



Mary Garvey Tafelski

July 10, 1923 - December 1, 2010

Mary Garvey Tafelski , 87 years, of Waterville, passed away peacefully with her family at her side on December 1, 2010.

Mary and her twin bother Kay were born on July 10,1923 in LaCrosse, WI to Frank and Elizabeth Garvey. Mary grew up on a Fox Ranch in rural Wisconsin where she had an idyllic childhood, complete with dogs, ponies, a one room school house and a swimming hole. Mary left home at 14 to attend St. Clara Academy in Sinsinawa, WI. She then attended the College of St. Teresa in Winona, MN and graduated in 1945 with a BA in Sociology. Working for Catholic Charities brought her to Toledo where she met James Tafelski whom she married January 3rd, 1948. She left social work to undertake the job she loved best, full time wife and mother. Mary and Jim raised six children, Therese {Ned} Coyle, Thomas J.{Sharon} Tafelski DO, James G. {LuAnn} Tafelski, Marilyn {John} Romaker, Elizabeth {William} Anderson and Joseph F. Tafelski. Mary knew that raising her family was her true calling and she excelled at her vocation. The door to her home in the Old West End was always open to the neighborhood kids who would suffer scrapes and cuts from playing sand lot baseball, fall football or winter hockey in the side yard across from the Cathedral where she attended Mass daily. Mary's kitchen was always filled with heavenly scented aromas of home made sweet rolls in the morning, hot school lunches for her family at noon and evening dinners but never to be consumed without Thanks to the One from whom all blessings come. Mary was a gracious and welcoming hostess, a superb cook and a

baker without peer, one taste of her apple pie and you were spoiled for life. When her eldest, Therese, left home to be married in 1971 she made sure her progeny would never forget the love, strength and support that only family can provide, and to that end she hosted Sunday dinner, every Sunday of every week of every year going on 40 years. It is a tradition and privilege that continues to this day and to which her surviving family shall continue so that they in turn can pass on to another generation the values of love and family and faith that she embodied.

Mary lived her beloved Catholic faith daily and held a special devotion to the Virgin Mary. She dutifully served others before herself with a smile and a glad heart throughout her lifetime. Upon moving the family to Waterville in 1976 she was a fixture at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Maumee for over thirty years both as a parishioner and a volunteer. The responsibilities of the Ladies Rosary Alter Society, Eucharistic ministry, tending to the flowers at the Blessed Virgin statue, wedding coordination, funeral luncheon team and Adoration Chapel worship gave her great fulfillment as did celebrating daily mass with her equally devoted circle of parish friends. Their regular post Mass gatherings for coffee or breakfast were dearly relished over the years and missed by Mary during her illness.

Mary was an enthusiastic outdoorswoman who had a passion for life and physical activity that included water aerobics three days a week, tending and growing beautiful roses, working tirelessly in her yard and walking her beloved dog Shannon along the Maumee River. She was a longtime member of The Profit and Pleasure Society of Waterville, Mobile Meals volunteer, happily prepared and served meals with AGAPE of St Joe's Maumee, served in St. Luke's Eucharistic ministry and was a driver for the visually impaired at the Sight Center for many year and enthusiastically discussed daily current event issues and topics with her close friend and neighbor Phyllis Henry.

Mary was preceded in death by her husband Jim, brothers Reverend Francis J. Garvey MM, Bernard (Theresa) Garvey, Tom (Monda) Garvey. She is survived by her sisters, Sister Stephena (Therese) Garvey of the Order of

Dominican Sisters and Margaret (Lucien) Nedzi, and by brothers Lawrence (Patricia) Garvey and Cornelius (Patricia) Garvey. She was the adored and adoring Grandmother to James and Katharine Tafelski, Calvin Romaker and Kane, Madeline, Mary Charlotte and Liam Anderson. As grandchildren are, they were a joy beyond measure.

Friends may call at the Coyle Funeral Home, 1770 S. Reynolds Rd., Sunday December 5th from 2-8 p.m. where a Rosary service will be held at 7 p.m. The funeral will begin in the mortuary Monday at 9:15 a.m. followed by a Mass of Christian Burial in Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral at 10 a.m. Interment St. Joseph's Cemetery. The family requests contribution remembrances to the St Joseph's Maumee Campus Improvement Campaign Fund with donations to be used specifically towards the building of a new Perpetual Adoration Chapel which was so close to her heart from its inception and where she spent many contented hours praying for others, or AGAPE of St Joseph's Maumee.

Tribute Wall



“ To Dr. Thomas Tafelski:
My deepest condolences on the loss of your mother. I hope you and your family find peace and comfort in the memories that you all share.
Sincerely,
Sherrie A. Threet, LPN
Sunshine, Inc. NWO##imported-begin##Sherrie Threet##imported-end##

December 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ My deepest sympathies.; your parents were dear friends long ago. I lost my mother Christmas morning, so I feel your loss. Mary loved God & Mary. I feel He called her home to spend Christmas with Him and His mother and Jim. I am sure you will be in their thoughts and Prayers. Fondly, Nancy##imported-begin##Nancy Schlageter ns43560@bex.net##imported-end##

December 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM



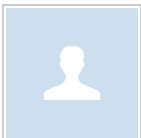
“ Dear Therese,
My deepest condolences to you and all your family on the loss of your dear mother. What a wonderful, welcoming person she was! The fun times we had at your house and out at the farm remain among my happiest childhood memories. I'm sure that was due in no small part to the way your mom, busy as she was, could still make every little kid in the neighborhood feel right at home. It's a blessing to have known her.
Sincerely,
Marianne Vere###imported-begin###Marianne Beins Vere Marianne.Vere@gmail.com###imported-end##

December 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Liz, Grax and Family, I am so sorry to hear about Mary's passing. Please know that my heart and prayers go out to the entire family at this very sad time. Mary was a very loving, wonderful person and mother and I know you will miss her dearly.
Love, Linda L. Anderson###imported-begin###Linda L. Anderson lianderson@hcr-manrocare.com###imported-end##

December 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ To the extended Tafelski Family,

Mary had a spark for life and ignited her faith, family and friends through all her involvement. I will fondly remember my chats with her stopped at Dutch/River road on my way home as she worked on her rose garden.###imported-begin###Michael Smith Family michaels@customshop.com###imported-end##

December 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Dr. Tafelski, Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. Take comfort in your memories and may God all of you. Sincerely, The Renards##imported-begin##Jeff and Janine Renard##imported-end##

December 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Our deepest sympathy for you on the passing of your mom. She will truly be missed by all those lives she touched.##imported-begin##Shirley and Dick Irving pkcollage@aol.com##imported-end##

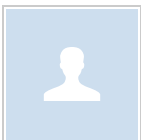
December 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Dr. Tafelski,

We were sorry to read of your mother's passing. Her obituary was a testament to a beautiful life well lived. You were blessed to have had such a special person in your life. May you and your family find comfort in fond memories of days gone by.##imported-begin##Janet and Jay Nielsen##imported-end##

December 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ My sympathy to the Tafelski Family. Mary was a great person. A true christian lady. I will always have fond memories of her. Mary is at peace. I will remember all of you in my prayers.

Peace! Fr. Frank Murd##imported-begin##Fr Frank Murd##imported-end##

December 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ So sorry to hear of your mother's passing. Riding the school bus together with Liz for years, I remember your mother as a very elegant and vibrant woman. She was always interested in what we were learning. Her beautiful obituary shows a rich life and legacy of faith and family. Having just lost my mother this year as well, I know your sadness. St. Joe's lost two great ladies this year. May you be comforted by your many happy memories and the knowledge your Mother is at home with the Lord. God bless you all.##imported-begin##Monica Zoltanski##imported-end##

December 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Dr. Tafelski and family - my thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family on the loss of your mother.##imported-begin##Sharon Dunn##imported-end##

December 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ We are all saddened by the passing of your Mother, whom I always called Mrs. Tafelski. She was such a dynamic person always excited to see you and always engaging in great conversation whether it be sports (most often with me), the arts or anything else for that matter. The tackle football games on Collingwood across from Cathedral were the best! I am sorry I can't make the services but please know that your Mom will always be in my heart.

T-Bone, Paulette, AT and Katie##imported-begin##The A. T. Conlisk Family conlisk.1@osu.edu##imported-end##

December 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Therese and family,

Know we are with you both in your sadness and happy memories of your Mom.

Love, John and Irene###imported-begin###John and Irene Coyle###imported-end###

December 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Tom and Family,

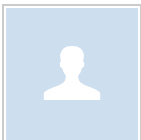
My sincere condolences for your loss.

I will always hold special my memories of your mom.

Whenever I visited your house during the "Cathedral Days", your mom made it a point "to visit"

As a kid, little did I know that I was being handed a "gift". Whether her message was wrapped in acceptance, encouragement, or appreciation etc..... it was always sincere and kind....and I walked away feeling better.... "just because".###imported-begin###Andy Huff###imported-end###

December 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Joe and the entire Tafelski family,

Sorry to hear of your mother's passing.

May she rest in peace.###imported-begin###Rick and Cheryl Macek###imported-end###

December 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Tafelski clan! I went to the Coyle site just now to reminisce and to see my Dad's memorial video and happened to see Mary's name. I understand your mixture of feelings, the loss and joy. I know my parents LOVED both your Mom and Dad! They were a great couple and I am sure that Ray and Tom are welcoming Mary and watching over our Mary Pat, still soldiering along at Elizabeth Scott. I hope you feel the great help and strength from your mom and grandma in her new life that I have felt in this last year from my Dad. With love,
Annette Hunter Lee###imported-begin##Annette Hunter Lee ahlee@butler.edu###imported-end##

December 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM