



Mary Ann Benaka

September 20, 1934 - March 24, 2018

Mary Ann Benaka, 83, passed away March 24, 2018, at Midland Hospice House in Topeka. Mary Ann was born September 20, 1934, in Grand Island, Nebraska, the youngest of four children to parents, Manley and Elsie Schenck.

Mary Ann's family moved to North Platte, Nebraska when she started first grade, graduating from North Platte High School in the class of 1952. Following graduation she came to Topeka to visit her Aunt and ultimately moved here. Mary Ann met Roy Benaka on a blind date to the Mexican Fiesta. Roy and Mary Ann were married on Thanksgiving Day, 1953; she enjoyed being with the love of her life for 56 years. They attended St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Faith Lutheran Church and were actively involved with Topeka Lutheran School for many years.

As a child in first grade, she volunteered during WWII making lap blankets for the enlisted. She worked at Walgreens in Hastings, Nebraska prior to moving to Topeka. Once in Topeka she worked in canteen services at Winter General Hospital briefly, and then began her career at Southwestern Bell, retiring from ATT in 1990 after 28 years. She was a proud union member and steward of the Communication Workers of America and a member of the APWU auxiliary. Following her retirement she continued being involved with the Telephone Pioneers, Active Prime Timers, KITS, and the Holiday Junior High Class of

1950 as a partner. She enjoyed volunteering with Girl Scouts, NOTOMA and the Democrats. Mary Ann was a certified KC Royals fan and enjoyed watching their games. Among her hobbies was a love for yard flowers, house plants, and her Mr. Kitty and Ms. Kitty, diligently tending to their needs. She enjoyed collecting cook books, cooking and eating out.

Mary Ann is survived by four sons, Tom (Charlotte), Tim (Sue), John (Dayna) all of Topeka, Mark (Cindy) St. Marys, and daughter Sylvia (Todd) Warner, Overland Park; sister, Marge Roy, Topeka and brother, William Schenck, McCook, NE; ten grandchildren, Alisha (Andy) Francis, Matthew (Laura Burton), Sean (Angie), Aaron (Shila), William (Tina), Dianne (Chris), David, Jack, Leah, and Audrey Warner; and eight great-grandchildren, Reed, Amelia, Darien, Damien, Dalton, Kayla, Haylee, Phoenix and Jerry.

Preceding Mary Ann in death was her beloved husband Roy in 2010, parents and brother, John Schenck.

Mary Ann's funeral will be 11 a.m. Saturday, March 31, 2018, at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 S.W. Urish Road, Topeka, Kansas 66614, with visitation one hour prior. Burial will follow at Memorial Park Cemetery.

Mary Ann requests memorial contributions be made to Topeka Lutheran School Scholarship Fund or Faith Lutheran Church, in care of Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home.

Mary Ann's family expresses their sincere appreciation to all the caregivers their mother encountered in her life for the service and kindness they provided in her time of need.

Condolences may be sent online to www.kevinbrennanfamily.com.

Cemetery Details

Memorial Park Cemetery

3616 SW 6th Street
Topeka, KS 66606

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 31. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home
2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
(785) 272-7888
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

Funeral Service

MAR 31. 11:00 AM (CT)

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2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
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Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Ann Benaka*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *I miss you Mom. Love you!*

mark - April 19, 2018 at 10:20 AM



“ *Dear Tom and family of Mary Ann Benaka, I just read the notice of your mother's passing. I send my condolences for the untimely death of your mother, my friend and former co-worker. I am deeply saddened by the news and pray to God to give you strength to overcome the loss.” Sorry I could not be there for there for her home-going service. Wanda Cowan-Handy*

Wanda Cowan Handy - April 03, 2018 at 10:10 AM



“ *I am so sorry for your family's loss. Mary Ann was a dear person. I enjoyed knowing her through church. She was a very dedicated member and a kind person. May God be with you.*

Jean Anne Lietz - April 02, 2018 at 06:44 PM



“ *We just wanted to send out thoughts and prayers to the family and friends of Mary Ann. She was a great lady and I always enjoyed being in her company. Sorry we could not be there for the funeral. All our love,
Chad, Margaret and Elias Benaka*

Chad Benaka - March 31, 2018 at 12:04 PM

LC

“ Love to you all during a time of grieving and celebration of a long life lived that touched many with her spirit of giving and strength! Love the Cross Family

Lori Cross - March 30, 2018 at 12:07 PM

LF

“ Love The Cross Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Mary Ann Benaka.



Love The Cross Family - March 30, 2018 at 11:50 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Ann Benaka.



March 29, 2018 at 10:12 PM

PT

“ Mary Ann was a dedicated volunteer for the YWCA. I appreciated her friendship and the kind words she offered to others. I'm grateful for every association I had with her. Phyllis Todd

Phyllis L. Todd - March 29, 2018 at 05:02 PM

BP

“ To the family,
May all your memories...
Comfort you during this difficult time
My deepest condolences



Bonnie Price - March 29, 2018 at 02:23 PM

BB

“ To Tim, Tom and the rest of the family, our thoughts and prayers go out to you all.

Bill & Joyce Broils - March 29, 2018 at 11:13 AM

WK

“ Sorry for your loss Mary Ann was a kind and beautiful lady Doyle and Willa Keyes

Willa Keyes - March 29, 2018 at 10:36 AM

CH

“ Sorry for the families loss I know its not easy she was a kind and gentle person to be around. Mary Ann made the best German Chocolate Cake I ever tasted in my life and she made it just for myself !
DEEPEST CONDOLENCES
CHARLIE TAEKO CRIPPS

CHARLIE - March 28, 2018 at 03:01 PM

KG

“ She was a beautiful lady. I was privileged to care for both Mary Ann and Roy.

She loved and cared for her husband in spite of her own severe orthopedic problems which did not have a good easy solution. She was brave and caring and never did complain even when the situation was unpleasant. Her faith in Jesus was demonstrated by her love for all. Kenneth Gimple MD. orthopedic surgeon retired.

Kenneth Gimple - March 28, 2018 at 11:31 AM

MS

“ So sorry for your lose Tim. God be with all of you at this time.

Marge Scully.

Marge Scully - March 28, 2018 at 10:35 AM

MW

“ Mark and Monica Wacker purchased the Enchant ed Cottage for the family of Mary Ann Benaka.



Mark and Monica Wacker - March 27, 2018 at 07:04 PM

DB

“ Sorry to hear of Mary Ann's death. Thoughts and prayers are with the whole family.

Donna Brooks (Mellring)

Donna Mellring Brooks - March 27, 2018 at 02:01 PM

GG

“ *My condolences.
Gerry Grummons*

Gerry Grummons - March 26, 2018 at 03:49 PM

TF

“ *Prayers for peace and comfort during this difficult time, we are so sorry for your loss.*

The Vollertsen Family - March 26, 2018 at 12:15 PM

TF

The Vollertsen Family

The Vollertsen Family - March 26, 2018 at 12:15 PM

KB

“ *So sorry to hear of your loss. What a special person! Please know we are thinking of you all.*

Kevin Bennett - March 26, 2018 at 11:14 AM

DT

“ *MaryAnn was a very special lady. Friendly, helpful and generous were just a few traits of this wonderful woman. Eager to help and get the job done was her motto. Prayers for the family.*

Diane Taylor - March 25, 2018 at 08:07 PM