



Suzanne Serke

September 19, 1927 - September 22, 2020

Suzanne E. Serke, Sue, died on September 22, 2020. Sue was born on her mother's birthday, September 19, 1927 in Toledo Ohio. She attended St. Stephen's Roman Catholic Parish school. She attended Central Catholic High school and Mary Manse College where she received both Bachelor (1949) and Graduate degrees (1969).

She knew she was born to be a teacher and spent 23 years at Whittier Elementary, mostly in first grade, and 10 years as principal at Harvard Elementary. She then joined the Catholic School System at Blessed Sacrament School and St. Francis.

She was an active member of Holy Rosary Cathedral and St. Patrick's of Heatherdowns. She felt blessed to be an Extraordinary Minister of the Holy Eucharist and lector at St. Pat's. She was able to work with homeless through St. Francis De Sales Church. She made weekly visits to the sick and elderly at Concord Care Center, with a team of 5 who conducted communion services of making a "joyful noise to the Lord."

Sue shared a home with Mary Catherine Gaffney, "Gaff" for most of her adult life. "Gaff received a family (all boys) and I received a sister." Sue was preceded in death by her parents, Stephen and Gizella, her brothers Steven, Robert and Paul. She is survived by her brother, John and her nieces, Karen, Julie, Mary, Ellen, Catherine and nephew Andrew. Relatives also include Semetko, Drotar, Kolibar and Timar families. Sue was especially grateful for her cousin Pat Packo who gave love and caring throughout her last years.

She was also thankful for Paul Rothermich and his wife Clara who brought the Holy Eucharist to her every week; and for Adrienne Castellanos her god daughter who never said no when things got tough.

The funeral Mass will be held on Friday, October 2 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Patrick of Heatherdowns, with a visitation beginning at 10:00. Fr. Joe Steinbauer will officiate. Burial will be at Calvary Cemetery. Memorial donations may be given to the Catholic Relief Charities or the Ursuline Convent. Please leave a condolence for the family at CoyleFuneralHome.com.

My days have been rich in Christ's Church. My love and prayers for all who continue on this journey."

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

2224 Dorr St.
Toledo, OH 43607

Previous Events

Graveside Service

OCT 2. 12:00 AM (ET)

Calvary Cemetery
2224 Dorr St.
Toledo, OH 43607

Visitation

OCT 2. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Patrick Of Heatherdowns
4201 Heatherdowns Blvd
Toledo, OH

Funeral Ceremony

OCT 2. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Patrick Of Heatherdowns
4201 Heatherdowns Blvd
Toledo, OH

Tribute Wall

AH

“ Sue and Gaff were the best neighbors that anyone could have asked for. There were many 'happy hours' with my parents (Paul and Pat Bell), spent singing at the piano. Sue was always so patient when the little girl next door would show up wanting to see her indoor rock garden. Thank you Sue for the great memories.

Amy Bell Hering - October 06, 2020 at 12:11 PM

CS

“ I met Sue when she volunteered with a senior citizen program for central city parishes. She kindly helped with deliveries at Christmas and Easter to the homebound. She generously transported seniors to activities and outings. In the process she became a good friend to me. Her sense of humor and brilliant mind graced every encounter, even as her health declined. She was a remarkable and one of a kind human being. My sympathy and prayers to all her family and friends, Chris Soto

Christine Soto - September 27, 2020 at 06:15 PM



“ Ms. Serke was my first grade teacher at Whittier. She was the kindest, teacher I ever had. I was an immigrant child and spoke no English and had no idea what was going on, but she was always kind and helpful. When I was ill at Christmas time she came to my house to bring me little gifts to cheer me up. I'm sorry I didn't have a chance to reconnect with her as an adult. She sorry to hear of her passing.

Margaret Tomaski - September 27, 2020 at 04:43 PM