



Laurel L. Ballard

May 19, 1925 - December 17, 2016

Laurel L. Ballard of Cuyler, NY, passed away December 17, 2016, at Cortland Park at the age of 91. Born in Batavia, NY, to James and Mildred Uphill, she was preceded in death by her parents, sister Rosemary Lenz, husband John Ballard, Sr., and special friend Wayne Coon. She attended Buffalo State Teacher's College and obtained her Master's degree from Syracuse University. She taught home economics for many years at Rushford, NY, and Truxton, NY, and food administration and food service at BOCES in Cortland, NY. She was a popular teacher. She was an avid reader (she was a literacy volunteer for many years), Scrabble player, and loved jigsaw puzzles. She was a very hard worker, devoted wife, friend, mother and grandmother. She always put others' needs before her own. She was a former communicant of St. Patrick's Church, Truxton, NY, and Saint Lawrence's Church of DeRuyter, NY.

She is survived by her daughter, Elaine C. Stevens of Pompey, NY; sons, Paul and wife Mary Alice of Elba, NY, John and wife Brenda formerly of DeRuyter, NY, and now Nashville, TN, and Barry and wife Kathy of Groton, NY; 10 grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren; sisters, Phyllis Armstrong of Texas and Nancy Raab of Webster, NY; 2 sisters-in-law, Virginia White of Sayre, PA, and LaVergne, TN, and Ellen Hoisington of Franklinville, NY; and brother-in-law, Fred Ballard of Fillmore, NY.

A special thank you to Elizabeth Brewster House of Homer, NY, James Square Health and Rehabilitation Centre in Syracuse, NY, and Cortland Park Rehabilitation and Nursing Center in Cortland, NY. Each place showed their care and compassion for our mother, which we will always be grateful for. Some of you were exceptional—thank you.

There will be no calling hours and a memorial service will be held at a later date. Arrangements by Ballweg & Lunsford Funeral Home, LaFayette, NY.

Tribute Wall



“ *To the Ballard family,
Mrs. Ballard was one of my favorite teachers of all time! It was such fun to be in a class where you could actually do something with your hands and not just listen to lectures and answer questions. The skills we learned in Home Ec we have used for all our lives, and that is a special gift. Mrs. Ballard was patient, kind, and encouraging, all attributes that make a wonderful teacher and mom (and grandma, too!). So sorry for your loss. She was a special lady. Heaven will be glad to receive her!
With sincerest sympathy, Helen Arnold Leet, Steve Leet and children*

December 22, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *My sincere condolences to the family. Laurel was such a very special sister-in-law. I remember her with such fondness. I regret that it has been so many years since my last visit with her. Too many miles between us. As you know, you were all blessed to have had such a wonderful mother. May God comfort each of you with your wonderful memories. With love, Aunt Glenda*

Heart - December 22, 2016 at 12:00 AM

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“ To Mrs. Ballard's family,
I am a former food services, Cortland BOCES, student of this dear lady, she was my teacher for my junior & senior years-1973-1975, I went to Cincinnatus school- riding the bus that long for 2 years. Mrs. Ballard was such a great teacher and so patient with me. She was so professional , yet so approachable. She awarded me with student of the year after my junior year, I can still see her smile at the great approval she graced me with. She helped form my work ethic, also her helper, Mrs. Perkins. I will always remember her with much gratitude. My deepest sympathies to you all.
Bunny Fish Schlegel

Candle of Love - December 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM