



Nancy J. (McRea) Gallagher

December 30, 1928 - November 25, 2013

Nancy J. (McRea) Gallagher, 84, of Royersford, wife of the late Patrick W. Gallagher Sr., passed away on Monday evening, November 25, 2013, in the Life Care Hospital, West Chester. Born in Tamaqua, PA, she was the daughter of the late Rose (Sweeney) and William T. McRea MD.

Mrs. Gallagher was a member of Sacred Heart R.C. Church in Royersford. She had been employed as an aide at the former Pennhurst State School and Hospital until her 1989 retirement.

Mrs. Gallagher is survived by two daughters, Rose Anne, wife of Francis Neal of West Chester and Nancy J. Gallagher of Royersford; four sons, Patrick W. Gallagher Jr. of Royersford, John P. Gallagher of Phoenixville, Leo B., husband of Selena Gallagher of McLean, VA, and William T., husband of Heather Gallagher of Spring City; and seven grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her brother, William McRea.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend her funeral mass at the Sacred Heart R.C. Church, Lewis Road at Walnut Street, Royersford on Monday, December 2, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. Officiating will be the Rev. Peter J. DiMaria. Interment will follow in the Fernwood Cemetery. Friends will be received at the Church from 9:00-9:45 a.m. Arrangements are being handled by the Cattermole-Klotzbach Funeral Home. Condolences may be offered online at w

www.RoyersfordFuneralHome.com.

Cemetery Details

Fernwood Cemetery

988 S. Township Line Road
Royersford, PA 19468

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 2. 9:00 AM - 9:45 AM (ET)

Sacred Heart Church - Royersford
Lewis Road at Walnut Street
Royersford, PA 19468

Mass

DEC 2. 10:00 AM (ET)

Sacred Heart Church - Royersford
Lewis Road at Walnut Street
Royersford, PA 19468

Tribute Wall

JB

“ When I would stop to see Nancy and Patrick I would knock on the back door and walk in calling hello but I didn't have to go far because they sitting at the kitchen table, Nancy with her coffee. Just to sit and talk whether it was business or just bs, I enjoyed the two of them. Memories of Nancy and Patrick brewing a warm smile to my face. They will truly be missed. RIP Nancy and Patrick you are one once again.

Judi Bates - December 02, 2013 at 09:47 PM

“ My mother has told me repeatedly that I am very lucky as I had the best mother-in-law, actually in-laws. Nancy, and Patrick, were never the dreaded “out law” in-laws. They were both amazing in-laws as they were always happy to see me and treasured me as I made Leo happy. This was remarkable as I really taxed them.

One year when Leo and I came back from Indonesia, I came back in cornrows all over my head. I was the only Asian in cornrows in Royersford, maybe even all of Montgomery County in 1994. Maybe even all of PA! I got a lot of strange looks from people in Genuardis and Dairy Queen, but nothing from Nancy. She just accepted me and we chatted as usual at her kitchen table.

One winter when the kids were young and we were home in Royersford for the holidays, I let my son Kyle go outside in T-shirt and pants. Kyle had been growing up in the tropics then and didn't understand why he needed extra clothes to go outside. Needless to say, he didn't stay out very long. My husband Leo argued with me about this but not Nancy. Nancy accepted my reasoning for letting Kyle out. After Kyle came in for his jacket and boots, Nancy and I chatted as usual at her kitchen table.

Then I made my kids fast from sunup to sundown, for a month, every year! That would have been a doozer but Nancy accepted it all. She would be worried about making sure that there was food and drink when it was time for us to eat. After we broke our fast, we would chat at her kitchen table.

Her kitchen table was when we talked. I got to know her mother, father, brother; how she met Patrick, what it was like to be dating during her time - dancing played a big part then, living with an ice-box – unsatisfactory at keeping milk cool; how her life was as a young mother. Did you know she baked for her family of 8 on a weekly basis? This meant breads, pies, and cakes for 8 people and their friends. This she did by hand, one day a week, for years! She never complained, just told me that this is what she did for her family. I was in awe of her!

Sometimes we would talk about her doctor appointments, her meds, my meds, aches and pains of growing old. We talked about anything and everything. There was one topic that I was a bit

embarrassed to talk about and that was the romance novels we both read. Hers were steamier than mine so I was uncomfortable comparing notes. However, I missed talking about them when she moved onto Detective novels.

Nancy was not very demonstrative but you knew she loved Patrick and her family. I believe she also loved me. I first met her 26 years ago when I was "The Girl" that Leo brought home to meet his parents. First shock for them was that I spoke strange. My accent was much less American then. Second shock was that I was Asian. Till me, all Gallagher's were Irish or Scottish! Third shock was that I am Muslim. When Leo asked me to marry him, they got another shock, as the wedding was to be in Malaysia. Leo and I in 1989 started the trend for destination weddings! After lots of planning, Nancy and Patrick gamely made the trip to Malaysia and made the most of their time there even going so far as to make friends with monkeys and snakes. Everyone in Malaysia loved them.

After a few years, Kyle was born --- two months early and I lost my father the next day. Nancy came down to DC to take care of Kyle and me. You have to understand that Nancy was not a traveller and preferred to stay in her own home but she came down to DC as I was overwhelmed with the new baby and my sadness. I truly appreciated her coming, as I was completely lost that February in 1991.

I have a collection of Hallmark Christmas ornaments that Nancy has purchased for me for over 10 years. She takes care to select them, she buys and has them delivered to her daughters and me. I take that as a clear message that she loved me. Well, at least for as long as I have been getting the ornaments.

May she rest in peace.

Selena Gallagher - December 02, 2013 at 01:49 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Nancy J. (McRea) Gallagher.*



December 02, 2013 at 07:39 AM



“ *2 files added to the album VIDEO TRIBUTE*



Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home - November 29, 2013 at 02:29 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Nancy J. (McRea) Gallagher.*



November 29, 2013 at 10:04 AM



“ *Jack my condolences to you and your family on the loss of your mother. If there is anything I can do for you please let me know. Jim Knott*



James Knott - November 27, 2013 at 08:47 PM

MK

Some of my best memories are of being with Nancy after school or weekends at there house. The only thing that I didn't like were the fire whistles! Love to all the family.

Maryann (Hornak) Koloch - December 02, 2013 at 06:38 PM