

# MARY LOU PETRUSO WARD



Age 77, of Bradenton, FL, formerly of Pittsburgh, PA passed away peacefully with family by her side on February 3, 2025.

Born on March 24, 1947, she was the daughter of the late Mary and Dominick Petruso.

She was the beloved wife for 31 years to Whitley Ward; loving mother of Jamison Maxwell (Elizabeth Fincher) Pushak and Joseph (Kristin Trefzger) Pushak; stepmother

of Kenneth (Elaine) Ward, Tinsley (Joanna) Ward and Jason (Debbie) Ward; cherished grandmother of Gabriella, Angelina, Zoe, and Joseph; dear sister of Frank (Patty) Petruso, Ginger (Rich) Tracey, Beth (Bill) Schneider, and Kathy (Frank) Puskarich. Also survived by many nieces and nephews.

A woman of deep faith, Mary Lou spent much of her life dedicated to her family, her friends, and her church. She was a vibrant and active member of St. Joseph's, where she found joy and solace in her connection with God and her church family.

Above all, Mary Lou's greatest joy in life was her family. She adored her three granddaughters, always making time for special moments with them, whether it was a fun day of pampering at the nail salon, a shopping trip, or a fun meal out. She loved spoiling them and showering them with affection. Her grandson, too, was a recipient of her love and care, with Mary Lou delighting in picking out new clothes for him and his sisters, always with her unique sense of style.

One of Mary Lou's fondest traditions was hosting an annual Christmas party at her home, an event she eagerly looked forward to each year. It was a time when all of her clients, friends, and loved ones gathered in the warmth of her hospitality and laughter. A gifted cook, Mary Lou's Italian dishes were legendary. Whether she was cooking for her sons or preparing her famous meals for family visits, her home was always filled with the delicious aromas of her cooking and the joy of loved ones around the table.

Mary Lou's love for the beach was another defining part of her life. The sun, sand, and sea brought her immense peace, and it was this love for the beach that led her and her husband to settle in Florida. It became the backdrop to countless family memories that she treasured deeply.

Mary Lou's life was a testament to love, devotion, and grace. She leaves behind a legacy of kindness, generosity, and the joy of family that will live on in the hearts of all who knew her. Her memory will forever be cherished by her children, grandchildren, extended family, and friends.

Family and friends will be welcome on Sunday, February 9, 2025, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 3-5 p.m. at **PITTSBURGH CREMATION & FUNERAL CARE**, 3287 Washington Rd., McMurray, PA 15317, 724-260-5546. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, February 10, 2025, at 10 a.m. at St. John the XXIII - St. Benedict the Abbot Church, 120 Abington Dr., McMurray, PA 15317. Burial will follow at Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Joseph Catholic Church, 3100 26th St. W, Bradenton, FL 34205.



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