



## Mary E. Burger

June 9, 1956 - January 20, 2021

Mary E. Burger, age 64, of Chesterland, formerly a longtime Mentor resident, died peacefully on January 20, 2021 at her home with her family by her side. She was born June 9, 1956 in East Liverpool, Ohio.

Mrs. Burger was a dental hygienist at Western Reserve Periodontics for 44 years. She was passionate about her profession. She loved her patients like they were family and always looked forward to guest lecturing for Lakeland Community College & Case Western Reserve University's dental programs. She enjoyed music, cooking, traveling and spending time with her family and friends.

Survivors include her children, Hallice (Michael) Herrick, Paul (Kellie) Burger, and Cody (Drew) Beasley-Burger; grandchildren, Kyle, Allie, and Corinne Herrick; her significant other, Terry Soroczak; and her sister, Paula (Paul) Muntean. Mary also leaves behind a large extended family and friends who became family.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Larry C. Burger; and her parents, Paul V. Holenka Jr., and Betty L. Holenka.

The family will receive friends from 3-8 p.m. Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at the Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor

Ave., Mentor, OH 44060. A funeral mass in memory of Mary will be held 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, January 27, 2021 at St. Gabriel Catholic Church, 9925 Johnnycake Ridge Rd., Concord Twp., OH 44060 (Please meet at the church.) The funeral mass will be audio and video recorded so those who cannot attend on Wednesday will be able to watch Mary's funeral in the days following her service. Please visit Mary E. Burger's obituary at [www.brunners.com](http://www.brunners.com) to view the funeral mass. Interment will be in Mentor Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions be made to the Lakeland Foundation in her name to benefit the dental hygiene students. Contributions can be made online through this link <https://bit.ly/3sQcQ6l> or by sending to The Lakeland Foundation, 7700 Clocktower Drive, Kirtland, Ohio 44094.

Please offer condolences at [www.brunners.com](http://www.brunners.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Mentor Cemetery

6881 Hopkins Rd.  
Mentor, OH 44060  
(440) 974-5733

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN **26**. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center  
8466 Mentor Avenue  
Mentor, OH 44060  
(440) 255-3401  
ajs@brunners.com  
<https://www.brunners.com/>

## Funeral Mass

JAN **27**. 11:30 AM (ET)

St. Gabriel Catholic Church  
9925 Johnnycake Ridge Rd.  
Concord Twp., OH 44060  
(440) 352-8282

# Tribute Wall



“ *Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center created a Funeral Service in memory of Mary E. Burger*



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**Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center** - January 28, 2021 at 08:27 AM

TD

“ *I was a periodontal nightmare when I first landed in her chair at Dr Krecji's practice. Like previous posts, Mary went to work teaching me how to take care of my teeth and gums. I know her instructions saved me a lot of money. I was in awe of how many balls she juggled in her personal life with her husband, her children, in laws, grandkids, and finally her own cascade of health issues. On top of that, she even started dating, and found love again! She came back to work after so many complications, it was always a joy to see her. Obviously, over 44 years as a hygienist she became friends with many of her patients. I wish I had been able to visit, but I have no doubt she was surrounded by love until the end. She was such a proud mom and grandmother. I cried when I saw her obituary, too late to attend the service. May she rest in a well deserved peace.*

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**Teri Dew** - February 04, 2021 at 03:33 PM

JS

“*Mary and I met in the 1980's when she became my hygienist for life --- once I was treated by her, I knew no one else would live up to her standards of excellence. She taught me proper flossing (yes, there is a proper way!) And same with her insanely specific use of that little toothpick to finish things off! Fought her on that for years--- and she finally won--never had a problem since then. I stayed with her throughout her working career.*

*We became good friends over the years, and I value and treasure our time together.*

*How sad it is to lose such a bright and beautiful soul so soon. To her family and all those who were especially close to Mary, my sympathy goes out to each of you.*

*May you Rest In Peace Mary.*

*Sincerely,  
Janet Skryp*

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**Janet Skryp** - February 02, 2021 at 08:17 PM

MM

“ I am fortunate to have had the wonderful Mary as my dental hygienist for a number of years. I will remember her big, beautiful smile and her contagious good humor. She was incredibly positive in life despite all the things that life threw at her. She loved to sing and during my visits, we talked...too much to be sure...but I knew that she was devastated when her husband died, she was over-the-moon proud of her children and she loved going on trips with her girlfriends.

She was proud to be a (very good and very thorough) hygienist and loved working with the Dr. Krecji team. And, there came a point where she lit up as she talked about Terry and as she shared her life with him. She never complained when I was there and she was surely one of the most upbeat people I have ever known.

Even as just a patient of hers, I do and will miss her. I cannot imagine the heartbreak that you, her family all must endure before you meet her in Heaven. I will say a prayer for her soul but i am sure she and the Lord are already talking about things and laughing. God bless you all and may He keep you strong and healthy.

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Michael Mraz - January 26, 2021 at 06:11 PM

CK

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with all of Mary's family and friends. She has been through so much and fought so hard and now she can rest in peace. Please accept our deepest sympathy and may her memory be a blessing to all.

Don, Charlene, and Sarah Krecji

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Charlene Krecji - January 26, 2021 at 04:30 PM

LS

“ Mary was my hygienist of 25 years. She was the consummate perfectionist! She gave out gold stars for exceptional plaque scores and as an ADULT I felt so proud EVERY time I received one from her because she didn't just give them out. You better scrub and earn it! She was the epitome of what everyone has mentioned and then some! Now Ms Mary has earned her GOLD ✨! She labors no more. I am so grateful to know she was a woman of FAITH and because of it, I KNOW we will see each other again. Rest easy Mary... 💕

Lezlee Sims - January 26, 2021 at 01:27 PM



Mary was my husband's hygienist for many years and introduced me to her. She had such happiness and a love within her soul. We became friends, and Larry and Mary came to our wedding. She was so caring, that I always made sure I did a good job cleaning, picking and brushing, got a gold star also, for effort and cleanliness. I do miss her smile and enthusiasm for life. Now she is at peace, no more pain and suffering, someday to see her again, she is truly in Heaven. Love you Mary 💕

Michele Palisz-Bower - January 26, 2021 at 09:38 PM

CR

“ Mary was the spirit of goodness. There is only one word for Mary - kindthoughtfulbeautifullovingwonderfulfriendandperson - she and I promised that we would hold each other in our hearts until we meet again. Be at peace, my friend and we will take care of things down here for you..... To Family and Extended Family, please accept our love and prayers and look at the world like your mom, partner, did - full of encouragement and understanding - ready to lead and be there XO

Chris Robertson - January 26, 2021 at 11:25 AM

JJ

“ Joann, Michael and Hannah Justus purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mary E. Burger.



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**Joann, Michael and Hannah Justus** - January 26, 2021 at 10:25 AM

LB

“ Peace and comfort to you all.  
It has been such a blessing that our paths have crossed at this time. Our Lord really loves and cares for us just when we have a need. He truly has made this shown here with your family. It has been comforting to my heart in such a crazy time, to see such a wonderful support system that you all were to each other. Mary was well cared for even down to the smallest detail. Every bit you all gave to make her comfortable, she so appreciated. So, do not ever doubt yourselves. She had expressed how proud of you all she was and that you were her heart and purpose. Comforting prayers and peace of heart in the time to come.

*Laura Bradac.. stna at FC*

*John 14:27*

*My peace I leave you*

*My peace I give to you*

*I do not give as the world does*

*Do not let your heart be troubled and do not be afraid.*

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**Laura Bradac** - January 26, 2021 at 09:59 AM

MP

“*Mary was beautiful in every way - such a kind heart with a smile that would brighten everyone's day. The Rose Ridge neighborhood of which we were all part was a truly remarkable community which was more of a family, and I will always hold the friendships dear to my heart. Mary was the most unselfish, caring and beautiful person. Rest in peace, my friend.*

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**Mary Pumper** - January 25, 2021 at 06:19 PM

LD

“*Mary, it's so sad that you are gone! I know you had battled this disease for quite awhile. You have been a trooper! May you be at peace and free of pain. It has been my pleasure being your friend and working with you. We did have some good times! Know you will be missed! Our deepest condolences go out to your Family. God Bless them and keep them safe! A big Hug from me to you! Rest In Peace my Friend!*

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**Linda Dolgowicz** - January 25, 2021 at 05:46 PM



“*Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Mary E. Burger.*



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January 25, 2021 at 03:08 PM



“ *Heavenly Heights Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary E. Burger.*



January 25, 2021 at 02:50 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mary E. Burger.*



January 25, 2021 at 02:15 PM



“ *Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Mary E. Burger.*



January 25, 2021 at 12:53 PM



“ *Mary and Larry were the first to welcome us to Rose Ridge. A neighborhood like no other with so many friendships formed. As some of us have moved out, the Theatre group which Mary was part of has kept those friendships together. Mary and Larry raised three wonderful children. A beautiful smile, laugh and always a kind word. Love you.*

**Marian Ruckert** - January 25, 2021 at 12:05 PM



“ *Bright and Beautiful Spray was purchased for the family of Mary E. Burger.*



January 25, 2021 at 12:01 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary E. Burger.*



January 25, 2021 at 11:21 AM



“ *love, the Corlett, Rutledge & Warsinskey families purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Mary E. Burger.*



**love, the Corlett, Rutledge & Warsinskey families** - January 25, 2021 at 09:57 AM



“ *May you rest in peace Mary and be out of pain. Please say hi to my best friend Larry for me and live together in God's paradise for eternity. You both have always been dear friends and I will never forget you and will miss both of you until I see you again.*

**Jim Raimondo** - January 25, 2021 at 09:17 AM

LP

“ *The loss of Mary hurts more than I can put into words. I have known her since high school and she was an important reason that I became a dental hygienist. She was a generous, kind soul who always put others before herself. My deepest condolences to her family. Rest in peace my dear friend.*

Lois Dannemiller Pitchler - January 25, 2021 at 08:53 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mary E. Burger.*



January 25, 2021 at 07:23 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mary E. Burger.*



January 25, 2021 at 07:22 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mary E. Burger.*



January 25, 2021 at 07:20 AM



“ *Heart's Companion Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary E. Burger.*



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January 24, 2021 at 10:42 PM



“ *My heart absolutely broke today when I heard of Mary's passing during Mass at St. Gabriel's. Mary was one the most kindest people I have ever met and the world was always better with her in it. Mary, until we meet again. May God bless Mary's beautiful family with many wonderful memories.*

*With Love, Anna Meeks*

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**ANNA M MEEKS** - January 24, 2021 at 07:36 PM

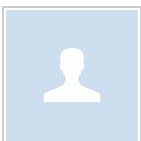


“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mary E. Burger.*



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January 24, 2021 at 04:03 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary E. Burger.*



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January 24, 2021 at 03:07 PM



“ Sunny Memories was purchased for the family of Mary E. Burger.



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January 24, 2021 at 02:03 PM



“ I always check the obituaries....  
Sometimes I wish that I would never check the obits  
Someone I loved and respected  
Who made the chickenist of dental patients  
Comfortable,relaxed,and unafraid  
You were loved and admired!  
The world will miss you,Mary  
Love  
Sprinkles

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**Lynn Norrs** - January 24, 2021 at 11:46 AM



“ I was in your mother's class at Lakeland for hygiene. I always thought she was beautiful and had the best smile. She added much to our enjoyment of the hard classes we had to endure!! She is my age and I consider her a good person and very giving of herself too. So sorry to learn of her passing. Know my prayers are with your family.

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**Beth Keeney** - January 24, 2021 at 10:43 AM

AD

“ Mary was my dentist hygienist when I had to have some surgery and I was so frightened. She held my Hand throughout and was very caring. We had lunch together and once again she was just so very nice. Even though I no longer go to that location I will remember her as a kind, professional lady. She will surely be missed by many. Also, she had the nicest smile. Amie G. Dubs

Amie G. Dubs - January 24, 2021 at 09:35 AM

GS

“ We had such fun in our travels the last few years. We will always think of you while having Eggs Benedict....the California trip was perfect. May you now rest easy in God's perfect light!

♥♥ Gerry and Toni Soroczak♥♥

Gerry and Toni Soroczak - January 23, 2021 at 08:38 PM

DS

Your smile always let those around you know how special they were to you. No one was a stranger. Thank you for the all the love and caring you gave to your family and extended family, especially Terry. May the Angel's fold you in their wings and keep your spirit safe.  
Donna Soroczak

Donna Soroczak - January 23, 2021 at 09:15 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary E. Burger.



January 23, 2021 at 06:25 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary E. Burger.*



January 23, 2021 at 04:15 PM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Mary E. Burger.*



January 23, 2021 at 03:34 PM



“ *Kelli Shaffer purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mary E. Burger.*



**Kelli Shaffer** - January 23, 2021 at 03:23 PM



“ *We are so deeply sorry to hear this. I would see Mary at Heinens. She always had a smile and eager to share news about her family. Beautiful Mary, God bless your family💕. Bonnie and Denis Shinhearl (Brandon and Alex)*

**Bonnie Shinhearl** - January 23, 2021 at 01:59 PM