



MARY BAKKER

April 24, 1944 - December 29, 2011

Mary Ellen Bakker, 67, of West Milford, passed away on Thursday, December 29, 2011. She was born in Paterson, NJ to Loretta May (nee Kerris) and Richard Van Splinter. Mary Ellen was formerly married to Henry Bakker and together had their three sons. She worked for 27 years as a teacher in the West Milford Township Board of Education while also earning her Master's Degree in education. Mary Ellen was a member of the Newfoundland United Methodist Church for many years and also enjoyed volunteering her time at the West Milford Township Library. She will best be remembered for her love of travel, gardening, singing with the Harmony Singers, and most of being called "Oma" by her cherished grandsons. Mary Ellen is survived by her three loving sons: Kevin Bakker and his wife Antoinette, and Kirk and Keith, all of Hewitt; her dear sister Loretta Sandford and her husband Jim of Wayne; her two cherished grandsons Dillon and Logan; her dear niece Kathryn Coyman of West Milford and her dear nephews; Thomas, Peter, and Paul Sandford. She also leaves behind many close friends, especially her loving companion Bill Cowherd. The family will receive visitors on Saturday, December 31, 2011 from 2pm to 6pm with a funeral service at 5pm during the visitation at the Stickle-Soltesz Funeral Home, 187 LaRue Road, Newfoundland, NJ 07435. Donations may be made in her memory to: the West Milford Township Library, 1490 Union Valley Road, West Milford, NJ 07480. On line condolences and directions: www.sticklesolteszfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

JK

“ Dear Kirk and family I'm sorry to hear about your Mom. She will always be in your hearts. Sincerely, Joan Keeler

Joan Keeler - January 08, 2012 at 10:34 AM

EL

“ For the last 12 years my life was filled with Mary Ellen. She was a vital part of Scrivener's, we worked together as client/coach, she was my Omega partner where she went off singing each day and I danced.
And she was part of our precious Chics. There is a huge gap in my life without her here but my heart will always have her.
My husband and I extend our deepest and most compassionate condolences to you, the family, and to the many people whose lives were touched by Mary Ellen.
Ethel and Hank Miller-Tucson AZ

ethel lee-miller - January 05, 2012 at 10:42 AM

MW

“ I'm so sorry to hear of Mary Ellen's passing. I have met Mary Ellen many times over the years at the home of my dad and stepmom Dick and Debbie McCracken. She was a really nice lady and I know she'll be missed by all who knew her. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this very sad time. May your happy memories give you comfort in the difficult days ahead. Megan Walzer

Megan Walzer - December 31, 2011 at 06:42 PM

JG

“ MaryEllen's dear family, I am so sad to hear of our extreme loss. All the girls at Acme express their sincere condolences.

Janet Grimal - December 31, 2011 at 02:48 PM

JS

“ MY HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES. MARY ANN WAS ONE OF US, THE MEMORIAL SCHOOL KIDS. WE WENT THROUGH SCHOOL TOGETHER AND WE HAD A CHAT AT THE REUNIONS. GODSPEED MY FRIEND. JC

JOHN C. BOSLAND, SR. - December 31, 2011 at 10:42 AM

P(

“ MARY BAKKER

Pam, Kyla and Samantha England (Conner) - December 31, 2011 at 08:46 AM

MS

“ *Dear Family,*
I was lucky to know Mary Ellen for the past several years in Harmony Singers. I remember her knowing smile from the alto section. Mary Ellen was kind and thoughtful, and she volunteered extra time to help out with the group as treasurer. She will be missed. On behalf of Harmony Singers, our thoughts and prayers are with you.
Mike Sanflippo

Michael Sanflippo - December 30, 2011 at 09:53 PM

AG

“ *Dear Family and Friends of MaryEllen: I had the privilege of sharing a writers' group and several women's groups with MaryEllen. She was always caring, kind, smart, and had a great sense of humor. She will be deeply missed. I regret that we are out of town, and I will be unable to be there in person to convey my respect and condolences. However, my thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

Audrey Gregg - December 29, 2011 at 11:23 PM

DB

“ *Mary Ellen was a true friend, a caring teacher and devoted mother. I will miss her so very, very much. I am praying for her sons and their families for strength and healing in the coming days. I am so sorry for the loss of such a special lady.*

Dianne Byers - December 29, 2011 at 03:41 PM