



Mary Jo Kozar

November 20, 1931 - September 19, 2017

Mary Joanne Kozar passed away peacefully on September 19, 2017. Mary Jo (Paul) was born November 20, 1931 in Wenatchee to Joseph & Theresa Paul. She attended Wenatchee Public Schools graduating in 1950. She met her future husband, Steve Kozar, on a blind date, and they eloped February 2, 1951 in Coeur d'Alene, ID. They returned to Wenatchee to make their home and raise their family. Between 1967 and 1971 they opened their hearts and their home to three children by way of adoption.

Mary Jo was passionate about her faith and her family. She also enjoyed music, baseball, and community service. She was a bookkeeper by trade, but once the children came along she mostly retired to raise them and to volunteer; Mary Jo loved to serve. During her children's school years, she was an active member of PTSA and assisted with book fairs, Christmas pageants, school plays, and field days. She also volunteered in their classrooms and chaperoned many field trips.

She was a lifetime member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church and a member of Catholic Daughters of the Americas holding offices including Regent at the local and state levels and National Director at the national level. She was quick to fill in wherever there was a need including setting up for Mass and serving as a Lector. She also sang in the church choir under the direction of her good friend. When that choir disbanded, but not her love of music, Mary Jo and a group of friends formed The Nightingales and would travel to various nursing homes in the Valley to sing for the residents. She also joined

Wenatchee Valley Appleaires and loved every minute of song and fellowship. She was active in the Chelan County Republican Party serving at one time as a Precinct Committee Officer holding caucuses in her home and campaigning for candidates. Her daughter recalls often finding the dining room table bombarded with fliers and envelopes for stuffing and mailing during elections. Mary Jo was a big proponent of voter registration and was a firm believer in the democratic process. Sometime later she volunteered for the auditor's office sitting at the polling booths checking in voters. This eventually led to a stint working for the Chelan County Auditor, a part time job she truly enjoyed. Mary Jo was an avid baseball fan having attended The Wenatchee Chiefs games in her youth with her father, and then later nearly every baseball game of her son's starting with Little League and ending with College games. When the Wenatchee AppleSox were formed, Mary Jo became a fixture at the games.

Even with all this life activity, she found time to travel to the Greater Seattle area to visit her children who had made their lives there. She traveled extensively throughout the United States and had especially fond memories of time spent in Hawaii vacationing with her family. She also fulfilled her dream of visiting Rome.

Mary Jo's family wishes to extend their sincerest appreciation to the staff at Tuscany Cottage Adult Family Home, Central WA Hospital, and Hospice for their great care.

Mary Jo was preceded in death by her infant brother, Joseph A. Paul; sister, Margaret Fouts; her parents Joseph & Theresa Paul; her husband of 42 years, Steve Kozar; infant daughter, Mary Kristina Kozar; and her longtime companion, Bernard (Bunky) Meehan. She is survived by her daughter, Teresa Gregg of Lynnwood; her son, Steven Kozar and Daisy Kozar of Renton; and grandchildren: Kathryn Gregg of Seattle and Bryce Hickman of North Hollywood, CA.

A Rosary vigil will be held Monday, October 16 at 6:30 PM at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 625 S. Elliott, Wenatchee. A Funeral Mass will be held

Tuesday, October 17 at 11:00 AM at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 625 S. Elliott, Wenatchee. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Wenatchee Valley Humane Society. Please express your thoughts and memories via the online guestbook at jonesjonesbetts.com. "Out of sight, but never out of mind."

Previous Events

Rosary

OCT 16. 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM (PT)

St. Joseph's Catholic Church
625 S Elliott
Wenatchee, WA 98801
(509) 662-4569
<http://www.stjosephwen.org/>

Mass of Christian Burial

OCT 17. 11:00 AM - 12:05 PM (PT)

St. Joseph's Catholic Church
625 S Elliott
Wenatchee, WA 98801
(509) 662-4569
<http://www.stjosephwen.org/>

Tribute Wall



“ Jones & Jones - Betts Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mary Jo Kozar



Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home - October 12, 2017 at 01:17 PM



“ 7 files added to the album Life Tributes



Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home - October 12, 2017 at 10:31 AM



“ 10 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home - October 11, 2017 at 03:52 PM



“ 105 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home - October 10, 2017 at 06:54 PM



“ 12 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home - October 09, 2017 at 04:20 PM

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“ *We loved her spirit and love of our Catholic Daughters of the Americas organization. May she rest in peace. Lois Nelson, President, CDA National Directors Club*

Lois Nelson - September 28, 2017 at 03:17 PM