



Mary (Cerra) Ventresca

October 8, 2022

Mary (Cerra) Ventresca, on October 8, 2022 at 88 years old passed away surrounded by her loving family at Arden Court of Monroeville. Mary was raised in Braddock, PA and attended Duquesne University where she majored in French and Spanish. Her goal was to be an international interpreter, but soon after graduation in 1957 she married her college sweetheart, Vincent Ventresca. Nine months later she became a mother and that became the heart and soul of her life. With so much love and affection Mary raised a family of five. She loved her children more than herself. Our house on Fairlawn Drive was an open door filled with friends, cousins and Sunday dinners. Everyone who entered the house felt her generosity through food. As her grandchildren were growing up, she became daycare every Monday and her love flourished from her children to her grandchildren. Pasta and meatballs on Sunday and chicken soup on Monday, this was a staple in Mary's kitchen. Mary was a member of St. Bernadette Catholic Church for 55 years. Her faith and adoration for Jesus Christ was the foundation for everything she did. Mary was also a substitute teacher often working at Gateway School District. After her children were raised she became a travel agent and her love of languages came to use. She belonged to many prayer groups, bridge club as well as Spanish and French clubs. Mary is preceded in death by her husband Vincent Ventresca; her mother and father Natale and Luigina Cerra; as well as her sister Helen (Cerra) Cortese. She leaves behind her beloved children, David Ventresca (Jolene), Natalie McElhaney (Chook), Joseph Ventresca (Paul),

Joyce Ventresca and Jean Markewinski (Dennis); her grandchildren, Stephen Lyon, Scott Lyon (Bethany), Andrea Castro Cara (Francisco), JJ Mignogna (Alana), Ryan Dormer, Maura Messer, Gary Messer, Jr., Lauren (Akira) Farmer, Kamaria Farmer, and Griffen McElhaney; her six great-grandchildren, Ava, Nico, Smith, Vienna, and Brooks Mignogna; and Brodie Lyon; as well as her brother-in-law, Eugene Ventresca and many nieces and nephews who all will miss her beautiful smile and loving heart. Friends will be received on Tuesday, October 11th from 2-4 & 6-9 p.m. at the GENE H. CORL FUNERAL CHAPEL INC. AND CREMATION SERVICES OF MONROEVILLE, 4335 Northern Pike (412-372-2100). Mass of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at Christ the Divine Shepherd Parish at St. Bernadette Church, 245 Azalea Drive, Monroeville. Interment following at New St. Joseph Cemetery. Condolences to the family may be made at www.corlfuneralchapel.com.

Cemetery Details

New St. Josephs Cemetery

1443 Lincoln Hwy.
North Versailles, PA 15137

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 11. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Gene H. Corl Funeral Chapel Inc.
4335 Northern Pike
Monroeville, PA 15146
(412) 372-2100
ghcorl@comcast.net
<https://corlfuneralchapel.com>

Visitation

OCT 11. 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Gene H. Corl Funeral Chapel Inc.
4335 Northern Pike
Monroeville, PA 15146
(412) 372-2100
ghcorl@comcast.net
<https://corlfuneralchapel.com>

Mass of Christian Burial

OCT **12**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Christ the Divine Shepherd Parish at St. Bernadette Church
245 Azalea Drive
Monroeville, PA 15146

Tribute Wall

MS

“ I never had the privilege of meeting your Mom but I read the obituary and many memories others had of her and know she was a very special lady. I'm sorry for your loss and you can be sure that she is now with Jesus, happily in heaven.

Margie Short - October 12, 2022 at 11:25 AM

MW

“ I am so sorry to learn of Mary's passing. I just happened to look through the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette obituaries today which I rarely do. I visited with Joe in August from Virginia, and now I'm sorry I didn't take the time to visit Mary also. She and Vince were wonderful friends to me and my husband, Jim, who passed away last December 27. They were devoted members of the Prime Timers Club at the Monroeville Senior Center when we were members there. My family and I send our deep sympathy to Joe and his family for his mother's passing and their pain of losing her beautiful presence. May God bless her and her family. Marilyn Wempa

Marilyn K Wempa - October 11, 2022 at 06:24 PM

EF

“ Joyce, reading about your mom's achievements and education are so inspiring! No wonder you have always impressed me with your intellect! I am familiar with the grief of losing your mom so I can tell you that time eases pain but what pulled me through were the signs from Heaven that surrounded me. Your mother was a faithful woman, as are you. My mother was faithful as well and the little signs that appeared around her passing and after were so comforting. May your mom Rest In Peace with our dear Lord. All our love, Liz and Lou

elizabeth fischetti - October 10, 2022 at 08:04 PM

AB

“ So sorry to hear of the loss of your Mom. I met your mother through the Morning Prayer Group at St. Bernadette's Church. She was so devout with her prayers. I'll always remember her beautiful smile.

Ann Brown

ann mary brown - October 10, 2022 at 06:17 PM

JW

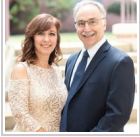
“ Our prayers and thoughts are with all of you. Mary and Vince were two of my favorite people and I have many fond memories of the two of them. Very sorry for your loss.

James Wilson - October 10, 2022 at 04:24 PM

CB

“ Jean, my deepest sympathies on the passing of your mom- I will be praying for her and for your family during this time of sorrow.

Chris Bolla - October 10, 2022 at 02:54 PM



“ Aunt Mary, You showered us with love. Your smile always lit up when you saw my brother and I. I felt like I had two moms carefully watching over me when you were around. It now makes sense the only one I ever knew that had that same intensity was your mom (Luigina). The 3 of you had so much love, yes I did feel smothered, but deep down I loved every minute of it! Not sure what it would have been like growing up not having that much love, but I am sure glad I did not have to find out. Make no mistake I was also very happy the three of you also showered us with zucchini patties! There is a picture in my moms senior high school yearbook of the orchestra practicing. 1950. You and my mom are both proudly listed in that picture. H Cerra, and M Cerra. When I think of that picture, it makes me feel a little better knowing your both back together, playing music in heaven.

Vinnie

Jeannine Cortese - October 10, 2022 at 12:06 PM

YT

“ Thank you for allowing us the honor of caring for Mary. The loss of a loved one is never easy, but know our care remains here for you and your family through your grief. We hope we can offer comfort and strength during this difficult time of loss. With heartfelt sympathy, Your ProMedica Hospice Team.

Your ProMedica Hospice Team - October 10, 2022 at 09:11 AM

DL

“ I am so very sorry to hear of your Mom's passing, Joyce. She was so sweet. Thoughts and prayers for you and the family during this difficult time. Diane (Dee) and Joe Lovell

Diane Lovell - October 09, 2022 at 05:50 PM

SB

“ *Thinking of you, Joyce and your family with sympathy and prayers.*

Susan Bradley - October 09, 2022 at 03:51 PM