



Mary Hale

JUL 18, 1969 - MAY 26, 2018



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Mary Martha Rowe Hale was born July 18th, 1950 in Mt. Pulaski, Illinois. She was the 11th of twelve children born to Eva Lena Merhens Moore Rowe and the 3rd of 4 children of Herbert Rowe. Mary spent her early years in Mt. Pulaski and later moved with her parents to Decatur, where she attended Dennis School and later graduated from MacArthur High School. Along with her good friend, Becky Benazee Songer, she then attended Wabash valley Jr. College in Mt. Carmel Illinois. It was there she met Dudley and fell head over heels in love! The feelings were mutual. (Dudley later transformed into Dale, but that's another story.) Mary was united in marriage with Dale Emerson Hale on July 18th, 1969. (her 19th birthday) Together, they took on the world and raised their family, 3 wonderful sons, Chris, Sean, and Ben. Over the years, Mary worked at many part time and seasonal endeavors including secretarial work, Felicity Fashions seamstress, accounting at PJ Patterson's, K-Mart North, waitress at Best Western, and Final Assembly Technician at Zexel Automotive. She also helped Dale restore and remodel numerous houses, some of which they lived in and some of which they flipped or rented as the situation dictated. When I say she helped, she really helped; tear outs, painting, drywalling, pulling wires, even roofing. There was little she would not attempt. Always there, beside her man. But mostly she was a Mom.

Through all these endeavors she always put her family first and if it were a choice between time with them and work, work always took the back seat.

She was a dedicated T-ball mom while in Cerro Gordo, often riding to the ball park on her bike with child's seat, (front and rear) and Christ following close behind on his bike- what a sight it was! Then, a Cub Scout Den Leader as well as being active with the PTA. Later when we moved to Decatur, she was the bus driver for the Hale clan for everything from rides to school to the JFL football games, wrestling, and of course back up transportation for the Boy Scout Troop whenever necessary. Did I



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mention there was always something Dale needed from the hardware store or the lumber yard? Somewhere in there, a hobby of restoring antiques grew and was formed into “Auntie M’s Antiques”.

Even with all this, she managed to accumulate 3 daughters-in-law and 9 grandchildren, thanks to a little help from our sons. She often said the only thing better than family is more family and she always had an ample supply of love to go around. Road trips, camping all over the country (often in a tent when we were both younger). Auctions, the 127 garage sale, Covered Bridge Festival, the Bloomington Flea Market, and of course, trips to S.E. Tennessee. If we weren’t at home we would be “there”.

The world changed for the Hale clan on February 3rd, 2013 when Mary suffered a massive Cerebral Hemorrhage. Her life was saved by emergency surgery performed by Dr Rahmon. While recovering from the stroke, she began to develop symptoms of Dementia which later diagnosed as Early Onset Alzheimer’s. After about 6 months at home it became necessary for transfer her to Heartland of Decatur on their “Arcadia” wing. With frequent visits from family and friends she became comfortable and settled there and received the best care available for advanced patients.

Mary leaves to celebrate and cherish her memory her best friend and soul mate, Dale; her sons, Christopher A. (Lindsay), T. Sean (Julianne), and Benjamin J. (Stacie); her grandchildren, Maggie, Aleita, Truman, Tatum, Harper, Kaylin, Emmett, Colhman, and Elle; her brothers, Richard (Sally) Moore and Tom Moore; her sisters, Darlene Landers and Paulin (Ed) Tooley along with a multitude of cousins, nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. And, oh the friends!

She was preceded and joins in Heaven; four step-brothers, John Moore, Paul Moore, Melvin Moore and David Moore; one sister, Rosemary Rowe; two brothers, Wendell and Walter Rowe.

She was a kind and gentle soul who always radiated with the most wonderful smile. Mary possessed a wonderful sense of humor (though sometimes a bit twisted—she got that from her husband) which she passed on to her children and grandchildren. Yet, if pushed to anger, she could give you the look, you never wanted that! We that



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knew her have been so blessed by her presence here on earth. Our love for her will endure time and she will always be in our hearts. Someday, we will be able to speak of Mary without a tear, only a smile. But not today. To every time there is a season and a purpose at the throne of God. See you soon.



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Tammy Drake Lpn posted:

So sorry to see Mary has passed. I've already missed her dearly as well as Dale. May God continue to comfort your family.

September 26 at 1:47 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Mary by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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