet

Janet Lankey - June 03, 2014 at 06:58 AM

AL

“ *Sincere sympathy to the Mears Family on the death of our dear Cousin Betty Jane*

We have very fond memories of her wonderful visit ,s to Ireland and the wonderful time we shared together

Our prayers and thoughts are with you all at this very sad time as we mourn the loss of our much loved Cousin Betty Jane

Anna and Jerry Lavery

Ireland

Anna Lavery - May 19, 2014 at 04:10 PM

SM

*My prayers and love at this time of sorrow.
To a true Irish friend.
God Bless you and the family.
Sister Ann Marie Mc Manus*

Sister AnnMarie Mc Manus - June 06, 2014 at 07:05 PM