

MARIAN REGINA (RODGERS) SAFFER



Age 97, passed away peacefully in her sleep in the company of her loving family on November 16, 2023, in Beavercreek, Ohio. Marian was born in Butler, Pennsylvania, March 4, 1926, the eldest child of Clement and Marie (Benson) Rodgers. Her family moved to Bellevue, Pennsylvania, where Marian attended Assumption School and St. Benedict Academy. She earned a bachelor's degree at Mount St.

Scholastica College in Atchison, Kansas and returned to Pittsburgh to attend Duquesne University for a master's degree in education. She married her beloved husband, the late Charles Joseph Saffer, Jr., on April 7, 1951, in Pittsburgh.

In 1960, with five children aged seven and under, they moved from Pittsburgh to Ashland, Kentucky; they would move between Pittsburgh and Kentucky four more times over the years as well as two years in Belgium, following her husband's work. Marian enjoyed the new experiences that came with moving from place to place and was an avid traveler all her life.

A devout Catholic, she was active in her local parish wherever she was living. In the 1960s, she and her husband became active in missionary work in Appalachia; for years their family vacations and many weekends were spent in the hollows of eastern Kentucky, building churches, and running health clinics, clothing drives, and bible schools.

She was an avid reader, a student of history, and a keen observer of political and economic trends. She never stopped absorbing new information and thinking about the larger world and could always be counted on for insightful commentary on current events.

Her immediate and extended families were always her priority and her joy. She is survived by her children: Kathleen (late Kevin) Knoth, Mimi Saffer (Thomas Harbin), Stephanie (David) Phillips, Charles Joseph (Martha) Saffer III, and Corita (Byron) Denny; eight grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, five step-grandchildren and ten step-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her three brothers, Edward, John, and Richard.

Family and friends will be received Friday, November 24, 2023, from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. at the **LAWRENCE T. MILLER FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 460 Lincoln Avenue, Bellevue, PA 15202. A funeral mass will be celebrated Saturday, November 25, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, St. Athanasius Church, 7 Chalfonte Avenue, West View, PA 15229. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh, www.osbpgh.org, to support their community ministries.

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