



Mary Eleanor Kocevar

February 21, 1931 - December 23, 2024

Mary Eleanor Kocevar, 93, of Mentor, formerly of Lyndhurst, passed away December 23, 2024 at Mt. St. Joseph Rehab Center. She was born February 21, 1931 in Cleveland, to the late William and Gertrude Raper.

Mary was a dedicated educator at the junior high and college levels in the fields of History, English and Speech for over 40 years. She was also involved in many after school activities such as Student Council and Safety Patrol, but her favorite was the student theatrical and musical productions she staged at St. Clare in Lyndhurst and St. Mary's in Mentor. She was an avid reader her entire life and always managed to learn something new from everything she read.

Mary spent many hours in support of youth sports as her children played in the Lyndhurst baseball and softball leagues. She then went on to become a fan of basketball, soccer and hockey as her grandchildren explored new activities. Her own athletic passion was golf as a founding member of Orchard Hills Golf Club. She also played competitive bridge and took home a few trophies in each area.

As an alumna of Notre Dame Academy '48 and College '52, she remained active in their Alumnae Association where she served as president. She also donated her daughter, Maggie's, Holocaust research to found the Tolerance

Resource Center at Notre Dame College, where Maggie was also an alum.

But most importantly, she was Mom, Nannie, Gram, G. Gram and "Eek" to her family and friends, and Mrs. Kocevar to her thousands of former students.

Survivors include her children, Sarah Strang, William (Angela) Kocevar, Kathryn E. Kocevar (Jackie Scott), and Julie (David) DeVries; grandchildren, Elizabeth (Robert) Choromanski, Daniel Kocevar, Kevin Strang, Patrick (fiancée, Olivia Young) Strang, Michael DeVries, Joseph (Kara) DeVries, and Robert DeVries; great-grandchildren Taylor, Ryan, Annalise, and Madilynnn, and many other loving family members and friends.

Preceding Mary in death are her daughter, Margaret Kocevar and brother, William Raper.

The family will receive friends from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Monday, December 30, 2024, at St. Mary of the Assumption Church, 8460 Mentor Ave., Mentor, Ohio 44060. A funeral mass will begin at 11:00 a.m. at the church.

A private family graveside service in Calvary Cemetery, Cleveland, will be held at a later time.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Sisters of Notre Dame, USA, 13000 Auburn Rd, Chardon, Ohio 44024 and their website www.sndusa.org or Mt. St. Joseph Rehab Center, 21800 Chardon Rd., Euclid, Ohio 44117 and their website <https://mountstjoseph.net/donate/>

Arrangements entrusted to the Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home and Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave., Mentor, Ohio 44060.

Offer condolences at www.brunners.com

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **30**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary Of The Assumption Church
8560 Mentor Avenue
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 255-3404
<https://stmarysmentor.org/>

Funeral Mass

DEC **30**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary Of The Assumption Church
8560 Mentor Avenue
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 255-3404
<https://stmarysmentor.org/>

Tribute Wall

RM

“ *Maggie and Eleanor will always be linked in my heart ,like mother, like daughter. Two very special women; bright, compassionate, funny, passionate about social justice and the oppressed. My condolences to the Kocevar clan, we've lost another bright light. May she rest in peace.*

Rachel Morris - January 06, 2025 at 02:21 PM

MP

“ *I loved our trips to Cleveland as a kid and have such wonderful memories of Aunt Eleanor. We will miss her. Like my brother Bill, all our love to Sarah, Bill, Kate and Julie and your families.*

Marty Pallante - December 29, 2024 at 08:13 AM

WP

“ *Aunt Eleanor was a big bright personality with an even bigger heart. Condolences Sarah, Bill, Kate, and Julie.*

❤️ *Bill*

William Pallante - December 27, 2024 at 04:55 PM

CO

“ *Kate, Sarah and family, know this; your mother was a remarkable woman, her kindness and acceptance of others will always be remembered. Her light will always shine brightly in your heart and the hearts of those of us she welcomed into her heart and home. Many years may have long passed but her open embrace will not be forgotten. Sending you strength and comfort during this difficult time.
TaDa!*

Coleen - December 27, 2024 at 03:02 PM

LK

“ *I never had the opportunity to meet Mary, but her daughter, Sarah, is a lovely person to work with. Sending prayers of comfort to Sarah and family.* ”

Lisa Krok - December 27, 2024 at 02:03 PM