



Mary A. Gonsalves

April 29, 1932 - March 18, 2019

Mary Gonsalves (née Slawson) died peacefully in her bed on March 18, 2019. She is preceded by her husband of 68 years, Norman Gonsalves Sr, her son, Norman, her sons-in-law, Bob Langston and Bob Robertson and her granddaughter Bridget and her grandson Eli.

Mary was born in 1932, daughter of David and Julia Slawson, and grew up on her grandparents dairy farm in Vallejo, Ca. Her childhood was spent roaming the hills with her dog Brownie and adopting several unconventional pets such as her raccoon Squeegie.

She married her high school sweetheart Norman Gonsalves and moved to Benicia, They had five children, Nancy, Norman . Kathleen, Ken and Ronald. She is survived by Nancy Robertson, Kathleen Langston, Ken (and wife Francine Ross Gonsalves), Ronald (and wife Jo Gonsalves), daughter-in-law Carol Verloop Gonsalves, many grandchildren and great grandchildren and her sister, Dorothy Pendergast.

Mary had several jobs during her long life, including working at St. Dominic's church and school and Mare Island Shipyard, but her most proud accomplishment was her position as society editor for the Benicia Herald.

She was active at St. Dominic's church, Y.L.I. and various Fraternal

Portuguese Societies including I.D.E.S., The Benicia Holy Ghost Society, S.P.R.S.I., and P.F.S.A.

Mary was adventurous, enjoyed traveling, and was always ready to have fun. Her jokes and stories at family holiday parties were the highlight of the night and her New Years Eve parties were legendary. She enjoyed shopping and spending time with her friends well into her eighties. She spent much of her retirement babysitting her grandchildren, throwing family parties, and taking trips around the world.

Mary was an avid bowler for most of her life (and she was really good at it, too) and bowled with The Slick Chicks out of Vallejo, Ca.

She is now bowling with the angels in that Great Bowling Alley in the Sky, having drawn to a close a full, fun life that was well lived. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations to B.D.E.S. Kitchen Fund, PO Box 1206, Benicia, CA 94510.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **24**. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (PT)

Passalacqua Funeral Chapel
901 W Second Street
Benicia, CA 94510
(707) 745-3130
info@passalacquafuneralchapel.com
<https://www.passalacquafuneralchapel.com>

Memorial Service

MAR **25**. 11:00 AM (PT)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Mary A. Gonsalves*

November 29, 2022 at 08:20 PM



“ *Mary's family*

*I grieve with you in your loss, I have so many memories of her and will always cherish each and everyone of them. May God give you all the extra strength and peace you need to get thru this sad difficult time and days following adjusting to life here without her as you grieve. Fly with the angels, rest in peace Mary. God Bless
Carol King*



Carol A King - March 22, 2019 at 08:33 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mary A. Gonsalves.*



March 21, 2019 at 11:38 AM



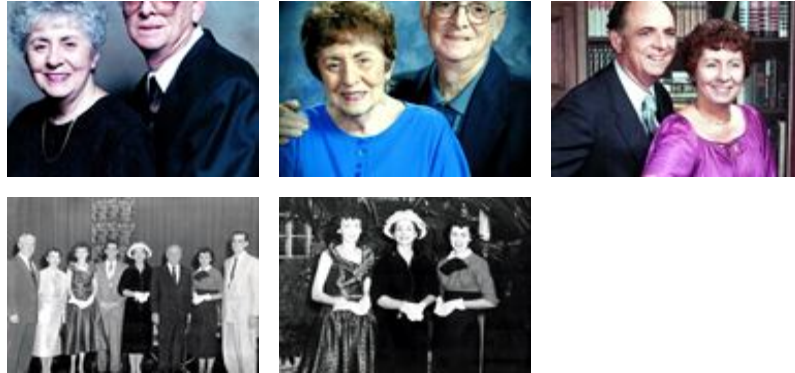
“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary A. Gonsalves.*



March 21, 2019 at 11:27 AM



“ 177 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Passalacqua Funeral Chapel - March 20, 2019 at 05:03 PM

DW

“ *I've been going to the Holy Ghost since I was 12 . I have known Mary since then. My uncle Manual DaSilva and my dad Jerry Darr work in the kitchen. I've marched the parade twice once was with the junior queen and again with the main queen. Mary had a great smile all the time. When I was living in Benicia she asked me if U would like to clean the house for her so I did until u had to move from Benicia over to Petaluma and now in Rohnert Park with my husband. R.I.P Mary you will be missed. Now you are with your husband and with my mom Dorothy Sarah my aunt and having a great time in heaven*

Debra Wood - March 20, 2019 at 02:39 PM

TD

“ To Nancy and the Gonsalves Family:

It is one of the hardest days in our lives to loose our mothers. They are our rock. Now we are the elder generation and must become the rock of the family. It's a difficult task, but I know you will succeed. Our prayers are with the entire family.

Dennis and Terri (Metras) Donovan

Terri Metras Donovan - March 20, 2019 at 12:40 PM

ME

“ God speed Mary! You did a wonderful job as a wife, mother, grandmother and friend. You leave behind great memories of so many fun events and times and go now to be once again with Norm. I look back on our years of working together at St. Dominic's and our family connections here and there. Loving this community, we were lucky to live and raise our family here.

To all your dear ones, my sincere sympathy and always, my prayers.

Marie Earp

MARIE EARP - March 19, 2019 at 01:40 PM

JS

Mary, was always kind, accepting, loving. fun and always welcomed us into their home. Some of my best memories where with her family. My heart is with you all. Prayers love and condolences.

James Saraiva - March 20, 2019 at 07:47 PM