



Mary Virginia Sjostrom

August 29, 1928 - February 7, 2021

Sjostrom, Mary Virginia Abell (Gini), 92, of Kettering, Ohio, died at home on February 7, 2021. Gini was born August 29, 1928, to Joseph Clifton & Mary Olivia Abell in Bowie, Maryland, and moved to Miami after graduating from Nativity High School in Washington DC. She worked as a secretary prior to marriage. In 1948 she married Robert Sjostrom and they raised 7 children. Gini managed 6 family moves as Bob took on new assignments with NCR in Miami, West Palm Beach, Dayton, Jacksonville, Kettering, Jefferson City, Missouri, until finally settling back in Kettering in 1974. After devoting years at home raising her family, Gini returned to work at Butler Learning Systems and then Bergamo Center, where she retired after 25 years. She was active in Dayton Catholic Women's Club and St. Charles Parish, volunteering in bereavement and pro-life ministries and attending daily Mass for much of her life.

Gini is preceded in death by her husband, Bob Sjostrom; her parents; her brothers Bert, Rudtke and Joe Abell; and her sister Agnes Cote. She is survived by her 7 children: Mary Pat Sjostrom Hathaway (Dale), Mary Anne Smith (Howie), Bob (Brenda), Joe (Tami), Mary Beth, Mary Katherine (Katy also served as loving primary caregiver), and Mary Fran Heider (Joe); 12 grandchildren: Sean Epperley, Amy Epperley (Larry); Sarah Sjostrom Zernechel (Josh); Holly Sjostrom; Zach Sjostrom (Keiko); Gordy Sjostrom (Kelly); Samantha Sjostrom Lowry (Matt); Valerie Heider Duffy (John); Kevin Heider (Kristin); Jackie Heider Scott (Nick); Dan Heider (Jen); Faith Heider; and 12 great grandchildren. Also survived by her sister Mary Olivia Johnson, her brother James Patrick Abell (Patsy), and many beloved nieces and nephews.

Gini will be remembered with gratitude as a loving and active Mom and Grandma Shoe who treasured her faith, family, and friends. Her family imagines Gini and Bob will enjoy a heavenly St. Paddy's day celebration reunited with relatives, friends and neighbors. Due to COVID-19, a Mass of Christian Burial at St. Charles Borromeo Church will be celebrated privately but live-streamed on Friday, February 12, at 10:30 am via www.stcharles-

kettering.org. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Hospice of Dayton or St. Charles Borromeo Parish. Condolences may be expressed to the family at <https://www.westbrockfuneralhome.com>

Cemetery

Calvary Cemetery

1625 Calvary Drive

Dayton, OH, 45409

Comments



“ Bettylou Sullivan sent a virtual gift in memory of Mary Virginia Sjostrom



Bettylou Sullivan - February 11 at 05:13 PM



“ Prayers for Kati and family. So sorry for your loss.

Bettylou Sullivan - February 11 at 05:14 PM



“ Rest in peace. Prayers for your mom and your family Bob.

Jack McManus - February 12 at 01:53 PM



“ Dear Katy, Annie, Beth, Fran, Mary Pat, Joe and Bob,
We always felt so close to your mom and dad and all of you. They were such a beautiful and fun couple and had such a great family...as you know. Your door was always open to all of us and the neighbors. My best memories of both your warm and beautiful mom and "Irish" dad who was German and didn't have a hint of Irish but totally loved St. Patrick's Day were those open-house St. Patrick's Day parties with all of us around the piano and the words all over your living-room walls singing our hearts out with a green beer in hand. Your mom kept saying it was the last one but your dad wouldn't let them go. Also, I remember planning meetings for all the St. Charles Prayer groups and sharing a butterscotch sundae together with your mom and dad and Fr. T after all the prayer meetings, some in your kitchen, some in ours after our weekly meetings. We would all fast before the meetings. The sundaes were a celebration of God's presence and a good meeting.

I'm happy Gini will be with Bob for this St. Patrick's Day! They both had lives for you and all of us to celebrate. May they rest in the light and peace of the Lord forever. I miss both of them too but happy they are together again.
Love to all of you, Call if I can ever be of any help to you.
Will be watching the stream tomorrow. With you in spirit!
Be Happy!
Jane Woodring Steiner



Jane A Steiner - February 11 at 01:44 PM



“ The Sjostrom's Christmas Party was a favorite gathering place for the holidays with the Infamous Son of Sam College Football Pool orchestrated by Sam right there at the house and specifically the year of the Bongo heist when Joe's dog was kidnapped the night before only to be returned at the party to the delight of the Sjostrom Family - everyone shouting it's Bongo Gini and Sam were two of the most wonderful people in our world - thanks for the beautiful memories Sjostrom's and may Gini and Sam finally RIP together - love the Grahams



Mike Graham - February 11 at 09:23 AM



“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Libby Johnson - February 10 at 04:16 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Libby Johnson - February 10 at 04:05 PM



“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Libby Johnson - February 10 at 03:58 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Album 1



Katy Sjostrom - February 10 at 03:47 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Album 1



Katy Sjostrom - February 10 at 12:57 PM



“ What wonderful memories I have of my time spent at the Sjostrom house growing up! Your sweet Mom was so patient as she not only had all you kids, but many of the neighborhood kids there too. No wonder she made a sign for the cookie jar that said "Please please, if you love me only take three!!"
All of you will always be FAMILY to me. You all honored your Mom so great by giving back to her all the loving care she gave to all of you.
Love You, Patty Collins Ross

patty ross - February 10 at 10:43 AM



“ Joe, your Mom was a special person not just to you but to the whole neighborhood that we lived in. What a special place to grow up in! Parents looking out for everyone in the hood, not just for their kids. We share a life bound to all we grew up with primarily because of our parents and what they gave to our community. I will always remember fondly those experiences and what we shared.

All the best to you and to all of your sisters and brother. Let's celebrate her life!

Greg Walther

Greg Walther - February 10 at 10:18 AM



“ I will always hold the memories I have of my Aunt Gini close to heart. I only wish we lived closer so that I could have seen her more! She made the BEST monkey bread and had a smile that would light up the room. We love and will miss you greatly.

Becky Powell (Abell) - February 10 at 07:21 AM



“ Aunt Ginny, a beautiful soul, inside and out. Even though she will be missed, her memory will live through her wonderful family. God Bless them .

Chuck Belva Cote' - February 10 at 06:42 AM



“ A great lady, wife, mom, grandma, great grandma and friend to so many! She had great care takers! She was the last card club mom and will be missed by all of us! We have all of you Sjostrom's in our thoughts and prayers. You are lucky to have each other!

MIKE AND LYNN UTZ

Lynn - February 10 at 02:04 AM



“ 2 files added to the album Album 1



Katy Sjostrom - February 09 at 11:05 PM



“ To all the Sjostroms: We share in your sorrow and loss. Gini was a wonderful lady, and all of you were so dedicated to her care. She was a beautiful person who had a beautiful life. With love, Mary Heider

Mary N Heider - February 09 at 03:02 PM



“ Words just aren't adequate to describe the gratitude to God for giving me such beautiful sisters. Gini and Aggie were the best friends any sister could have. Gini was a surrogate mother while I was growing up. I spent several summers in Miami, having multiple surgeries at Variety Children's Hospital. (now Miami Children's) I remember waking up in the recovery room and Gini was sitting by my side, Rosary in hand. She was pregnant no doubt with either Bob or Joe, but she had time to stay close to me. She and Bob were tremendous support while I was in nursing school at St. Mary's in WPB. They moved so often , I'm not sure but they may have had a baby in almost every city they lived in. They raised a tremendous family and were exemplary parents to more than their own children. Gini spent 38 years a widow, experiencing grandparenthood without Bob to 12 grandchildren and so many greatgrandchildren. The love and tenderness her children extended to her during her long sojourn, bedridden, is the greatest tribute any Mom could have. She worked tirelessly for all of you all her life and the heroic care you exhibited to her has earned you all high places in the Kingdom. She's still working hard for you now and I can guarantee you will never be alone.

Aunt Libby

:Libby Johnson Johnson - February 10 at 12:53 PM



“ To all the Sjostrom family and friends: I never had the honor of meeting this wonder and caring person and from what I can tell and even more incredible mother. In life we meet many people as we travel on our journies and are often guided by not those people, but their parents by way of lessons and knowledge that they have bestowed upon their children. I know in my heart that some of the things I have learned in life were passed on by Mary. I have learned that her children are also caring and go out of their road to help others. These are traits that children learn not just by lessons, but also by seeing it in action. The world is a better place because of her, and we will continue to make it better in her memory.

Alan S.

Alan - February 11 at 09:19 PM