



## Mary Lou Bowler

April 1, 1930 - November 19, 2020

Mary Lou Bowler (90)

On Thursday, November 19, 2020, Mary Lou passed away at her residence in Alexandria, VA; formerly of Needham, MA. She was preceded in death by her loving husband John "Jack" A. Bowler, her parents Julia Frances and Joseph Basil Ford, Jr., a sister Gloria Murphy (George) and a brother Joseph Ford (Pat). She is survived by four children: Sally Gartner (Bob), Eileen Cutrona (Dan), Ted Bowler (Lisa), and Katie Vitali (Juan), five grandchildren: Chris Cutrona, Amy Gartner, Nickie Stone (Josh), Erin Bowler, and Taryn Cutrona, and one great-grandchild: Ida Rook Stone "Rookie."

Mary Lou was born on April 1, 1930 in Cambridge, MA and was raised in Belmont, MA. She graduated from Trinity College in Washington, DC in 1951 with a BA Degree in English. While at Trinity, Mary Lou met Jack Bowler on a blind date and they married on April 19, 1952 at Our Lady of Mercy in Belmont, MA. They resided in Lynn, MA, Schenectady, NY and then Belmont, MA. Later, Mary Lou and Jack moved to Needham, MA where they raised their family and Mary Lou worked as a librarian at Babson College in nearby Wellesley, MA. Mary Lou and Jack moved to Alexandria, VA in 1987 where they eventually retired to enjoy spending time with their family and grandchildren, volunteering at Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Alexandria, VA, enjoying their avid book reading, bird watching, and of course, vacationing

at West Dennis, Cape Cod, MA which was Mary Lou's "heaven on earth." She will be truly missed by many family and friends. The family appreciates the wonderful care that Mary Lou received from the staff of Goodwin House Palliative Care and Hospice.

A private family service was held on November 21, 2020 at the Jefferson Funeral Chapel in Alexandria, VA.

A Celebration of Life Church Service for Mary Lou will be scheduled in the future for all upon the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to United Community Ministries, 7511 Fordson Road Alexandria, VA 22306 or <http://www.ucmagency.org/CashDonations.html>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Lou Bowler*

October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM



“ *So many memories of Mary Lou. Her quick wit. Her faith. And her service to the community. Her friendship. My condolences to the family. Her memory will inspire us all.*

**Marguerite Carroll** - December 12, 2021 at 08:24 AM



*Thank you, Marguerite! ❤️*

**Katie Vitali** - October 05, 2022 at 07:30 PM



“ *Happy heavenly Birthday Mom! Sally, Ted, Katie and I know that you and Dad are watching down on us. You both give us strength to push forward. We miss you every day. Spring is here and the flowers and trees are in full bloom! Rest easy... ❤️*



**Eileen Cutrona** - April 01, 2021 at 06:25 AM

PF

“ We remember Mary Lou as friend and neighbor and as long-time member of the famous "Bible Group" where talk of faith, and its wide-ranging implications for our lives, took place. This, amidst loving friendship and challenging perspectives. Mary Lou's acute thinking, great laugh and warm presence were highlights of our time together in the 'good old days.' She lived a beautiful life and continues to be remembered. Love, Pat and Joe

Pat Ferrone - February 28, 2021 at 03:00 PM

WC

“ My deepest condolences to the Bowlers.

Whitney Childress - January 22, 2021 at 06:24 PM

TI

“ Always my Mum & Dad..... heart to heart...



Tiger - January 20, 2021 at 06:02 PM

TI

“ Miss you, Merlie!! Did you see Amanda Gordon read her poetry today? You would have taken out your little spiral notebook and written down her name to buy her book! (Smile) Love you!! Always, Perlie



Tiger - January 20, 2021 at 05:50 PM

JG

“ *My heartfelt condolences to the family .*

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**John Grider** - January 08, 2021 at 03:50 PM

MH

*Mary Lou, Jack, my late husband Chuck & I had dinner at Via Veneto almost every Friday night for years. It always was fun and we had interesting conversations about all issues..*

*Mary Lou and I served for years together on the Mariam's Circle Committee on a once a year day on Religious issues for Women. She was a wonderfully cheerful and funny person who seriously worked for the common good.*

*She will be missed....*

*Mary-Ann Heubusch*

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**Mary-Ann Heubusch** - January 11, 2021 at 10:39 AM

NR

“ *What a fine lady!  
I'll always remember her quick laughter and genuine kindness.*

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**Nancy Robinson** - January 07, 2021 at 09:58 AM

CM

“ *I knew Mary Lou through women's groups at Good Shepherd— she was someone I would have loved to spend more time with. She was funny, spunky, and had an internal compass for justice that we need more in the world. My sadness is tempered only by knowing what a great soul heaven has gained.*

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**Celie McGurk** - January 07, 2021 at 09:26 AM

EC

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



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**Eileen Cutrona** - January 05, 2021 at 12:42 PM

KV

“ Love you and miss you, Mum!! 💔



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**Katie Vitali** - January 04, 2021 at 10:54 PM

JO

“ What a beautiful legacy your Mom and Dad have in you awesome children and your own families! Thinking of you all during this very hard time.

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**Julie Orr** - January 04, 2021 at 06:52 PM

EC

“ 3 files added to the album Mary Lou Bowler



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**Eileen Cutrona** - January 04, 2021 at 05:03 PM