



Mary Helena DuPraw

January 12, 1920 - September 26, 2021

Mary Helena DuPraw, 101, of Toledo Ohio, formerly Royal Oak, MI, passed away peacefully in her sleep on Sept. 26, 2021 at Ohio Living, Swan Creek Retirement Village.

Mary was born January 12, 1920 to parents Bessie and Frank Waterfall. She was raised by her mother in Flint, Michigan where she spent much of her youth reading, dancing, sewing, knitting and puppeteering. She graduated with honors from Flint Northern High School. She received a scholarship to college but was unable to attend due to a severe battle with pernicious anemia. She went on to work for Smith Bridgman's and Chevrolet.

At the age of 24, Mary married Norman Young. As part of the Air Corps, Sergeant Young served in WWII until his plane was shot down and he was declared MIA. After healing her broken heart, she met and married Ashley DuPraw, a pilot who owned his own flight school and had trained cadets during WWII. They resided in Flint, MI where Ashley flew for GM out of Bishop Airport. They had two daughters, Shari (DuPraw) Navin and Kathi (DuPraw) Granzow. Ashley was transferred to the Detroit area and for the next 50 years they resided in Royal Oak, MI, raising their two girls, enjoying visits from their grandchildren and tending to their roses. Mary loved to garden.

Mary was preceded in death by husband Norman Young, husband Ashley

DuPraw, daughter Shari Navin and grandson Matthew Granzow. Although she had many tragic losses in her life, her faith remained ever strong and she devoted her life to the church and helping those in need.

Mary is survived by daughter Kathi Granzow and son-in-law, Dennis Granzow of Toledo, two grandchildren, Jeffrey Granzow (Candice) of Santa Clarita, CA and Kathleen Peters (Steven) of Cincinnati, OH and two great grandchildren, Agnes Granzow and Blake Peters.

A celebration of life will take place at Ohio Living @ Swan Creek 11:00 a.m., Saturday Oct. 2, 2021 in the chapel. The family will receive guests at 10 a.m. 5916 Cresthaven Lane. Toledo, OH 43614.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 2. 11:00 AM.

Inactive - Ohio Living Swan Creek

Tribute Wall

DW

“ *Mary, you were remembered by St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Maumee, Ohio on Sunday, January 9, 2022.*

David Watts - January 07, 2022 at 11:40 PM

MA

“ *Mary was a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Maumee and that is where I was fortunate enough to have met her. What a sweet lady she was! She was graced with a lovely smile and an easy laugh that made her eyes sparkle.*
We once had an extended conversation about some of the experiences of her life, including stories about her first husband who was killed during WWII. Mary was surprised that anyone would care to know about her life, but we all assured her that we found every bit of it fascinating. And we did! Maybe it was the way in which she told her story or maybe it was because we all loved her. Pretty and petite Mary, I will always see her sitting in her pew at church with her daughter.

Michele Alexander - September 28, 2021 at 05:55 PM

MM

Mary was a beautiful lady. Welcoming smile. She was missed when she moved to be close to her daughter and family

MaryAnn Morrow - September 29, 2021 at 12:52 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Helena DuPraw.*



September 28, 2021 at 02:25 PM