



Mary D. Steele Ruff

March 23, 1928 - November 2, 2019

Mary D. Steele Ruff, 91, of Evansville, passed away Saturday, November 2, 2019 at the Terrace at Solarbron.

Mary was born Ena Mary Dymott on March 23, 1928 in Southampton, England to the late Albert William and Julia Kate Dymott. She was a veteran of the Women's Royal Navy Service (WRNS).

Her childhood in Southampton was interrupted on September 3, 1939 when Britain declared war on Germany. Following VE Day, Mary joined the WRNS and in 1949 married and moved to America, becoming a naturalized citizen in 1963. Mary worked as a secretary and later became the office manager of Johnson, Carroll and Griffith Attorneys at Law from 1963 until her retirement in 1990. Avid fans of the Evansville Aces, Mary and her husband Austin, held season tickets for nearly forty years and rarely missed a game. Purple was certainly her favorite color! Mary was a beloved Sunday School teacher at Bible Fellowship Church and later, at Forest Hills Baptist Church.

A devoted wife, loving, wise and gentle mother, friend and counselor, she will be greatly missed by her four children and grandchildren; daughter, Jackie Miles and her sons, Jeff Miles and John (Andi) Miles; son, Stephen (MeLissa) Williams and his daughters, Jennifer (Brandt) Young and Shayna Williams; daughter, Julia "JR" (Danny) Schembre and their children, JoLeigh (Michael)

Van Hoy, Mary (Chris) Maria and Danny (Samantha) Schembre, II; son Scott (Cheryl) Steele and children, Austin (Chelsey) Steele, Amber (Shawn) Edwards and Ashley Steele; Scott's stepsons, Tony (Wendy) Gumbel and Matt Gumbel. Mary loved and was dearly loved by her stepchildren, Alan (Sue) Steele, Greg (Kim) Steele, LaDonna Steele Smith and Renae Steele and their children. Together Mary and Austin had twenty-one grandchildren and many great grandchildren. Mary is also survived by two brothers, Michael Dymott and David Dymott, both of the UK.

The family wishes to express love and appreciation for the love and friendship of her dearest friend, sister-in-law and mentor, Sarah Williams of Baton Rouge, LA; numerous nieces and nephews throughout the US and UK, and the loving care and support of her MSA Hospice team, Solarbron Pointe and Terrace family.

She is celebrating life and love in Heaven with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, her parents, her husband Austin Steele, husband, Donald Ruff and a great wave of loving friends and family, no doubt over a warm cup of properly brewed British tea.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, November 6, 2019 at Pierre Funeral Home, Rev. Tyrone Edwards officiating. Burial will follow in Alexander Memorial Park Cemetery.

Friends may visit with the family from 4:00 until 7:00 PM on Tuesday at Pierre Funeral Home, 2601 W. Franklin Street.

Memorial contributions may be made to Evansville Habitat for Humanity or to St. Jude Children's Hospital in Memphis, TN.

Condolences may be made online at www.pierrefuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Memorial Park Cemetery

2200 Mesker Park Drive
Evansville, IN

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 5. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Pierre Funeral Home
2601 West Franklin Street
Evansville, IN

funeral

NOV 6. 11:00 AM (CT)

Pierre Funeral Home
2601 West Franklin Street
Evansville, IN

Tribute Wall



“ *Pierre Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mary D. Steele Ruff*



Pierre Funeral Home - November 05, 2019 at 10:31 AM

JS

*I miss you Mom.
I'm grateful for this video. So much to remember. It was nice to see all these wonderful memories of you and of us, all of us.*

Julia Schembre - January 18, 2020 at 01:20 PM

JS

Three years later. I am so grateful for all the pictures our friends and family took through the years, and to the staff at Pierre for putting together this wonderful memorial video. Mom would have been amazed at all the photos of her life put together with such care. She was, is and always will be a blessing to those whose lives she touched. We all miss her, yet we have no doubts as to where she is and who she is with today. 🕊️💕

Julia Schembre - November 02, 2022 at 01:40 PM



“ *Mary D. Steele Ruff*

January 16, 2023 at 06:53 PM

DR

“ *Mary was a sweet kind compassionate Lady. I am a life-long friend of Steele family and youngest daughter, Renae. Mary treated me like her own. Very special Lady, she is missed. Prayerfully we will all meet again. Bless you all in this time of sadness..*

Diana Roberts - November 06, 2019 at 12:47 PM

JS



Julia Schembre - November 06, 2019 at 05:35 PM

PB

“ *The sweetest memory was her preparing tea for me! Special woman who truly touched my life! Blessing to know! Hugs to the family!*

Pam Bolen-Lee - November 05, 2019 at 10:12 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mary D. Steele Ruff.*



November 05, 2019 at 04:03 PM



“ I loved Aunt Mary and have so much memories with her and Uncle Austin and the cousins Stephen, Jackie, Julia and Scott at the house by the river and some holidays together. I learned how to have a proper afternoon tea, thanks to her. Even though we didnt sign to each other, we still had a good relationship. Tomorrow I shall wear purple for her, and have an afternoon tea in memory of Aunt Mary. Love you all!



Sarita Johnson - November 05, 2019 at 01:47 PM

AS

“ I didn't have a sister of my own until Mary came to America, as my sister-in-law. We became close friends very quickly. Mary learned to drink coffee with me in the mornings and I learned to drink tea with her in the afternoons. Buying groceries was the hardest thing for her to learn as the measuring system, the currency and even the products were so different than she had known her whole life. She taught me to knit, a hobby that has stayed with me still today as I sit, knitting a shawl, just days before my 96th birthday. In my mind, she will always be that friend I could share anything with, happy, sad, anything, and always be understood and accepted. My love to all my nieces, nephews and greats. I've made a donation in her honor to St. Jude's.

Aunt Sarah - November 05, 2019 at 11:25 AM

GI

“ So many memories... but, her smile, her totally committed laugh, the one that caused everyone around her to join in, the twinkle in her eyes when she was teasing, her genuine care for others, and, yes, her strength to get through some really rough times.. I so admired my lovely Aunt Mary and treasure her memory. Much Love to my cousins.. Ginger

Ginger - November 05, 2019 at 11:08 AM

JS



Julia Schembre - November 05, 2019 at 10:58 PM



“ 85 files added to the album Life Tributes



Pierre Funeral Home - November 05, 2019 at 10:07 AM

JS

Thank you for helping us share some of these brief glimpses into the amazing life and story of one of the most beautiful souls one could ever encounter. Mom blessed the lives of nearly everyone who had an opportunity to meet her. I am so grateful for the peace and Amazing Grace she shared with all of us throughout our lives. Thank you to everyone who has been a part of her wonderful story and legacy.❤️

Julia Schembre - November 05, 2019 at 01:37 PM

LA

“ Prayers for the family!

LaCosta - November 04, 2019 at 11:24 PM

Joleigh
Van Hoy

“ My favorite memories of her involve Scrabble and breakfasts in her kitchen. I don't believe I ever won... She was probably the strongest woman I've ever met and I'm so glad to be a part of her legacy. I love you, Grandma.

Joleigh Van Hoy - November 04, 2019 at 10:14 PM

JS



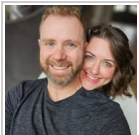
Julia Schembre - January 18, 2020 at 01:25 PM

MF

“ Marlene, Corky, Julie, Cindy and families. purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Mary D. Steele Ruff.



Marlene, Corky, Julie, Cindy and families. - November 04, 2019 at 02:49 PM



“ I remember going on Wednesday trips to the mall with my cousins. Then afterwards we would get ice cream. :) Love you, Grandma!

Danny Schembre - November 04, 2019 at 01:10 PM

DM

“ *David Manges lit a candle in memory of Mary
D. Steele Ruff*



David Manges - November 04, 2019 at 08:16 AM