



Mary F. Guertin

April 18, 1943 - January 31, 2013

Visitation for Mary Faith Guertin, 69, of Bourbonnais, will be from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday at the Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home, Bourbonnais. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Wesley United Methodist Church, Bradley, where she was a member. The Rev. Andy Anthony will officiate.

Burial will be in Mount Calvary Cemetery, Kankakee. Memorials may be made for her grandchildren's education. She died Thursday (Jan. 31, 2013) at her home.

Mrs. Guertin was a retired teacher. She taught 25 years at Grant Park (grades 6-12, language arts and French); Peotone (4th grade); and Lafayette in Kankakee (3rd grade). She also taught French in Bourbonnais. She was born April 18, 1943, in Bay City, Texas, the daughter of Edward R. and Viola Mae Rude Fillman. Her husband of 47 years, E. Dennis Guertin, whom she married July 6, 1963, in Mattoon, died Sept. 19, 2010. She was a 1965 graduate of Eastern Illinois University in Charleston. Her awards and honors included, named Who's Who Among America's Teachers three times; and named to International Who's Who of Professional Business Women in 1998. She was nominated for Disney's Teacher of the Year. She was an "Army Brat." Her dad was a major in the U.S. Army. She lived in Japan 2 1/2 years, France 3 1/2 years and took students (French) overseas many times. She was in golf leagues at Shamrock and Manteno, Pinochle and Newcomer's Gourmet Clubs

and Bunco Club for more than 30 years. She loved cooking, doing crafts, teaching and kids, playing cards with friends, and going to theater performances.

Surviving are one daughter and son-in-law, Kristie Marie and Bruce Stone, and two grandchildren, Aaron James and Destiny Marie, all of Bradley; one brother and sister-in-law, Fred R. and Sherry Fillman, of Mattoon; and one niece and two nephews, Kacy and Zack, both of Mattoon, and Josh, of Long Island, N.Y.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and one brother, Edward Richard Fillman Jr.

Cemetery Details

Mount Calvary

2000 E. Court St.
Kankakee, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 4. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Bourbonnais - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.
295 Main St., NW
Bourbonnais, IL 60914
(815) 932-1214
cgfuneral@gmail.com

Visitation

FEB 5. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Wesley United Methodist Church
500 N. Cleveland
Bradley, IL 60915
(815) 933-7932
<http://www.bradleywesley.org/>

Funeral Service

FEB 5. 11:00 AM (CT)

Wesley United Methodist Church
500 N. Cleveland
Bradley, IL 60915
(815) 933-7932
<http://www.bradleywesley.org/>

Tribute Wall

HH

“ Mary and I taught together in Peotone Elementary School in the 70s, she teaching 4th grade and I teaching music. I have many fond memories of those days. She was such a good teacher - strict, but patient, and always wanting the best for her students. We had a lot in common, as both of us had lived in Europe, and longed for some good French bread!

My sympathy to all the family. I hope knowing how many lives she touched will bring comfort at this time.

Harriet Hopkins

Harriet Hopkins - February 04, 2013 at 02:13 PM

DK

“ As one of her students, she truly treated everyone the same her heart was as big as her smile. She impacted so many lives with teachings and caring heart for kids. She will be missed and cherished. Blessing and God's peace to her family. *Debbie Heldt Krick*



Debbie Krick - February 03, 2013 at 04:18 PM

CW

“ As one of the many students that grew up with Mrs. Guertin as a teacher of both language arts and french, she was inspirational and a wonderful teacher. From *Cheaper By The Dozen* to taking us downtown to see *Les Miserable*, the memories will last forever. Mrs. Guertin - thank you for caring so much about our lives and making a difference. May your family find comfort knowing how many lives you've touched and that you'll never be forgotten.

Christi Wojciechowski - February 03, 2013 at 12:56 PM

CF

“ Carolyn Fox lit a candle in memory of Mary F. Guertin



Carolyn Fox - February 03, 2013 at 12:37 PM

Kris Denoyer

“ Kris Denoyer lit a candle in memory of Mary F. Guertin



Kris Denoyer - February 03, 2013 at 12:22 PM

Kris Denoyer

“ When "Madame Guertin" embarked on a trip to Europe with 22 teenage French students, she had no idea what mischief we'd bring upon her but she braved it head-on. She was one of the most influential and memorable teacher I ever had. More than that, she was one of the best friends I could ever have. I will never forget her leadership or her understanding and compassion. I will always remember the happy, vibrant woman who expanded my horizons in so many ways! May she rest in peace. I hope your family's grief be brief and the memories, plentiful!

Kris Denoyer - February 03, 2013 at 12:22 PM

RD

“ Hi Kristie, You and your family have our sympathy. Thoughts and prayers going out to all of you during this difficult time. Tom and Ruth Denoyer

Ruth Denoyer - February 03, 2013 at 09:56 AM

DM

“ So sorry to hear of the passing of a great lady, teacher and mentor. She will always have a special place in my heart. She did not only teach a typical curriculum. Mrs. Guertin was always ready to share, whether a story from her youth or a story about her family. I can think of all the fun and interesting information she shared and am thankful that I had the opportunity to have her in my life. There are certain teachers that one always remembers as making a difference, and Mrs. Guertin, you by far, were one of those.

Dana Meyer - February 03, 2013 at 09:46 AM



“ To her family and loved ones, you are in our thoughts and prayers. Mrs. Guertin affected so many of our lives. It's amazing to hear so many school children praise one teacher, but that was Mrs. Guertin. She loved her profession and her passion glowed each day we walked into that class room. Last night I cried about four times thinking about Mrs. Guertin and just how influential she was to not only myself, but the impact she made on just about every student that attended Grant Park High School during her tenure. Just a few months ago, I was talking to a friend about her. I told my friend that I had wished I had the opportunity to see her once more to say thanks for all that she has done. I never got that opportunity, but I think I can speak for many of us when I say "thank you Mrs Guertin for not only being a teacher, for being a mentor, a French and language arts teacher, a spelling bee coach, a scholastic bowl sponsor but thank you for also for being a friend! You are truly an inspiration to me and so many others."

Jarret Schneider - February 03, 2013 at 08:51 AM

T(

“ I HAD MRS.GUERTIN AS A TEACHER . SHE WAS THE GREATEST TEACHER AND FRIEND. I WAS A SHY GIRL IN SCHOOL . SHE ALWAYS WOULD MAKE SURE THINGS WAS GOING OK WITH ME !! SHE HAD A WONDERFUL PERSONALITY!! I WILL ALWAYS REMMBER HER KINDNESS. SHE WILL NEVER BE FOGOTTEN !! YOUR FRIEND TAMMY RIDDLE (COULTER)

TAMMY RIDDLE (COULTER) - February 03, 2013 at 12:03 AM

FF

“ For my sister and her family, I loved growing up and having such a wonderful sister I could look up to. Through the years I have so many memories that I will always cherish. Mary, always in my heart. Love Fred and family.

Fred R. Fillman - February 02, 2013 at 05:28 PM

TB

“ I'm very sorry to hear of the loss of Mrs. Guertin (as I'll always refer to her as). She was my 8th grade French teacher for 1967-68 at Alan Shepard School in Bourbonnais. She was one of my favorite and best teachers, and I've thought of her often throughout the years. She was very pretty, bright, energetic, and seemed to love what she was doing. In addition to teaching us French, she also introduced us to the Holocaust, which was very unusual to discuss back then. I also remember that for a weekly assignment she had each student design and decorate a classroom bulletin board with a French theme, which was both fun and educational. I felt very prepared when I took French in High School, thanks to her teaching methods. Please know that she made a positive impact in my life, and you have my sincere condolences for your loss.

Todd Boudreau - February 02, 2013 at 02:34 PM

JT

Kristie, we are very sorry to hear about the loss of your mom. You are always in our thoughts and prayers. Jim & Lynette Tompkins

Jim & Lynette Tompkins - February 02, 2013 at 06:46 PM

SS

“ Dear Kristie; I am so sorry to hear about your mom. She was my middle school Literature teacher and then in high school I had her for French. She was the best teacher! So excentric and interesting. You knew she LOVED what she was doing. She always had a giant smile on her face. Twelve years ago I was on jury duty with her. We got picked for the same trial so I was able to spend some time with her. I was pregnant at the time and I had just found out I was having a girl. I remember talking about names with her. I have very fond memories of her and she will never be forgotten!!!! Your in my thoughts and prayers.

stacia sellers - February 02, 2013 at 02:01 PM