



Mildred Agnes Staffa

August 8, 1923 - February 19, 2011

Mildred Agnes Staffa, 87, of The Bernardine Apartments and formerly of Elton Avenue, died Saturday, February 19, 2011 at Crouse Hospital in Syracuse, New York. Born in Syracuse, New York, Millie was the daughter of the late Herman and Elizabeth (Trageser) Yehle. She retired as a comptroller from Crucible Steel after 15 years of service. She was a communicant of St. James Church and was a member of their Requiem Choir. She was a member of Onondaga Hill Senior Citizens and she enjoyed Opera and the Symphony. She was predeceased by her husband, Felix S. Staffa in 1998. Millie is survived by five daughters, Betsy (Bob) Lydon of Syracuse, New York, Ann Marie (Tom) Rondinello of Concord, North Carolina, Jeanne Steinberg of Mattydale, New York, Virginia Staffa of Syracuse, New York and Veronica (Jim) Peterson of Syracuse, New York; two sons, Paul (Effie) Staffa of Cleveland, North Carolina and Leonard (Mary) Staffa of Milton, Massachusetts; one sister, Ethel Gardner of New Jersey; two brothers, Gerald Duerr of North Syracuse, New York and Wendell Duerr of Liverpool, New York; seven grandchildren; several nieces and nephews. Funeral Services will be held Friday, February 25, 2011, 9:15 a.m. at Ballweg & Lunsford Funeral Home, 4612 S. Salina Street, Syracuse, New York and 10:00 a.m. in St. James Church, 4845 S. Salina Street, Syracuse, New York where a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated. Entombment will be in St. Mary's Cemetery Mausoleum, 4100 E. Genesee Street, Dewitt, New York. Calling hours will be held Thursday, February 24, 2011, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. at Ballweg & Lunsford

Funeral Home, 4612 S. Salina Street, Syracuse, New York. Contributions may be made to St. James Church, 4845 S. Salina Street, Syracuse, NY 13205.

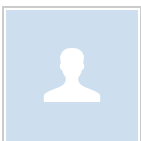
Tribute Wall



“ *Ballweg & Lunsford Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mildred Agnes Staffa*

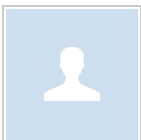


Ballweg & Lunsford Funeral Home - February 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mrs. Staffa was truly a blessing to know. At St James she was part of & sang at both our Dad & Mom's funerals. She also sang at Mary Pat's wedding. We know so well how hard it is to not have mom here with us . We pray for our Lord to comfort you in your grief. And for Mrs. Staff to have peace & happiness in heaven. God Bless, Barb McCann Mary Pat McCann Stoddard*

February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Though not known for long, ""Grandma Staffa"" was the centerpiece of family gatherings. She was the bridge to relatives unknown. Through her, everyone knew each other, and everyone knew, they were of the same blood. Despite her absence, let no bridge go burned and let there be no severance of family ties.*

February 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Ann and Tommy, So sorry for your loss. My heartfelt sympathy to both of you. Love, Mary Frances, Dominique and DeanXOXOXOXO

February 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ We will miss you mom for your smile and your strength. We love you!

February 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Hey Gram, I love you and will miss you greatly. I know you'll watch over us all :-)

February 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Did you all know Gerry is a month younger than your Mom? Figure it out. I'll always remember how your Mom welcomed me with open arms into this wonderful family. One of our fondest memories is of Millie singing At Gerry's 80th birthday party. What a joy. And Gerry taking her to lunch. God blessed us with her.

February 24, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Well Mom ~~ I got thru it. You knew I could. I did lose it when the choir sang "Ave Maria", what a wonderful job they did!! You heard them, their voices were exceptional today. Father Chryst was wonderful. I have a quote to share: "Family seems to have two predominant functions: to provide warmth & love in time of need, and to drive each other insane" I'm so proud to be your daughter~~you are missed~~HUGE HUG !!!

February 24, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Jeanne we are saddened for you and your family's loss. We are keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers. May the loving memories of her carry you through this period. We love and miss you.

February 23, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Summer. Kids yelling, splashing, flip-flops and watermelon. The chunk of horseshoes hitting the stake. All the mothers leaning in to each other over a picnic table, laughing, confiding, and trading memories in their white sandals and cotton dresses. Aunt Merle. Aunt Mary, Aunt Millie, my Mom, Aunt Angie and Grandma, all gone but never forgotten. Aunt Millie - big voice, bigger heart, biggest smile. Loved you.

February 23, 2011 at 12:00 AM



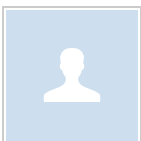
“ I knew Millie for 20 years in St James Choir, but I heard her singing long before I met her. Just a few weeks after my family moved into St James Parish, I heard her solo of "Oh Holy Night" on Christmas Eve. I remember thinking how wonderful it was that the choir had someone with such a beautiful voice. She was an inspiration to all of us in the choir, with her dedication to the choir and her willingness to try to help other choir members. I have many memories of Millie. One of my favorites is when she would come in after she had been to a concert or opera that she really liked. She always said on those occasions, "It was grand--simply grand!" I would like to add that Millie will be missed by all of us, and that knowing her was simply grand.

February 23, 2011 at 12:00 AM



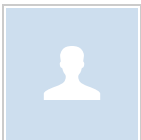
“ We never meet, but the storys we heard will always be in our hearts.God bless.

February 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Jeanne - I am so sorry to hear about your Mom. Seeing you have such a large family, I'm sure you will all find comfort and support in each other.

February 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Aunt Tiny was the life of every party and family get together.I remember dancing polkas,and singing with her.What a beautiful woman.I will miss you! Love ,Gary

February 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Jeanne and family -Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers.*

February 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Love you very much Grandma, ill miss you*

February 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *What wonderful opera trips we enjoyed over the years. We went to the Met, Glimmerglas, Oswego and of course our very own Syracuse Opera which she supported for many years. What wonderful fellowship we had on those trips. As a member of the Opera Club of Syracuse Alumnae Committee she helped us decide which operas we would be attending. Always in our memory is Millie's smiling face and beautiful voice. Patsy and Dick O'Neil*

February 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Just spoke with her on Wednesday and helped her to her car as parking lot was so icy. My sincerest condolences to all the Staffa children and family. She will be greatly missed at St James.*

February 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Jeanne, Betsy..and the rest of the family... We were saddened to hear of your loss. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this difficult time. We both know the pain of losing a mother..we're here if you need anything. Love always..Doug and Joy Bennett*

February 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ May you find comfort in your memories.....you guys are all in my thoughts and prayers!!

February 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ What sad news! My great card playing friend-you have been such a wonderful friend. I know I will miss you so very much. You made me feel so comfortable at the Senior Center.Everyone will miss you Millie. You were such a vey loving ,caring person. God Bless you, my friend

February 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Virg, I'm sorry to hear about the lost of your mother. My prayers are with you and your family.

February 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ The Officers and Membersof the Mattydale Fire Departmentjoin in extendingHeartfelt Sympathyto you and your family at thisTime of Sorrow.

February 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ I always will remember how much Aunt Millie loved to sing. My fondest memory is when I had a small 50th wedding anniversary party for my parents. Aunt Millie and my daughter Jill sang ...Let Me Call You Sweetheart!! Heaven has a new choir member, but we will all miss her. Love, Debbie

February 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Len, Mary, Max, Steven and extended family, We are saddened to hear of the sudden loss of your dear Mother. But what a blessing to know that she enjoyed her independence until the end of her life. We hope that soon your sadness will be lifted, leaving in its place only warm and happy memories. We send our love and condolences.

February 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ I was so shocked to hear about your mother at church on Sunday. I saw her there and the senior center. Your mother was an inspiration, she was always in a hurry because she had somewhere to go. Jean and I are both sorry for your loss. May God bless you all in your time of sorrow. Phyllis LaFrance

February 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ I remember working with Millie in the early 1970s when I was organist and choir director at St. James Church in the Valley. She had such a magnificent voice and was always available as a substitute organist. Along with so many others, I have such rich memories of her and send you all heartfelt condolences.

February 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ My dear Aunt Millie, Though I am saddened by your loss, I can't help but smile at the wonderful memories I have of you. Heavens Choir now has their leading lady...

February 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *My beloved sister you will always live on my heart. I will miss our phone chats, and newsy letters.*

February 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *My mother, my friend, my common sense angel, you will be missed by us all. Love you lots, Mom...*

February 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM



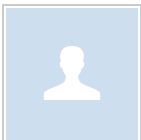
“ *Love you Mom!!! I'm so glad I took all those pictures.*

February 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *That little question mark at the end of my previous post was a heart, which unfortunately did not translate in ascii or whatever...so I will make one here:*

February 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Aunt Millie was such a ball of life and energy! Perhaps my favorite memory of her is the time I ran into her at our mutual podiatrist's office. I went over to her to say hello and we talked a bit. She said she was on her way to a luncheon where she would be singing. A woman sitting near us was listening to our conversation, and asked Aunt Mill to sing something right then. Aunt Mill looked at her watch and said, ""It's almost lunchtime, why don't I sing grace?"" Which she did, to everyone's applause and delight! She was one helluva lady, and she will be missed. ?*

February 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM