



Mrs. Mary Scalera of Westchester

April 19, 1935 - November 19, 2020

Mary Scalera, nee Mastro, 85, of Westchester, Illinois.

Loving wife of the late John Scalera; cherished mother of Grace (Anthony) Dames, Frances (John) Saraceno and Ralph Scalera; devoted grandmother of Gianna (Sgt. Steve C.P.D.) Pulia, Ariana (Frank) Mullen, Anthony (Sydni) Dames III, John (Amber) Saraceno III, Maria (Frank) Iozzo, Joseph (Elizabeth) Saraceno and Michael Saraceno; beloved great grandmother of Sam Pulia, Gia Pulia, Frankie Mullen, Nico Mullen, Mia Iozzo, Frankie Iozzo, Gracie Saraceno, Samantha Saraceno, Joseph Saraceno and Aria Dames.

Due to COVID-19 the funeral mass and burial will be private.

Mary Scalera was born to Italian-American parents, Alex and Frances Mastro, in the Santa Maria Adolorata parish in the near north. She married John Scalera in 1956.

Mary originated the legendary St. Joseph's Day Table for the benefit of the Missionary Sisters of St. Charles in 1964. It has been said that Mary Scalera is to the St. Joseph's Day Table what Joe DiMaggio is to baseball. In 1994, Mary joined the Villa Scalabrini staff to help maintain the ethnicity of the Villa and to insure that quality and loving care would prevail.

Mary's husband and children also became very devoted to St. Joseph and assist her in every way possible. She has said "without my family there is no Mary Scalera." Mary is also very proud of her 7 grandchildren who now also participate in her St. Joseph's Day Table and various fund raising efforts for Villa Scalabrini.

Mary's dedication to the Italian-American community has won her recognition from several organizations. She was "Woman of the Year" for The Tanigers, a Melrose Park based Italian-American organization. The Joint Civic Committee Women's Division presented her with the prestigious Impresa Award for outstanding leadership in the Italian-American community. Mary was also nominated for the Stardom Award from Life Services Network (LSN), a national association of Long Term Care and Senior Services providers.

Another proud achievement for Mary was establishing the Cavalier's for Villa Scalabrini. This distinguished group of distinguished businessmen have dedicated their charitable efforts to sponsoring events that will raise funds to further insure the needs of the Residents of Villa Scalabrini.

The family has created this Life Tributes page to make it easy to share your memories, photos and videos. For further information please contact the Morizzo Funeral Directors at 847.752.6444. Arrangements entrusted to Morizzo Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 2550 West Hassell Road, (Northeast corner at Barrington Road), Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60169.

Cemetery Details

Queen of Heaven Catholic Cemetery and Mausoleum in Hillside

1400 South Wolf Road
Wolf and Roosevelt Road
Hillside, IL 60162
(708) 449-8300
<http://www.catholiccemeterieschicago.org/locations.php?cem=14>

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Mary Scalera of Westchester*

November 04, 2022 at 06:54 PM



“ *Marcia and I remember meeting Mary and John when we were recruited by my Uncle Frank and Auntie JoAnn (Jinx) Accardi to help at the St. Joseph Table at Villa Scallabrini in Melrose Pk many years ago. We helped Mary and John for several years until they could no longer hold the event at the Villa. Please accept our condolences upon the passing of your Mother Mary. With sadness, Marcia and Michael Bisceglie.*

Michael and Marcia Bisceglie - November 22, 2020 at 03:50 PM