



Mary Kathryn Passafiume

May 4, 1942 - April 4, 2023

Age 80, of Braidwood, IL passed away on Tuesday, April 4, 2023. Born on May 4, 1942 in Joliet, IL to the late Margaret (nee Perino) and William Pearson. She married the love of her life and best friend, James Leo Passafiume, Jr. on May 12, 1967 in Joliet. Together they made their home and raised their six children and many beloved dogs in Braidwood, where she was a lifelong resident. In September of 1970, Mary Kay became the mother of the first surviving triplets to be born at St. Joseph's Medical Center in Joliet, IL. This was not only a major blessing for their family, but also brought a tremendous outreach of support from the members of their parish, Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church in Braidwood, as well as the surrounding communities to help Mary Kay and James welcome these three babies into their home. She grew up playing cards, making homemade ravioli and baking with her many cousins who also lived in the area. Mary Kay was an avid reader and loved doing word searches. In her favorite season, summer, she could be found at the Braidwood Recreation Club enjoying the sun and sand. She was a wonderful mother, but she was born to be a grandmother. The "late into the night" games of Yatzee and Rummy will be fondly remembered by all her grandchildren. She was the best, most caring, spoiling, and loving grandmother anyone could be blessed to have. Anything that enabled her to be with her family is what she loved most. In her later years, she enjoyed playing the slot machines with her husband. All who knew her will remember her with

a smile the next time they have a strawberry milkshake, a McDonald's Diet Coke or a seasonal Little Debbie's snowball and when they hear an Elvis song! She will be greatly missed and always loved beyond words.

Surviving is her husband, James, Three daughters Jill (Michael) Panko of Cary, IL, and their children Michael Jr, Matthew (Maxine), Sarah (Matt) Neumann, Rachel and Francis, Mary (Craig) Farrell of WA and their children Anthony (Natasha) and Charles, Sylvia Johnson of Braidwood, IL and son Blake. Three sons, John of Channahon, IL and children Jessica (Patrick) and Hope, James (Amanda) of Channahon, IL and children Brayden (Marie) and Joshua, and Paul (Nicole Medina) of Plainfield, IL. Also surviving are six great grandchildren, sister in law, Anna Pearson, special niece Lisa Novy and her daughter, Madison.

Preceding her in death were her parents, mother in law Mary Berta, brother William Pearson, sister Betty Ann Majesky, daughter-in-law Lois Passafiume and brother-in-law Jasper Thompson.

The visitation will be at R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory on Thursday, April 13, 2023 from 3-7 PM. Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Friday, April 14, 2023 at 10 am at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Braidwood. Interment will follow at Braceville-Gardner Cemetery in Braceville. Memorial donations may be directed to The Giving Door or Uplifted Care.

Cemetery Details

Braceville-Gardner Cemetery

7295 W. Braceville Road
Braceville, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **13**. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

R.W. Patterson Funeral Home
401 East Main St.
Braidwood, IL 60408
(815) 458-2336
info@rwpattersonfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com>

Service

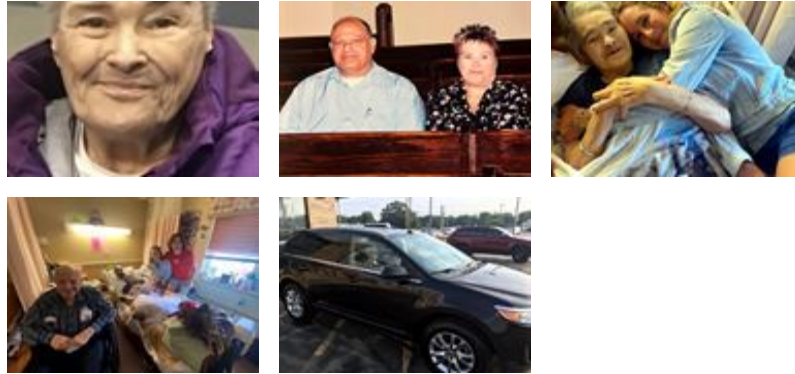
APR **14**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Immaculate Conception Church
110 South School Street
Braidwood, IL 60408

Tribute Wall



“ 109 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



R W Patterson Funeral Homes, Ltd. - April 13, 2023 at 11:46 AM

MB

“ *Jill and family you have my deepest condolences. May God be with you.*



Mary B. Bell - April 10, 2023 at 12:42 PM

JP

Thank you, Mary Beth. It's so good to hear from you 🙏

Jill Panko - April 13, 2023 at 06:50 AM

MB

It was so nice to see you and all your family. Sorry it had to be under these circumstances. Prayers and hugs to you and especially your dad.

Mary Bell - April 13, 2023 at 08:13 PM



“ You will be missed grandma. 💕 You were the glue that held us all together. You were a natural with my babies (of course after all of your own hahaha) when the girls would cry and you took them to rock them, “don’t worry Jessie, she’s fine.” You always made us feel at home. I love you. Always.



Jessica Tibble - April 07, 2023 at 08:38 PM

EV

“ My condolences to the Passafiume family. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Mary was amazing. I'm honored to have known her, be related to her, and to have so many memories of happy family celebrations through the years that she was the heart of.

She will be missed. I will still look for her in her corner of the beach.



Elizabeth V. - April 06, 2023 at 11:23 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



James Passafiume - April 06, 2023 at 06:33 PM



“ I could write novels. You are the core, of ALL of our existences'. Quite literally; eternally. I love you, to the end of time <3



Hope Passafiume - April 06, 2023 at 04:50 PM



“ Will miss you forever !! You were a wonderful cousin always !! Love Janie

Janie - April 06, 2023 at 01:19 PM



I Lost a very good friend and a special TOPS Pal, She will be missed

Joan Benson - April 13, 2023 at 03:15 PM