



Mary Fergus

April 16, 1934 - December 22, 2025

Mary Theresa Fergus, nee Lee, greeted friends and strangers alike with a warm smile, kindness and reliable Irish wit - often punctuated with a wink. Despite enduring dementia in recent years, Mary exuded kindness throughout her life. She passed away Dec. 22, 2025 at her Chicago home of 60 years, family at her side.

Mary was born April 16, 1934 in Ballyconneely, County Galway, Ireland, the second oldest of Martin and Annie Lee's seven children. Her kind disposition was matched by an equally-responsible mindset that she applied to everything she did as a hard-working child and teen. Mary first left home at age 16 to work in Dublin and after two years, made her way to America by ship in 1952. Within two weeks of arriving in Chicago, she took a live-in domestic job that she kept until 1963 when she married John "Jack" Fergus, a native of County Mayo, Ireland.

The couple settled in the Edgewater/Andersonville neighborhood where they raised their daughter, Mary Ann Fergus. The family enjoyed neighborhood friendships and were active parishioners of St. Gregory the Great Church. Mary closely followed national and local news and politics and enjoyed dancing, cooking, baking and spending time with family and friends. While she did not have access to a formal education beyond elementary school, Mary was bright and had a Ph.D. in common sense.

In addition to her daughter, Mary's survivors include her beloved granddaughter, Olivia Claire Fergus-Brummer, brothers Thomas (the late Margaret) in England, Martin (Mary), Patrick (the late Noreen) in Ireland, and Michael (Mary) Lee in Chicago, plus several dear nieces, nephews and cousins. Mary's husband, their baby daughter Theresa, Mary's brother Peter (the late Margaret) and sister, Bridie (the late Coleman) McDonough, preceded Mary in death as well as one of her top fans, her son-in-law, David Brummer, who passed away four days prior to Mary.

Please join family and friends for a funeral mass at St. Gregory the Great Church, 5545 N. Paulina St., Chicago, at 11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 2, 2026, with visitation in the church at 10 a.m. Burial to follow at All Saints Cemetery in Des Plaines.

For those unable to attend mass, please join in livestreaming here: www.asimplestreaming.com/mfergus

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation in Mary's honor to Misericordia, 6300 N. Ridge, Chicago, 60660 or <https://www.misericordia.com/>.

Arrangements by Inclusive Funeral Care, 773-318-1305 or www.InclusiveFuneralCare.com.

Cemetery Details

All Saints Catholic Cemetery

700 North River Road
Des Plaines, IL 60016

Previous Events

Visitation followed by mass

JAN 2. 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM (CT)

St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church
5545 N. Paulina
Chicago, IL 60640

<https://www.motherofgodchicago.org/st-gregory-the-great-church.html>

10am visitation; 11am mass; burial to follow at All Saints Catholic Cemetery in Des Plaines.

Funeral Mass

JAN 2. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church
5545 N. Paulina
Chicago, IL 60640

<https://www.motherofgodchicago.org/st-gregory-the-great-church.html>

10am visitation; 11am mass; burial to follow at All Saints Catholic Cemetery in Des Plaines.

Tribute Wall



“ *Inclusive Funeral Care created a Webcast in memory of Mary Fergus*



Team Inclusive Funeral Care - December 29, 2025 at 06:55 PM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Mary Fergus.*



December 30, 2025 at 01:53 PM



“ *Your School District U46 Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Mary Fergus.*



Your School District U46 Family - December 30, 2025 at 09:08 AM



“ *Love to you & Olivia -- so many sweet lives, so near, and so dear.*

Mike Matejka - December 28, 2025 at 11:30 AM

TF

“ *The Duffy Family purchased the Serenity Wreath for the family of Mary Fergus.*



The Duffy Family - December 27, 2025 at 09:20 PM

FD

“ *Frsncine Degoey purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mary Fergus.*



Frsncine Degoey - December 26, 2025 at 11:07 PM



“ *3 files added to the album Memories Album*



Team Inclusive Funeral Care - December 26, 2025 at 11:09 AM

MA

*Mary Ann and Olivia may the good memories provide some comfort during this difficult time.
I am forever grateful for all the kindness of your Mom from being my driving instructor way back in the day until her heartfelt words during difficult times.
Aunt Mary rest in peace.*

Maureen5429@gmail.com - December 26, 2025 at 01:10 PM

AL

Rest in peace aunt mary we wull miss your witty and beautiful irish ways of telling it how it really is we will miss you dearly love your brothers martin (galway ireland) pat (roscommon ireland) and peter lee kerry king annie lee martin lee ireland your nephews and nieces xxxc

Annie lee - December 27, 2025 at 01:20 PM