



Mary Louise Schlachta

August 18, 1931 - October 6, 2020

Mary Louise (nee Cronin) Schlachta, of Phoenixville, PA, passed away at Exton Senior Living on Tuesday, October 6, 2020. She was the wife of the late Captain Frank J. Schlachta, U.S. Army, retired. Mary Lou was born in the Olney section of Philadelphia, PA, and was the daughter of the late Anna D. (Mohan) Cronin and John W. Cronin. Raised in Warminster, Bucks County, she came to Phoenixville by way of the Valley Forge Army Hospital. Captain Schlachta suffered a heart attack at the Berlin Wall in 1962, and after his medical discharge, it was necessary that he resided near a military hospital. Residents since 1963, their three children were graduates of Phoenixville High School.

A graduate of Hahnemann University School of Medical Technology, Mary Lou worked at a small laboratory in Norristown, and from there went to GlaxoSmithKline Laboratories, retiring in 1991. She had previously worked as a legal secretary in Philadelphia and Norristown, but changed careers upon the death of her husband.

Over the years, Mary Lou participated in various clubs and organizations involving her children, such as the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Little League, and PTA activities. As the children grew older, she would join the Women's Club of Phoenixville, Soroptimist International, Phoenixville Community Concerts, and would participate in functions at the Officers' Wives Club at the Valley Forge

Army Hospital. She was a social member of the VFW Post 1564, as well as the American Legion Post 482, where she previously had worked as a bartender. Mary Lou was also a member of the Vereinigung Erzgebirge German Club in Warminster, PA and the Roamers Hiking Club. She was an active Republican Committeewoman in her local East Pikeland precinct.

Mrs. Schlachta was preceded in death by three children, Frank E. Schlachta in 1994, Joanna L. Pritts in 2002, and Eric P. Schlachta in 2009. She is survived by eight grandchildren, David B., husband of Angel Pritts, Alicia M., wife of Shawn Hooker, Brent D. Pritts, husband of Megan Hicks, Samantha L. Schlachta, Jocelyn A. Schlachta, Jordan G. Schlachta, Sydney H. Schlachta, and Harrison J. Schlachta; two step-grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend her funeral ceremony at the GraceCrossing Community Church, 248 Church Street, Phoenixville, PA on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 11:00 am. Officiating will be Rev. Ronald Hughes. Friends will be received from 10:30 am - 11:00 on Tuesday. Mary Lou will be laid to rest with her beloved husband, Frank, in Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, VA at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in her name to the Disabled American Veterans by visiting www.IHelpVeterans.org. Condolences may be made by visiting www.PhoenixvilleFuneralHome.com. Arrangements are being handled by the Campbell - Ennis - Klotzbach Funeral Home, Inc., Phoenixville, Pennsylvania.

Cemetery Details

Arlington National Cemetery

1 Memorial Drive
Arlington, VA 22211

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 13. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

GraceCrossing Community Church
248 Church Street
Phoenixville, PA 19460

Funeral Ceremony

OCT 13. 11:00 AM (ET)

GraceCrossing Community Church
248 Church Street
Phoenixville, PA 19460

Tribute Wall

AM

“ Another remembrance of Mary Lou my then wife and I had. We had just gone over to the Kimberton Fire Hall to vote. A line formed from the door, all way out to the road. We were at the very end of the line. There for a short while. For April, an unusually hot day. We saw Mary Lou come out, hand some papers to a worker. Saw us, mention something to him. He came down to us. Saw my wife with a walker, me with a cane. He said, come in to vote. I said, That's not fair to the people waiting in line. He said Mary Lou, knowing my wife's medical condition. Not good to be out in the hot sun for very long. We thanked him over and over again. Went into vote. Before we left made sure we thanked her for her help. A TRUE Christian lady. Art Mauger. Former Church member, and long time neighbor.

Art Mauger - July 19, 2021 at 03:55 PM

AM

Hard to believe almost 5 yrs she in Heaven. We were neighbors for MANY years. Whenever it snowed I would use my snow blower, open our driveway. Then open hers. She one of the most gentle ladies you ever would know. My continued Christian love & sympathy. Art Mauger

Art Mauger - February 17, 2025 at 05:30 PM

MI

“ I loved her peppy outlook and her willingness to put with her youngest son's buddies, me included.
She was a special mom, patriot and community member.
Ted and I sealed her driveway one Year and she gave us a “a little extra for college.”

Will miss her and Eric Paul.

Mike Epps

mike - October 25, 2020 at 05:00 PM

BC

“ We were very sad to hear of Mary Lou's passing last week. She was Aunt Mary Lou to me and my family, and I have many very fond memories of spending time with her, her family and our extended family in the Phili area, either during holidays (primarily Thanksgiving) and at several family reunions. Most of these events were many years ago. Thankfully we stayed in touch, and it was great to hear of her hiking adventures in recent years. Most recently I was really glad that my kids (then 10 & 12) finally had the chance to meet her at her birthday party a year ago June. We're so glad we made the trip. We were unable to attend her memorial service due to Vermont's quarantine restrictions for traveling to a Covid Red state or county which was very disappointing. Such strange and sad times that we all currently live in. Hopefully we'll all see brighter days soon. Aunt Mary Lou you will be missed dearly. May you rest in peace.



Bob, Sara, Ty & Kait Christensen

Bob Christensen - October 20, 2020 at 08:29 PM

AM

“ My late wife Judy Lynn and I were very good friends and neighbors to Mary Lou, for 35 yrs. Each time it snowed, I would run over with my snow blower to open up her driveway. She would ask how can I pay you? I said no charge, you would do same for me. She ALWAYS had such a beautiful smile on her face. She was kind to every one she met. She would tell us stories of some of the Phila.Eagles, when she had to draw blood from them. The way, to me, she accepted all her kids, passing was she knew she would see them again. And I believe she has. One time my wife had to fly down to Florida to visit friends. We prayed someone be on the plane she knew. NOT knowing Mary Lou had a brother she was visiting. She was on the SAME plane, as my wife! We also saw her wonderful smile, for MANY yrs., in the Old Baptist Church of Phoenixville. Heaven is a LOT brighter with her prescence!! May God comfort ALL the remaining family.

Art Mauger - October 20, 2020 at 05:09 PM



“ 2 files added to the album VIDEO TRIBUTE



Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home - October 10, 2020 at 11:33 AM

MM

“ So sorry to hear of her passing. We share the same first name. I loved chatting with her when the Veterans would come to our church (St. John's UCC). She was a lovely person who endured a lot of sadness but did so with grace. I will miss her. RIP.
Mary Louise Miller

Mary Louise Miller - October 07, 2020 at 02:20 PM

FM

“ From Jerry and Helen Mealey purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Mary Louise Schlachta.



From Jerry and Helen Mealey - October 07, 2020 at 11:47 AM

SP

“ Syl and I share our finest condolences on the passing of dear Mary Louise. We have fond memories of our interactions at many Soroptomist events, and pleasant memories of conversation at the Legion.



Sal and Sylvia Katz of Phoenixville PA - October 06, 2020 at 08:56 PM

AU

We shared many coffee breaks in Bevan's Orchard, she was a sweet friend.

audrey - October 07, 2020 at 02:27 PM

DS

I was so sorry to hear about Mary Louise. I got to know her when the Veterans would come to our church (St. John's UCC). She was certainly a most pleasant and gracious person. I am so blessed to have had the opportunity to know her. She was certainly an inspiration.

Doris Selwitz

Doris Selwitz - October 07, 2020 at 03:00 PM