



Stanlene M. Vann

May 3, 1944 - June 4, 2024

Stanlene “Stash” Vann passed away peacefully in Lorton, Virginia, surrounded by her loving family.

Stash will be remembered by all who loved her as good-hearted, kind, and fully devoted to her strong Catholic faith. She had an unwavering trust in our Lord and was inspired by her favorite saint, Saint Therese of Liseux, to live a life of unconditional love of others.

Stash was born to Stella and Leo Makoski in Passaic, NJ at St. Mary’s Hospital on May 3, 1944. When she was young, her family moved to Rochelle Park, NJ. Stash attended Catholic schools, where she excelled academically and built a strong spiritual foundation. A gifted mathematician, Stash earned the highest grades in math at Sacred Heart Catholic High School and was the first in her family to attend college. While at Ladycliff College in Highland Falls, NY, Stash met the love of her life, David Vann, who was a cadet at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

After Stash graduated in 1966, she worked as a computer programmer for IBM in Poughkeepsie, NY. Meanwhile David was stationed in Germany for his first assignment in the U.S. Army. Not wanting to be without his beloved any longer, David called Stash on the phone to propose, and the couple was married two months later. During their time in Germany, David and Stash

joyfully welcomed their first daughter, Sandy, and were blessed with the births of Debbie and Kathy in the following years.

Stash was the rock of the family and selflessly served our nation as the quintessential Army wife. She held down the home front while David served a combat tour in Vietnam and another unaccompanied tour in Korea. With eleven moves in twenty years, Stash made each new house a home, filling it with the greatest necessities of faith, hope, and love. While accomplished in all that she did, Stash always put her faith and her family first and instilled those values in her children.

A leader in many capacities, Stash served at church and her children's schools, as a scout leader, and for her husband's military units. When the family moved to Virginia, Stash joined TRW as a Systems Analyst. While David was stationed at West Point, Stash worked in the U.S. Military Academy Computer Department, co-developing the first cadet email system. When the family moved back to Virginia, Stash returned to TRW, where she quickly rose to the executive role of Director of Quality Assurance, working on top secret projects like the Space Shuttle. Stash was most excited to develop marketing & control software for the nuclear industry, traveling to Finland, Ukraine, and the Czech Republic and presenting her work at the International Atomic Energy Conference in 1993. She retired in 2001, blessed to enjoy her most joyous role as a Grammie.

Stash is best known for being a fun and loving Mother, Grammie, Sister, Cousin, Aunt, and Friend. She adoringly and unceasingly poured her love and support over her family and happily shared many stories of her five wonderful grandchildren. Welcoming many people into their home, Stash effortlessly offered the most charitable hospitality—a place to rest, home-cooked meals, the best cookies, an understanding ear, and wise counsel when sought.

Stash is predeceased by her husband of almost fifty years, David Vann, and her parents, Leo and Stella Makoski. She is survived by her daughters Sandy Vann-Olejasz (Steve Olejasz), Debbie Edelen (John), and Kathy Mulligan (George) and her adoring grandchildren Dennis, Ryanne, MacRae, Greg and Danny. She is also survived by her loving brother, Raymond Makoski (Lynda).

A Celebration of Life will be held at Spring Hill Community Center on Friday, June 14, 2024 from 4-6pm. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at Most Holy Trinity Catholic Chapel at West Point, New York, followed by committal at the West Point Cemetery on Monday, July 8, 2024 at 10am.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to your favorite charity in Stash's memory or to Capital Caring Hospice.

Cemetery Details

West Point Cemetery

329 Washington Road
West Point, NY 10996

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUN 14. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Spring Hill Community Center
8946 Yellow Daisy Place
Lorton, VA 22079

Funeral Mass

JUL 8. 10:00 AM (ET)

Most Holy Trinity Catholic Chapel
699 Washington Street
West Point, NY 10996

Graveside Service

JUL 8. 11:00 AM (ET)

West Point Cemetery
329 Washington Road
West Point, NY 10996

Tribute Wall

CF

“ *Cindy Griesbach and family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Stanlene M. Vann.*



Cindy Griesbach and family - June 13, 2024 at 04:52 PM

SF

“ *Our heart goes out to you and your family. She was a lovely person and we enjoyed getting to know her at the Burnt Oak gatherings. Ron, Stacey, and Juney B.*

Stacey Floyd-Bauer - June 13, 2024 at 08:13 AM

RB

“ *Ron, Stacey, and Juney B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Stanlene M. Vann.*

Ron, Stacey, and Juney B. - June 13, 2024 at 07:58 AM

RB

“ *Ron, Stacey, and Juney B. purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Stanlene M. Vann.*



Ron, Stacey, and Juney B. - June 13, 2024 at 07:58 AM

LS

“ Love, the Schuneman's planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Stanlene M. Vann.

Love, the Schuneman's - June 12, 2024 at 04:05 PM

LS

“ Love, the Schuneman's purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Stanlene M. Vann.



Love, the Schuneman's - June 12, 2024 at 04:05 PM

MS

“ We are so sorry for your loss. Stash was a wonderful lady who we really enjoyed getting to know at neighborhood BBQs over the years. Sending all of you love and hugs during this difficult time.
Michelle, Ted, Gillian and Zach Schuneman

Michelle Schuneman - June 12, 2024 at 03:47 PM

VT

“ Sandy, Debbie and Kathy, my heart aches for you all. I do not have to tell you how much your Mom meant to me and my family and all of the wonderful times spent with your Mom and Dad. She was an amazing woman, Mom, Grandmother and Aunt. She loved sharing stories about my visits with my boys. Such great memories and laughter. I loved listening to her talk about each of her grandchildren and how special they all were to her.

We love you all and will continue to pray for healing during this difficult time.

Valerie, Galen, Christopher and Wesley

Valerie Tribble - June 11, 2024 at 09:53 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Stanlene M. Vann.* ”



June 09, 2024 at 05:09 PM