



Mary Kay Aho

February 1, 1954 - January 22, 2022

Mary Kay Aho, age 67, of Rudyard, Michigan, died on January 22, 2022, in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. She was born on February 1, 1954, in Sault Ste. Marie, to Glen Rye and Theresa Marie (Vigneaux) McDowell.

Mary Kay grew up in Rudyard, Michigan, and graduated from Rudyard High School. She attended Lake Superior State University and Western Michigan University, where she received a bachelor's in education. She taught for several years in Petoskey, Michigan, and returned to Rudyard a few years later to help with bookkeeping for her father's business, McDowell Equipment. There, she met the love of her life, Ernest Edward Aho, and they married on February 24, 1979. They built a home south of Rudyard and began their family, raising two children. In 1988, Mary Kay started working at Rudyard Area Schools and for nearly thirty years worked as a long-term special education substitute teacher and library clerk, retiring in 2017.

Mary Kay was a long-term member and past president of the Friends of the Library in Rudyard. She also was a proud supporter of the New Hope Community Church in Kinross, Michigan. She led many bible studies throughout the years.

Mary Kay loved gardening, knitting, reading, baking, and scrapbooking. Most of all, Mary Kay loved Ernie, her children, grandchildren, siblings, and

extended family.

Mary Kay is survived by her husband, Ernest Aho; son, Matthew (Stacey) Aho of Fredonia, Wisconsin; daughter, Jenna (Jan-Michael) Stump of Traverse City, Michigan; grandchildren, Aurora Aho, Meadow Aho, Jack Stump, and Michael Stump; brothers, Gary (Carrie) McDowell, Bob (Bernadette) McDowell, Ron McDowell, Jim McDowell all of Rudyard, Kevin (Kristen) McDowell of Gaston, Oregon; sisters, JoAnn (Walt) Betcher of Trout Lake, Michigan, Karen (Dick) Boncek of New Britain, Connecticut, Annette (Bob) Malaski of Rudyard, Susan Wilds of Sault Ste. Marie; sister-in-law Shirley (Don) Nelson of Abbotsford, Wisconsin; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great nephews, great-great nephews, and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her father, Glen McDowell, her mother, Teresa McDowell and her brother-in-law Michael Wilds.

Visitation will be held on January 29, 2022, from 11:00 AM till 1:00 PM at Galer Funeral Home in Pickford, Michigan, with the funeral service to follow at 1:00 PM. The family respectfully asks that masks be worn.

Burial will be at N. Rudyard Cemetery in the Spring.

Memorial donations can be made to the Rudyard Public Library in Mary Kay's honor

Galer Funeral Homes & Cremation in Pickford, Michigan is serving the family. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.galerfuneralhomes.com.

Previous Events

Gathering Time

JAN 29. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Family Life Funeral Homes - Pickford
24549 S. M-129
Pickford, MI 49774
(906) 647-3400
flfh@familylifefh.com
<https://www.familylifefuneralhomes.com/>

Memorial Service

JAN 29. 1:00 PM (ET)

Family Life Funeral Homes - Pickford
24549 S. M-129
Pickford, MI 49774
(906) 647-3400
flfh@familylifefh.com
<https://www.familylifefuneralhomes.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Kay Aho*

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ *Mary Kay Aho*

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ *Mary Kay Aho*

September 01, 2022 at 07:49 PM



“ *Our sympathy to Mary Kay's family.*

Jim and Serena Forgrave

Serena & Jim Forgrave - January 29, 2022 at 06:28 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Kay Aho.*



January 28, 2022 at 12:57 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Kay Aho.*



January 28, 2022 at 10:32 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mary Kay Aho.*



January 27, 2022 at 09:21 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mary Kay Aho.*



January 27, 2022 at 07:03 PM



“ *Our condolences to the family of Mary Kay. It is especially sad to lose someone so young, May her memory always be with you. My memory of Mary Kay she was a caring and lovely lady. We will keep the whole family in our prayers.*
Our sincere condolences
The Humberstone's

JOHN HUMBERSTONE - January 27, 2022 at 03:40 PM

MH

“ *Mark and Jane Erickson and Kathryne Hill purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mary Kay Aho.*



Mark and Jane Erickson and Kathryne Hill - January 27, 2022
at 01:49 PM

SK

“ *Our condolences to the family of Mary Kay. May her memory be a blessing. We would like to share our sympathy in person at the funeral, but both of us are ill. We'll say a prayer for all of you, Orv and Sue Kabat*

susan kabat - January 27, 2022 at 11:15 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mary Kay Aho.*



January 26, 2022 at 08:30 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mary Kay Aho.*



January 26, 2022 at 06:33 PM

LF

“ Love, The Jim Watts Family purchased the Count ry Basket Blooms for the family of Mary Kay Aho.



Love, The Jim Watts Family - January 26, 2022 at 06:28 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mary Kay Aho.



January 26, 2022 at 02:46 PM

AP

“ Anne Papineau lit a candle in memory of Mary Kay Aho



Anne Papineau - January 26, 2022 at 12:37 PM

TD

“ The Planning and Parks Department purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mary Kay Aho.



The Planning and Parks Department - January 26, 2022 at 12:25 PM



“ *Tim Ann Bradley purchased the Simply Elegant S pathiphyllum for the family of Mary Kay Aho.*



Tim Ann Bradley - January 26, 2022 at 12:07 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mary Kay Aho.*



January 26, 2022 at 10:56 AM



“ *Doug & Cheryl Erickson purchased the Simply El egant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mary Kay Aho.*



Doug & Cheryl Erickson - January 26, 2022 at 10:48 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Kay Aho.*



January 26, 2022 at 09:37 AM

GC

“ So sorry for your loss! What a wonderful lady! Loved working with her! Always smiling and so kind to everyone! My thoughts and prayers to the family! With sympathy Gloria CLegg

Gordi Clegg - January 25, 2022 at 09:50 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Kay Aho.



January 25, 2022 at 09:26 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mary Kay Aho.



January 25, 2022 at 09:21 PM

BM

“ She was the most loving and kindest person you could ever know. I loved my big sister so much and I will miss her forever but Ernle said you wanted to have tea with Mom again and they are together. Bless you Mary Kay

Bob McDowell - January 25, 2022 at 08:42 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mary Kay Aho.*



January 25, 2022 at 07:55 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Mary Kay Aho.*



January 25, 2022 at 07:15 PM



“ *Stacey' Matt and the entire family - you have my heartfelt condolences. It sounds like she was a beautiful woman, loved by so many. I will keep everyone in my prayers as you navigate this difficult time. Love to you all - LuAnn & Jim Hurley*

LuAnn Hurley - January 25, 2022 at 05:22 PM



My favorite all time Mary Kay story is one day my brother Dave came home from playing. He told mom, "I'm going to marry Mary Kay". My mom said, "you can't do that. She's your cousin!" Dave said, "oh my, does that mean that I have to marry a complete stranger?"

Patty McDowell - January 26, 2022 at 08:34 PM