



JULIA MASSMAN

November 23, 1932 - October 2, 2021

Julia Beatrice (Malanaphy) Massman, age 88, of Caledonia, MN passed away peacefully as the sun set on beautiful October 2, 2021, surrounded by the love of her husband and family.

Born November 23, 1932 at her parents' home in Decorah, IA, Julia was the youngest of seven siblings, all now reunited together in heaven with their parents James Malanaphy Sr. and Dorothy (Marlow) Malanaphy.

After attending a one-room school house through grade 8, Julia graduated Decorah High School in 1951. She met Laverne Massman (Calmar, Iowa) through high school and 4H, fell in love, and married June 20, 1951. They initially set out to farm and begin their family on property near Ridgeway, IA., where nine siblings were born. Then, in 1961, they moved their growing family to Caledonia and eventually settled on Beaver Ridge where they ran a family farm business and raised their thirteen children, eventually welcoming 29 grandchildren and 30 great-grandchildren.

As a young mother, Julia marshalled the meals, baking, housekeeping, sewing, shopping, gardening, and laundry for her growing family, as well as managed business bookkeeping and taxes while facilitating a dizzying schedule of children's 4-H, school sports, and church activities. As devout Catholics, Julia and Laverne passed along faith, love and good values as members of St. Mary's Catholic Parish in Caledonia.

In life, Julia was a courageous, resilient, strong, sentimental woman with a head for business, a warm smile, a generous heart, the ability to deliver a good wise crack, and a passion for democracy and political activism inspired by her Christian faith and steadfast belief that all people are equal in the eyes of God. She delighted in hard work, helping others, volunteering in her community, watching her children grow and achieve, and regularly exercising her beautiful voice in song, even if she didn't know all the words.

In her late 40's, once her 13th child was school-age, Julia set upon a full professional career outside the home. She first worked for the State of Minnesota promoting greater accessibility for persons with disabilities; then assisted with specially challenged students in Caledonia; then retail positions (The Phyllis Shoppe, Doerflingers, Herbergers); and sold real-estate for nearly two-decades as a licensed agent based in La Crosse. Her most rewarding days were always the ones in which she helped a client find happiness. Julia loved family gatherings and socializing – from big events to daily lunch out with Laverne at local restaurants. She was an avid Caledonia Warriors fan and cheered for the Iowa Hawkeyes and Minnesota Vikings. Over the years, Julia & Laverne enjoyed cross-country road trips as well as trips to Europe & Hawaii, and she cherished being a Grandma and Great Grandma.

Throughout life, she was a tireless DFL-party advocate and was most proud of her service as a two-time National Convention Delegate for President Barack Obama. Most important to Julia above all, was her Faith and family.

Julia is survived by her husband, Laverne; her 13 children Terry, Gary (Judy), Julie (Kevin) Burnett, Steve, Randy, Diane, Laverne (Lisa), Lori Cain, Janet (Arnold) Mindham, Ron (Cheryl), Matt (Christopher Solheid), Rich (Michelle), Amy; 29 grandchildren and 29 great grandchildren. She is also survived by her sisters- and brothers-in-law Jannan Malanaphy, Jean Malanaphy, Jack Kendall, Francis & JoAnn Massman, Albin Massman, Phyllis Massman,

Cynthia & Robert Tillman, Sister Marian Massman FSPA, Lowell Loesch, Leo & Barb Massman. Julia is further survived by numerous nieces and nephews and her life-long dear friend and classmate Edna Schrandt.

Julia was preceded in death by her great-grand daughter, Purity Rose; her parents and family as follows: parents James and Dorothy Malanaphy; her siblings & their spouses Betty & Glen Martin; Joyce Lynch, John Malanaphy, Jim Malanaphy, Dorothy Kendall, Mary & Leo Manning; her father-in-law and mother-in-law Frank and Lucy Massman; her brothers- and sisters-in-law Don Massman, Verna Massman, Helen Loesch, James Massman; and nine nieces and nephews: Larry, Deirdre, David, Tom, Tim, Dan, Jim, Warren, Linus.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 AM on Friday, October 8th, 2021 at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 513 S Pine St, Caledonia, MN 55921, with Father Tom Jennings presiding. On Thursday evening, October 7th, also at the Church, the Rosary will begin at 4:00 pm followed by visitation until 7:00 pm. Visitation will also be held from 10:00 until 10:45 AM prior to the Mass on Friday morning.

Masks are requested for all in attendance at all indoor funeral and visitation events. We sincerely thank you in advance for your help with this.

The family specially thanks the dedicated nurses, aides, activity team and other staff members who lovingly cared for Mom at Claddagh the past couple of years, and the Mayo Clinic Hospice team.

Previous Events

Rosary

OCT 7. 4:00 PM (CT)

Saint Mary's Catholic Church
513 S Pine St
Caledonia, MN 55921
(507) 725-3804

Visitation, please wear a mask

OCT 7. 4:30 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church
513 S Pine St
Caledonia, MN 55921
(507) 725-3804

Visitation

OCT 8. 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM (CT)

Saint Mary's Catholic Church
513 S Pine St
Caledonia, MN 55921
(507) 725-3804

Mass of Christian Burial

OCT 8. 11:00 AM (CT)

Saint Mary's Catholic Church
513 S Pine St
Caledonia, MN 55921
(507) 725-3804

Tribute Wall

ME

“ I will miss my visits with this beautiful, witty, charming woman. Every Irish song I hear reminds me of her and always will!

With fondess and love!

Marilynn RN

Marilynn Eiken - October 21, 2021 at 03:13 PM

LD

“ Thank you for all the kind words and expressions of love for our Mother. She will be missed and leaves a hole in our hearts 💔

Lori Cain, daughter - October 10, 2021 at 10:21 AM

DS

“ Ron: thinking of you in the loss of your mother! Such a nice tribute for her life. You have lots of memories to treasure! Our condolences...

Dave & Wilma Schoh - October 08, 2021 at 10:30 PM

BA

“ After having read some of Julia's tributes, I really do believe that she was a woman that accomplished much on her earthly walk. Sorry to miss her celebration of life, but happy that my husband Tom will be there to delight in many more stories and share the love of Julia.

Barbara Massman, Decorah

Barbara - October 07, 2021 at 04:08 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of JULIA MASSMAN.*



October 07, 2021 at 04:04 PM



“ *Dear Laverne and Family,*

With a tender heart for you, I express my sympathy in the passing of Julia from our midst. She delighted in telling stories with a “lilt of Irish laughter.” She is now singing all the words of the song “When Irish eyes are smiling...in the lilt of Irish laughter I can hear the angels sing.” Yes, her beautiful radiant soul sings with the angels and loved ones in praising and thanking God for gracing her to be a wonderful woman of integrity and wisdom. May Jesus bless you with peace and hope. I hold you with gentle care in my love and prayers.

*Your sister and aunt,
Sister Marian*

Sister Marian Massman, FSPA - October 06, 2021 at 05:01 PM

PM

Dear Laverne and Family:

Our love and hearts are with you in the death of our precious Julia! Julia was always an inspiration in our lives! She had the ability to look at both sides of an issue. I was absolutely amazed that Julia attended a country school; went to high school and continued progressive successes in each and every challenge that came her way. Our hearts are filled with love to Laverne and her family as we celebrate Julia's life. All of our loved ones that are in heaven are rejoicing as Julia is coming home. May God's love penetrate the heavens and earth at Julia's life celebration.

Love Always,

Phyllis Massman

Phyllis Massman - October 07, 2021 at 12:51 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of JULIA MASSMAN.*



October 06, 2021 at 03:43 PM



“ *Heart's Companion Bouquet was purchased for the family of JULIA MASSMAN.*



October 06, 2021 at 01:45 PM

MF

“ *Much love from the Kendall Family purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of JULIA MASSMAN.*



Much love from the Kendall Family - October 06, 2021 at 11:30 AM

YF

“ *Your Racers Family purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of JULIA MASSMAN.*



Your Racers Family - October 06, 2021 at 09:17 AM

TE

“ *Tillmans - Bob, Cynthia, Mark, Patty, Ed purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of JULIA MASSMAN.*



Tillmans - Bob, Cynthia, Mark, Patty, Ed - October 05, 2021 at 11:13 PM



“ *Bountiful Rose Basket was purchased for the family of JULIA MASSMAN.*



October 05, 2021 at 02:44 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of JULIA MASSMAN.* ”



October 05, 2021 at 10:23 AM