



Mary Jane Abbott

APR 28, 1928 - NOV 7, 2011



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COMPLETE FUNERAL SERVICES

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Decatur-Mary Jane (Dwyer) Abbott, 83, of Decatur passed away on Monday November 7th, 2011 at St. Mary's Hospital.

She was born to the late Bernard and Claribel Dwyer on April 28, 1928. She married the late Albert E. Abbott on August 11, 1951 and they lived their lives and raised their children in Decatur. Mary Jane graduated from St. Theresa High School, Millikin University and after working for many years, earned a Masters Degree from the University of Illinois. She later served on the Alumni Board of Millikin University. She spent her career as an elementary school teacher, primarily for the Decatur Public School District, and touched the lives of many school children.

She is survived by her children Dr. Albert E. Abbott Jr. (Valerie) of Plattsburgh, NY; John C. Abbott (Juli) of Reno, NV; and Jane A. Prust (Robert) of Hilton Head, SC as well as eleven grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at Holy Family Catholic Church on Saturday November 12, 2011 at 11:00 a.m., with a visitation period with the family beginning at 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service.

Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home is assisting the family with these arrangements. Online condolences and memories may be shared with the family at www.gracelandfairlawn.com.



Tribute Wall

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AW

Anne Trumpf Wallis posted:

Al, John and Jane ,I was so sorry to learn that your mom had passed away. She was always so good to us when we came to Decatur. I remember all the fun times at your house and swim club that she arranged for us so we would have fun with our cousins. Family was always her focus. Hope you all are well. With sympathy, Anne

December 3 at 10:44 AM

MB

Mary Trumpf Barton posted:

Al, John, & Jane: I'm so sorry to hear about Aunt MaryJane. She was always so nice to me when we came to Decatur and we stayed at Grandmothers house. I always loved that when things got to crazy with us kids, I could hang out near her to stay out of trouble, because she didn't put up with any nonsense! She was quite a woman and I will never forget her. Love, Mary

November 27 at 2:27 PM

CP

Carl And Joyce Patrick posted:

Our condolences to the family of Mary Jane, she was our neighbor for several years and will miss her, she enjoyed telling me about her card club and wine.....which I never got over to have a glass with her, she was a great lady.We are in florida for the winter and will not be able to attend the services but our prayers are with all of you.

November 12 at 2:42 PM

DM

Doug Mcgaughey posted:

Al and family,Just this evening (Friday) we have learned of your mother's passing. Our father Bill McGaughey, age 90 is currently with our brother Scott in Cary, IL. and is this evening being informed of Mary Jane's death. We are deeply saddened by this news and for your loss. The Abbott/McGaughey friendship is older than you, me, your siblings, my siblings, and our grandchildren. We thank God for this and her presence in our lives (she tutored me-Doug- one summer!)and for your dad in the South Shores neighborhood we all grew up in. For me and the McGaughey's,Grace and Peace,Bill (Izzy) McGaugheyDoug McGaugheyJim McGaugheyScott McGaugheyAnn McGaughey Loofbourrow

November 12 at 10:34 AM



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AL

Ann Loofbourrow posted:

I don't think I have ever met anyone with as much power and energy pound for pound in my life. I remember plenty of summer evenings with our moms on the front porch while we ran through the neighborhood playing ditch or red light green light. I always had a special fondness for Mrs. Mabbott –the way she could speak her mind and offer advice, direct and very clear. She loved each of you kids passionately. Always ready to talk about your latest adventures. She was also a very good poker player- I had the opportunity to lose many hands to her and the rest of the poker club. (my grandmother was in your grandmother's bridge club as well). The Abbotts and Mrs. Abbott in particular, are a huge part of my childhood. I'm grateful to have had such a great neighborhood!! wish I could see you all tomorrow. Al, please post some pictures on Facebook. I will keep you all in my prayers. God bless.

November 12 at 10:29 AM

BW

Betty V Wheatley posted:

My sincere sympathy to Mary Jane's family. She was a lovely, fun lady whom I always enjoyed. Betty Wheatley

November 12 at 8:38 AM

DS

Dennis Smith posted:

Al, John, and Jane: I join you in your grief but share in your memories of your Mother. I would like to share two very clear memories I have. One afternoon, early summer, Al, John and I were playing in your backyard on Sandcreek drive. On the top of the swingset was a robin nest with baby robins. Your Mother came out and announced that "she had a whipping hand for anyone that touched that nest". I believed her and realized I was somewhat afraid of your Mother. Another time Al and I were in your kitchen. Your Mom was making us soup for lunch. The phone rang and she was having a conversation with a neighbor. The discussion was how expensive cigarettes were, now 50 cents a pack. Your Mother complained loudly and said she'd have to quit smoking...I don't think she did. ... Funny. Please find comfort in the wonderful memories and the abundant gift of love which your Mother gave all of us. Your friend. Dennis Smith

November 11 at 5:12 PM



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MT

Mary Travis posted:

We are all so sad to hear about Mary Jane. She was such a wonderful lady and a terrific "aunt". She was always there to offer advice, or share lunch or coffee. As Kevin said, I feel fortunate to have had a chance to visit with her in August and greatly enjoyed her company. She was upbeat and shared stories with us, as usual. She caught us up on what John, Jane and Al have been doing. As Thanksgiving approaches, I'll think of all of the family dinners we enjoyed together and the fun we had. I will miss her very much.

November 11 at 3:53 PM

KL

Kevin Lair posted:

Al, John, and Jane, We were all very sorry to hear about the passing of Mary Jane. I have the fondest of memories growing up with you all as our second family. I am so glad that we were able to see MJ in August of this year. John, Mary and I brought her a Krekel's chocolate shake and she drank the whole thing! We had some great conversation and some laughs, and I even had my kids there. Our thoughts and prayers are with you; please accept our condolences, and our apologies for not being able to make it to the funeral on Saturday. Kevin

November 11 at 9:00 AM

CM

Cathy (Mulholland) Mcfadin posted:

My thoughts are with you as you say goodbye to your Mom and Grandmother. Mary Jane was a life-long friend of my Mom, Shirley Mulholland. Not only did she help school children, she helped my Mom re-learn how to read after she had a stroke. She was certainly an educator her entire life! I will remember all of you in my prayers.

November 10 at 7:35 AM

CD

Cheryl Weedman (Davis) posted:

I am so sorry for your loss. Mrs. Abbot was my 1st grade teacher at John Adamns School she was a very nice lady and I'm sure she will be greatly missed by all.

November 9 at 6:56 PM



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Cinda Armstrong-Williams posted:

My heart aches for you and your family during this time. Your mother was such an amazing person and she will truly be missed. My deepest condolences. Peace, prayers and blessings.

November 9 at 2:03 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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