



Mary Jo Washer

October 12, 1935 - March 22, 2026

Mary Joan Washer, who possessed a profound grace and warmth, passed away peacefully on the morning of March 22, 2026, surrounded by family. Born on October 12, 1935, Mary lived a life defined by a quiet strength and a generous spirit that served as the cornerstone of her family and her community.

Mary spent over 30 years serving as a nurse, a vocation that perfectly mirrored her innate desire to care for others. Her commitment to helping was more than a job; it was a calling that she carried with pride and excellence for her lifetime.

Beyond her professional life, Mary was the heart of her family. While many knew her as a dedicated nurse or a loyal friend, she was most cherished by those who lovingly called her Mom, Grandma, Mimi, Aunt Mary, Mother Mary, and Mary Jo. She possessed a rare ability to find beauty in the everyday, instilling a deep appreciation for life's simple joys in her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Whether she was sharing a story, offering a word of wisdom, or simply providing a steady presence, her influence as the family's matriarch was a constant guiding light. Many have shared that she made them a better person. We will cherish the memories of the love she modeled.

Mary Jo is preceded in death by her former husband, Harlow Washer; her parents, Mabel and John Willis; her children, Deborah Blanco, Vicky Washer and Keith Washer; her brothers, Frank and Bob Willis; and nieces and nephews.

Mary Jo is survived by her son, Mark (Gayatry) Washer; son-in-law, Larry Blanco; granddaughter, Mary Frances (Brian) Reed; grandson, Anthony (Evie) Blanco; granddaughter, Marissa (Adam) Bundy; numerous great-grandchildren; sister, Judy Gilliland; nieces; nephews; great-nieces and nephews; and many devoted friends.

Rosary will be prayed at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 28, 2026, at Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 3601 SW 17th Street, Topeka KS 66604, where Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. Mary Jo will be privately inurned in Mount Calvary Cemetery at a later date.

Mary Jo's Funeral Mass will be live-streamed on the funeral home's Facebook page, you can follow this link. <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063672125244>

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church, or the Capper Foundation of Topeka and sent in care of Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614. Condolences may be sent online to www.kevinbrennanfamily.com.

Previous Events

Rosary

MAR 28. 10:00 AM (CT)

Most Pure Heart of Mary Church
3601 SW 17th Street
Topeka, KS 66604

Mass of Christian Burial

MAR 28. 10:30 AM (CT)

Most Pure Heart of Mary Church
3601 SW 17th Street
Topeka, KS 66604

Tribute Wall



“ *Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mary Jo Washer*



Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - April 08 at 11:40 AM

SS

“ *Mary, my deepest condolences on the passing of your grandmother. I didn't know her well, but I never saw her without a smile on her face. She was so very gracious.*

Sheila Stueve

Sheila Stueve - March 27 at 09:51 AM