



Mary Elizabeth Hunter

December 28, 1940 - July 10, 2023

Mary Elizabeth Hunter, age 82, of Charlotte, died July 10, 2023. Mary was born December 28, 1940 in Lansing, Michigan, to Harold and Mary (Dane) Hunter. The family lived in Millett and owned the local grocery store. Mary was her dad's right-hand, trusty helper growing up and she treasured those memories. After graduating high school, Mary attended MSU and received her Bachelor's Degree in early elementary. She taught in the Olivet School District before stopping to once again help in the family market. Mary eventually took on the duties of caregiver as her parents' health declined. When time allowed, Mary enjoyed riding horses and looked forward to vacationing on Drummond Island.

Fiercely independent, determined, humble, and kind, Mary could be seen 'out and about' on her bike from dawn to dusk in all seasons and all types of weather. She was well-known by countless community members as she collected bottles and cans to keep Charlotte 'picked up.' This activity gave her purpose, and it kept her in her happy place - the outdoors.

Mary enjoyed 2+ years as a resident of Sensations Memory Care, where she was free to walk as much as she liked and received exceptional care from the loving staff.

Mary is survived by her sister, Dorothea Sandin; her grand-nephew, John A. Sandin IV; and her dear friends, John and Carol Rossio. Mary was predeceased by her parents; her brother-in-law, John A. Sandin II; and her nephew, John A. Sandin III.

Graveside services will be held Friday, July 28, at 10:00 a.m. at Delta Center Cemetery. Arrangements are being handled by Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Previous Events

Graveside

JUL **28**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Delta Center Cemetery
7301 W. St. Joe Hwy
Lansing, MI 48917

Tribute Wall

NS

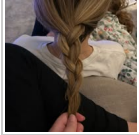
“ Mary worked with me at Wendy's when I was a manager there for a short time. She was such a hard worker and just the kindest soul, always ready to help out and but also didn't always want to put up with the young kids shenanigans. I used to give Mary rides home after close if the weather was not so nice out. We would load up her bike in the back of my truck and I enjoyed her stories of "the old days", the market, her parents, her education and things she loved on the short ride to her house. I remember giving her my old 3 speed bike that I no longer used when her bike was having her a lot of issues and it made me smile every time I saw her out there riding that bike, knowing it was getting some good use by Mary. I know when I first met her, I, as many did, thought she was homeless or really down on her luck. But NO, she just loved being outdoors and picking up and making things nice again. That's what lead to her working at Wendy's. I saw her picking up change and trash around our pick up window and my truck and I asked her if she needed a job. She didn't say "oh I don't really need a job", she just said "how can I help?". Crazy that I thought I was helping her but she was definitely helping a young adult learn to never judge a book by its cover! Its so weird that I thought of Mary just last Friday when I was driving home. I saw a lady that looked JUST like Mary, visor and all, riding a bike, the bag of cans, dressed just like Mary would be. I thought I wonder what happened to Mary. Then my mom messaged me last night about her obituary. Rest in Peace, Mary, you my friend, deserve it!

Nicole (Vandecar) Spica - July 14, 2023 at 10:35 AM

CR

Thank you, Nicole, for sharing this lovely accounting of your friendship with Mary. She must've thought a lot of you to share her life stories with you. Bless you for your kindness and friendship to dear Mary.

Carol Rossio - July 27, 2023 at 03:37 PM



“ *Mary was my neighbor when she lived at Kiwanis Manor. A sweet and kind lady, who loved to walk, no matter the weather. She was quiet and never bothered anyone. I was glad to have had conversations with her but she never talked about her past much. A couple of years ago I visited her at Sensations. We walked around the garden area and she talked about the flowers and how happy she was to be able to walk anytime she wished. I took a stuffed bear, to comfort her. I am blessed to have known her. May she rest in peace? Marilyn Butcher, Kiwanis Manor.*

Marilyn Butcher - July 12, 2023 at 05:02 PM

 Lisa French

Mary was a sweet lady and a character at times. I loved her bunches and will miss her. It was an honor to be part of her care the past 2+ years and while I hated to see her go, I'm thankful she was up walking a day prior to passing. Walk the streets of gold all you want, my friend.

Lisa French - July 12, 2023 at 10:37 PM

CR

Mary counted so many residents at Kiwanis as her friends. Some would walk with her, some would send her a hot meal, others liked to visit when she'd slow down enough to do it, but everyone looked out for her and she enjoyed the friendships made there.

Carol Rossio - July 27, 2023 at 03:43 PM

CR

Mary was truly 'at home' at Sensations and we were thankful she settled in so nicely. She enjoyed the attention she received from the caring staff and thought so highly of them. She could indeed be a character!

Carol Rossio - July 27, 2023 at 04:02 PM