



Mary Ann Kirsch

July 24, 1936 - January 25, 2025

Mary Ann Kirsch, age 88, passed away Saturday, January 25, 2025 at Miller Rehabilitation Center in Kankakee, IL. Mary Ann was born July 24, 1936, in Bourbonnais, IL., to Roy and Lumena (Richard) Rivard. She married Daniel Kirsch on October 26, 1957.

A lifelong resident of Bourbonnais, Mary Ann began her career as a legal secretary, then a Kankakee County Court Reporter and Deputy Coroner for many years. She then embarked on a second successful career as a feature editor for the BB Herald. Her award-winning writing in the 80's raised public awareness about the sale of the Perry Farm to a developer, and the LeTourneau Home being slated for demolition. As a result, the Perry Farm was preserved and made into the beautiful park it is today, and the LeTourneau Home was saved, relocated, and made into a local museum. Additionally, she authored a true crime book.

Mary Ann was a lifelong member of Maternity B.V.M. Church, where she was a member of the St. Anne Sodality. She was Chairman of the Hooray Bourbonnais Pageant held in 1975; those festivities led to the formation of the Bourbonnais Friendship Festival, and Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society. Mary Ann volunteered for and was an avid supporter of those entities.

In retirement, she enjoyed quilting, reading, gardening, and knitting prayer

shawls for local hospitals. She was also an avid Cubs fan, and loved the Rosary.

In addition to her husband of 67 years, Dan, she is survived by her sister, Celeste Regnier of Bourbonnais, sister-in-law Cecelia Kassman of Casa Grande, AZ., her three daughters, Amy Delmore, Dr. Valerie Goldfain (Butch Hovarter), Ellen (Larry) Stringer, all of Bourbonnais, one daughter-in-law Denise Buckley of Arlington Heights, family member Mark Goldfain of Bourbonnais, seven grandchildren, Bobby (Kara) Delmore of New Lenox, Katie Delmore, Dan & Luke Goldfain, Rhiannon, Aidan, & Joey Stringer, all of Bourbonnais, one great-grandson, Calvin Delmore, three step-grandchildren Ashley (Tony) Zuniga, Austin Hovarter, Emily (Tyler) Jonson, five step-great grandchildren Lunabelle & Estella Zuniga, Lux Hovarter, Jett & Rowe Jonson, all of Oak Creek, WI, and many nieces, nephews, neighbors, and close friends.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her son, Jonathan, her brother Richard Rivard, her brother-in-law Roger Regnier, her son-in-law Joe Delmore, and close family friend Fr. John Antczak.

Visitation will be held at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais on Wednesday, January 29, 2025, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. A funeral mass will be held Thursday, January 30, 2025, at 11 a.m. at Maternity B.V.M. Church, with interment at Maternity B.V.M. Cemetery immediately following.

Memorials will be made according to the family's wishes.

Cemetery Details

Maternity Cemetery

Corner of Canterbury Lane & William Latham
Dr.
Bourbonnais, IL 60914

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 29. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

Funeral Mass

JAN 30. 11:00 AM (CT)

Maternity B.V.M. Catholic Church
308 E. Marsile
Bourbonnais, IL 60914
(815) 933-8285
<http://www.mbvmchurch.org/>

Tribute Wall

SB

“ Ellen and family, I was so sorry to hear of the passing of your wonderful Mom. She did so much for her family and her community. Her talents enriched us all. Praying for God's comfort during this time.

Sue Bennett - February 06, 2025 at 02:38 PM

MD

“ Amy and family, I was so sad to hear of the passing of your mom!! I'm praying for all of you. GIGANTIC HUGS!! Marla Erickson Dubree

Marla Erickson Dubree - January 31, 2025 at 06:06 PM

SG

“ Dan, Amy, Ellen & Val and Family -
We are so very sorry to hear of Mary Anne's passing! Keeping all of you in our thoughts and prayers.
Love to all of you -
Shelly & John Granger



Shelly Granger - January 30, 2025 at 07:16 PM

LA

“ Laura Anderson lit a candle in memory of Mary Ann Kirsch



Laura Anderson - January 29, 2025 at 01:26 PM

LH

“ We were saddened to learn of Mary Ann's passing and would like to extend our sympathies to Dan, Celeste, and the entire Kirsch family in your loss. So sorry!

Larry/Christine Huffman - January 28, 2025 at 09:18 AM

MB

“ I am so sorry for your loss. My prayers go out for all of you and I also pray that God holds you in His arms.



Marilyn Burns - January 28, 2025 at 08:43 AM

MZ

“ Dan, Valerie, Ellen, Amy, and Family,
Sorry for your loss ,you and your family, are in
our thoughts and prayers. Rest in peace Mary Ann, your journey on
earth is done, its not Good Bye its See You Later.
Madonna(Mazzuchi) and Brian Zasada, Sr.

Madonna Zasada - January 27, 2025 at 10:03 PM

CM

“ I was so sorry to read this. Mary Ann was one of the best ladies I knew. She taught me so much during my time at The Herald. I consider her one of my closest mentors. We had adventures together as she taught me how to be a crime reporter. She could read a courtroom better than anyone I ever knew. She was so smart, sharp and supportive. We enjoyed long talks on our way to Joliet and after a long days work, we enjoyed ice cream. The whole Kirsch family and her many extended family and friends are in my prayers. She will be missed by so many, including me. My prayers are with you Dan and family. Carrie Klonowski Maday

Caroline Maday - January 27, 2025 at 03:55 PM

PS

“ Many fond memories of our chats and visits. My biggest cheerleader from her place in the back pew. She was truly a pillar of the community and will be missed. Praying for you all.



Pat and Sharon Skelly - January 27, 2025 at 02:52 PM

CB

“ Candi Brenneisen lit a candle in memory of Mary Ann Kirsch



Candi Brenneisen - January 27, 2025 at 02:37 PM

CG

“ Mary Ann was a great friend of my moms!! Theresa Gifford! RIP Mary Ann ❤️💐

Cindy Gifford - January 27, 2025 at 12:16 PM

SL

“ You are all in our thoughts and prayers.



Steven Lemner - January 27, 2025 at 11:35 AM

MO

“ Thoughts n Prayers are you at this time, Amy.

Madelyn Ann O'Brien - January 27, 2025 at 10:44 AM