



## Mary Ellen Gruenenfelder

December 13, 1940 - August 19, 2020

Mary Ellen Gruenenfelder, age 79 of Highland, IL, died Wednesday, August 19, 2020, at her daughter's home in Saint Louis, MO.

She was born on December 13, 1940, in Teutopolis, IL, the daughter of Frank and Eleanore (nee Hewing) Engle.

On October 17, 1959, she married M. Duane "Greenie" Gruenenfelder Highland, IL,

She was a member of Saint Paul Catholic Church in Highland, IL. She was also a member of Knights of Columbus Aux. and a former member of St. Anne Altar Society.

Mary Ellen was born in Teutopolis, IL and graduated from St. Paul School in 1958. She took a CNA class in 1985 and became a Ward Clerk from Belleville Area College. She worked at St. Joseph Hospital as a CNA, Ward Clerk and in the business offices. Mary Ellen retired in June of 2003. Mary was a founder of Highland Community Prayer Shaw Ministry. She loved crocheting, sewing, travel with her husband, baking and her family was very important to her.

Survivors include :

Husband - M. Duane "Greenie" Gruenenfelder, Highland, IL

Son - Daniel Lee (Heather) Gruenenfelder, Foristell, MO  
Daughter - Debra Sue (Gene) Pozniakoff, Saint Louis, MO  
Daughter - Teresa Lynn (Alan) Lake, Shorewood, IL  
Daughter - Julie Ann (Michael) Schrand, Fayetteville, IL  
Grandchild - Angela Gruenenfelder  
Grandchild - Eleanor (Jake) Brown  
Grandchild - Claire Taylor  
Grandchild - Tiffany (Niko) Rousonelos  
Grandchild - Adam (Amanda) Lake  
Grandchild - Caitlyn Lake  
Grandchild - Michael Schrand, Jr.  
Grandchild - Hannah Gruenenfelder  
Grandchild - Bert Gruenenfelder  
Great Grandchild - Brooke Rousonelos  
Great Grandchild - Gavin Rousonelos  
Sister - Joyce Engle, SSND, St. Louis, MO  
Sister - Sarah (Milton) Tober, Foley, AL

She was preceded in death by :

Father - Frank Alexander Engle - Died 10/13/1989  
Mother - Eleanore Elizabeth Engle - Died 9/05/1994  
Sister - Patricia M. Frankovich - Died 10/23/2010  
Brother - Wayne F. Engle - Died 2007  
Brother - Thomas L. Engle - Died 2008

Arrangements are being handled by Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Visitation will be held from 9:00 AM to 10:45 AM on Wednesday, August 26, 2020, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL .

Private Funeral Mass will be at Saint Paul Catholic Church in Highland, IL,

Interment will be at Saint Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Highland, IL.

Memorial contributions may be made to Highland Food Pantry - Shriners Hospital or St. Jude's Hospital for Children..

# Tribute Wall



“ I remember growing up by you guys and I am so sorry about this, I lost my mom a little while back and how I miss her 💔 please all take care my prayers to you 🙏❤️

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**Judith Wiesemeyer** - September 09, 2020 at 12:57 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mary Ellen Gruenenfelder.



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August 25, 2020 at 12:53 PM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Mary Ellen Gruenenfelder.



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August 25, 2020 at 09:55 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mary Ellen Gruenenfelder.



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August 25, 2020 at 07:16 AM

BR

“ Scott, Brenda, Craig and families.....your aunt was a special person and always enjoyed visiting with her. I send my sympathy to you, her kiddos (sure I don't know them as adults, but remember them as kiddos), Duane, Sara and Joyce I will never forget either. Such a most wonderful lady and family. I pray God's blessings of comfort and healing for all.

*Billie Rinderer*

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**Billie Rinderer** - August 24, 2020 at 03:45 PM

CS

“ Christine Sheldon lit a candle in memory of Mary Ellen Gruenenfelder



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**Christine Sheldon** - August 24, 2020 at 07:38 AM

SM

“ *What a marvelous woman, Mary Ellen...and a great husband and precious family!!! Mary Ellen volunteered three years of secretarial service to St. Paul Catholic Church, school, faculty, students and parents. Her smiles touched the lives of many youth each day as she willingly offered her time and talents for whatever was needed at the moment. Mary Ellen also spent endless hours initiating the Prayer Shawl Ministry, offering a gift of prayer to many who knew they were loved during their lonely times. Mary Ellen is a role model for all as a woman who gave her all to her husband, family, and all who knew and loved her over the many years. Her contagious smile warmed the hearts of all as her spirit and love live on in each of our lives. Now Mary Ellen is with her God and enjoying peace and love forever!!! What a Gift from God Mary Ellen has been and is for each of us always!!!*

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**S. Marilyn** - August 23, 2020 at 01:57 PM



“ *Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Mary Ellen Gruenenfelder.*



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August 22, 2020 at 10:18 PM

CH

“ God truly endowed her with an extra dose of special "gifts" in the form of love, compassion and non-judgemental fellowship towards her fellow humankind. Her and Duane were an example of how all married couples should behave--still holding hands after 50 years of being together. I will miss seeing them come up for reception of Communion holding hands and receiving Jesus together. Right now, I know she is smiling BIG while gazing into the eyes of her Lord and savior. Missing you, Mary Ellen.

Carol Henrichs - August 22, 2020 at 05:30 PM

RG

“ The Tennessee "Greenies" Rob, Jamie, Morgan, Mallory, and Evan send their condolences. Mary Ellen was a strong women with a giving heart. We were very proud of her Olympic moment carrying the torch. Peace in heaven til we see you there.

Rob Gruenfelder - August 22, 2020 at 01:01 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Mary Ellen Gruenfelder.



August 21, 2020 at 09:32 PM

CG

“ So sorry for your loss. Mary Ellen was always kind to all. She will be missed.



chris gruenfelder(tim) - August 21, 2020 at 05:22 PM

MM

“ Dear Duane and family,  
So sorry for your loss. Mary Ellen always had a beautiful smile and enjoyed life!! She and I were co-captains of our daughters ball team way back in the day. We always had fun! She was very helpful with the Prayer Shawl group in donating shawls to the Relevant Pregnancy Options Center.  
Hang on to all the good memories of the good times. She will be with you always.  
May God comfort you in your sorrow.  
Peace,  
Marylin McDevitt

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**Marylin McDevitt** - August 21, 2020 at 04:52 PM

JW

“ Prayers to the family and loved ones. Mary Ellen was such a wonderful woman, I had known her many years. Rest in Peace <3

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**June Williams** - August 21, 2020 at 04:26 PM

SL

“ So sorry to hear of Mary Ellen's passing. I knew her from Meals on Wheels and enjoyed working with her.

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**Shirley Mersinger Lodes** - August 21, 2020 at 04:04 PM