



Mary E. McGann

July 22, 1945 - April 27, 2022

Mary E McGann believed that she was blessed with a great life, many wonderful friends, and a wonderful son. She thought of herself as a teacher and enjoyed teaching the many students she taught in the US and abroad.

She was born on July 22, 1945, in Newport Rhode Island and she grew up there on the Atlantic Ocean, treasuring the sea even when life brought her to live in the landlocked Midwest. She always tried to return to Newport at least once a year. In 1976 she married Timothy James Wiles in Newport at her parents' home. She cherished Tim as her husband for 27 years.

In 1989 the couple adopted a baby boy, David Timothy Wiles. That beloved son survives her.

The couple lived in Bloomington and Tim taught English and Dramatic Literature at Indiana University. Mary earned her BA from Salve Regina University and received her Ph.D. in 1979 from IU. Mary loved to travel and host parties wherever she was.

She loved teaching and in addition to teaching at different universities, she taught at the University of Warsaw, Poland, Ningbo Technological University in The People's Republic of China, and the University of Athens, Greece. She also taught workshops in American Literature for the United States Information Service in Hungary and Poland. She made friends wherever she was and enjoyed life wherever she went.

She taught at the University of Cincinnati, the Ohio State University, Rhode Island College (Providence), and in 1990 joined the English faculty at the University of Indianapolis; there she taught for twenty-three years, earning a full Professorship, and retiring in 2011. In 2013 she returned to Poland as a Senior Fulbright Lecturer.

Mary is predeceased by her husband Tim who died in 2003, her brother, John Jr, her father John, and her Mother Rose Hein McGann. She is survived by her three sisters Barbra McGann, Debbie Ripley, and Denise McGann, and her beloved son, David Timothy Wiles, and his partner Katherine Emmert.

Donations in the memory of Mary McGann can be made to The Bloomington Playwrights project which Tim and Mary dedicated much of their time and energy to.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 12:00 pm Saturday May 21, 2022 at the St Paul's Catholic Center in Bloomington. With Father Dennis Woerter officiating. Visitation will be held from 11:00 am Saturday May 21, 2022 until service time at the church. Cremation Rites have been accorded

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory have been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with the family and friends at www.allencares.com

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 21. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Paul's Catholic Center
1413 East 17th Street
Bloomington, IN 47408

Mass of Christian Burial

MAY 21. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Paul's Catholic Center
1413 East 17th Street
Bloomington, IN 47408

Tribute Wall

DD

“ I just learned of Mary’s passing as I was wanting to send her a birthday card as I often did. She was my guardian angel for many years when I was a student at IU. We stayed friends over the years and when she lived in Providence. I was close to Tim and his parents, too, for many years. I am deeply saddened to have lost Mary. She is a cherished soul! I will forever be grateful for all that she did for me.

Debbie Diamond - July 27, 2022 at 10:23 AM

PK

“ Dear David--very sorry to learn of your Mom's death. Mary was a great colleague; our offices were just across the narrow hallway from each other in the Esch basement for many years. I hope your memories of her and your Dad will sustain you in the coming years.

Fyi, I will be out of town on May 21. I'm very sorry I cannot be present for Mary's service. I did make a contribution to the Bloomington Writer's Project in her honor.

*Pax,
Perry Kea*

Perry Kea - May 19, 2022 at 08:20 PM

DB

“*Mary, that raspy voiced angel, was a friend and mentor and guide. I first met Mary when she picked me up at the Warsaw train station in the middle of martial law. I had flown to Frankfurt, then took the train through East Germany, through its border with Poland at Görlitz/Zgorzelec, then through Wrocław, almost 24 hours of travel. A graduate exchange student between IU and Uniwersytet Warszawski, I stumbled out on that train platform dazed and exhausted, but both Mary and Tim’s friendship, wise counsel, and great humor were never ever rationed. This friendship continued in the years after when we all returned to Bloomington. It is my regret that over the years that we have lost touch. But somewhere in the great beyond, I hope to somehow see her and Tim once again. I can’t imagine my own life without having been her friend along the way. David, my heart goes out to you in your loss!--Daniel Bourne, Wooster, Ohio*

Daniel Bourne - May 19, 2022 at 10:32 AM



“*Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of Mary E. McGann.*



May 17, 2022 at 10:16 PM



“*Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Mary E. McGann.*



May 14, 2022 at 09:58 AM

JB

“ Mary was our friend and next-door neighbor for many years in Bloomington. We have many wonderful memories of Mary, Tim and David as we celebrated major holidays, Birthdays, graduations, and other milestones together. Mary will always be loved and remain in our hearts. May she rest in peace. Jill Bystydzienski and Hal Pepinsky

Jill Bystydzienski - May 09, 2022 at 01:08 PM



“ I was so saddened to learn of Mary's death. I can't imagine not hearing her one-of-a kind voice! We became friends through the Bloomington Playwrights. For many years we attended plays and enjoyed the Director's Circle meetings. I loved hearing her opinions on a myriad of subjects - she was so intelligent and had so much life experience. She was a bright spot in my life and regret that we lost contact during these past years due to covid. I send my deepest caring, healing thoughts of sympathy to David - one of her favorite topics of conversation, along with memories of Tim. Rest in peace, Mary McGann.
Sandra Freund

Sandra Freund - May 08, 2022 at 05:07 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mary E. McGann.



May 07, 2022 at 09:04 PM

GN

“ To the McGann and Wiles family:
We are saddened to hear of Mary's passing. The Bush Street gang
has lost another member. Our sympathy to all.
Art & Gisele (Faerber) Napolitano

Gisele Napolitano - May 07, 2022 at 07:58 AM

LC

“ Lisa Whittle & Stephanie Clampitt purchased the
Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mary E.
McGann.



Lisa Whittle & Stephanie Clampitt - May 06, 2022 at 09:32 AM

JH

“ Mary was a lovely person, so smart and very wise. She was feisty in
the pursuit of justice for children who struggled. She gave great
parties and told funny stories. She was loyal and fierce. I would
want to thank her for giving of herself to so many. Love, Joan

Joan Hart - May 05, 2022 at 11:56 PM



“ Mary was a great friend, she took my water aerobics class for a long
time. See often we out for a fun dinner. She helped me as she did
many others with classes. She always had a smile and loved being
with people ❤️

Shirley Johnson - May 05, 2022 at 05:30 PM

LM

“*Mary, there were so many more conversations we needed to have! a you were always a supportive and generous, wise friend. I will try to keep your memory alive.* **Lea Masiello**

Lea Masiello - May 05, 2022 at 03:09 PM

KR

“*Krysi lit a candle in memory of Mary E. McGann*



Krysi - May 04, 2022 at 12:58 PM

AM

“*I'm sorry to hear of Mary's passing. She was my Expository Writing professor at UIndy (known as U of I in those days) many many years ago, but a clear picture of her easily comes to mind: her unique gravelly voice, her red-tinged cheeks and small stature, and the small blue three-ring binder she asked us each to have and write in for all of our class work. As a young college student I remember being so surprised that she drove to campus from Bloomington every day to teach us.*

My thoughts are with you, her loved ones, as you grapple with your remaining time here without her by your side. Know that her work and wit touched many people who you will never meet and so many of us have fond memories of Mary.

Amber - May 04, 2022 at 12:06 PM

CM

Mary was one of my best friends. I truly miss her. She was a source of inspiration and information. We always had the most intriguing conversations. I have known her over 40 years. It seems impossible that I cannot pick up the phone and talk to her. My love to David and her sisters.

Carole Morrell - May 07, 2022 at 11:58 AM

KH

My dear cousin Mary was a force of nature. She was passionate and opinionated and never afraid to share her passions and opinions, which was a big part of her charm. She dearly loved her Aunt Martha (my mother) who delighted in her visits. I will especially miss Mary's irreverent sense of humor and her ability to capture a room. What a woman!

Kathy haaland - May 07, 2022 at 04:52 PM

TH

Mary was a kind-hearted person who shared the joys of life with many people throughout the years. We were very fortunate to have gotten to know her and share her joyful spirit for life. If we had not contacted her for awhile, she would call us inquiring about our health and well-being. Our thoughts and prayers are with David, Katherine and her sisters.

Carla and Tom Hedges

Tom Hedges - May 18, 2022 at 11:43 AM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Mary E. McGann.



May 03, 2022 at 11:13 AM