



Cecelia K. Mudd

July 25, 1943 - November 29, 2020

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CEDAR FALLS - Cecelia Kay (Maxey) Mudd, 77, of Cedar Falls, Iowa, loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend, died at home on Sunday afternoon, November 29th, in the loving arms of her husband Jim and their six children.

Cecelia was born on July 25th, 1943, in Monmouth, Illinois, the youngest of Robert and Marie (Hennefent) Maxey's five children. She married James Anthony Mudd on June 13th, 1964, at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Monmouth, Illinois. She is survived by her loving husband, Jim, and their six children; Jim Mudd Jr. (Becky), Robert Mudd (Magdalena Cheng), Mary Kay Mudd Bushonville (Art), Christopher Mudd (Tracy), Elizabeth Mudd Iozzo (Marc), and Kathleen Mudd Shirk (Andy), her grandchildren; James Anthony III (Trey), Olivia, Jackson, Alec, Maxwell, Sophia, Ava, Samuel, Grace, Marc James, Jocelyn, Elicia, Quentin, Amelia, Margot, Stella Cecelia and another Shirk grand-baby due in April. Cecelia is also survived by her two sisters, Patricia Bowen, Roberta Johnson along with many cousins, nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her parents and her dear sister Nancy Toricelli and brother George Maxey.

Cecelia graduated from Monmouth High School in 1961 and immediately began her career as an airline stewardess for American Airlines that summer. She was stationed out of Chicago, Illinois and Fort Worth, Texas and absolutely loved to travel and see the country as well as the glamor that accompanied the job at the time. In 1963 Cecelia met Jim Mudd, a local radio personality, originally of Owensboro, Kentucky. The two fell in love and married and she became a full-time mother to three sons and three daughters and in 1973 they settled in Cedar Falls, Iowa.

While raising their children, managing their home, and supporting Jim in each new business venture, Cecelia provided a constant source of love and encouragement to her family. Her faith became the most identifiable source of her abundant compassion, kindness and gen

erosity and she poured these qualities into her life's work of raising and nurturing her family.

In the early years she spent countless hours helping her children with their own business endeavors including 5am paper routes, detasseling corn, chief inventory provider for summer lemonade stands, painting curbs, door to door sales for both girl and boy scouts. She was constantly teaching life lessons of hard work, the importance of a good attitude and the priority of treating others as we would want to be treated. All the while and until the end, she was a devoted wife to Jim. She was his rock and he hers for each of their 56 years of marriage. Their never ending commitment and love for one another stood the test of time through many hardships and losses and certainly not a lack of sickness or health.

Her family wasn't the only beneficiary of her constant support and selfless spirit. Cecelia showered friends and strangers with these same gifts. Volunteerism was of enormous importance in her life and she took great pride in sharing her time with Sartori Memorial Hospital along with St. Patrick's Parish, Catholic Daughters and The Festival of Trees. She gave of her time and energy to the auxiliary boards of both Sartori Memorial Hospital and EPI (Exceptional Persons Incorporated). There was no role beneath her if it could benefit another and she would always remind her children that "the task does not bring dignity to the doer, the doer brings dignity to the task. Get to work."

Cecelia gave her time to many organizations, but provided a haven to anyone who walked through her door or into her life. She had a special affinity for each of her children's friends and was eager to feed any one of them at any hour. She never minded if they stayed the night, a week or in one case a year; what was hers, was everyone's. Cecelia had an uncanny sense for "meeting people" where they "needed to be met" and always at that perfect time. Her compassion for others was endless, and she would never hesitate to stick up for those who could not stick up for themselves.

God smiled with favor upon her as His good and faithful servant every day of her life on earth. Her faith never wavered even amidst her 12 year battle with dementia. Cecelia was the embodiment of class, patience and grace accompanied by her naturally stunning physical beauty. She was a woman whose place on this earth will forever be missed as she leaves behind an incredible legacy for her children, grandchildren and generations yet to come.

The Mudd family will join together at 10am, Thursday, December 3rd at St. Patrick's Catholic Church for a private family mass due to Covid restrictions. A link will be available soon, to view her funeral virtually. A celebration of life will be held for all to join on her birthday, this summer.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts can be made in her honor, to one of the following organizations that were near and dear to Cecelia's heart. These organizations provide to people of great need in her community;

The Northeast Iowa Food Bank
1605 Lafayette St.
Waterloo, IA, 50703
<http://www.northeastiowafoodbank.org>

Exceptional Persons Foundation
PO Box 4090
Waterloo, IA 50704
<http://www.episervice.org>

The House of Hope
845 W. 4th Street
Waterloo, IA 50702
<http://www.houseofhopeccd.org>

St. Patrick Catholic Church
705 Main Street
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
<http://www.stpatrickcf.org>

Comments



“ A webcast video has been added.



Richardson Funeral Service - December 03, 2020 at 10:42 AM



“ Just now realizing Cecelia's death. Many years have past and we have lost contact. I do remember many good times back in the days when radio was hot. I recall fun times at the conventions. Julie Hedberg, Cecelia and I had such fun. I remember visiting each other now and then. The wig episode (do you remember)? I wanted to let you know your in my prayers. Hope your family is doing well. Joan Olson

Joan Olson - October 22, 2021 at 10:34 AM



“ To The Mudd Family,
I am so sorry for your loss. I will always remember "Mrs. Mudd" as a bright light, she lit up any room she was in with her smile and genuine interest in seeing you! She will never be forgotten by anyone who ever met her. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.

Kathy Paup Goranson

Kathleen Goranson - December 03, 2020 at 01:35 PM



“ Mudd Family, I hope you can Take comfort knowing that Cecilia is in the loving arms of Jesus. I 1st knew her as the Bowens' Aunt CeCe.
My folks loved the friendship of your folks. She was one of the most beautiful women I've ever know & always a Class Act, but with a twinkle in her eyes! God bless her.

jill - December 03, 2020 at 12:28 PM



“ I love the paragraph in her obituary about how Cecilia welcomed her kids' friends into her home. I was one of those kids! We lost my stepmother to cancer when I was 14. Cecilia and the entire Mudd family stepped up encouraged me and looked after me. I lived just down the street but spent so much time in their home. I will always be grateful for Cecilia, Jim, and their kids. I cherish the memories of playing baseball in their yard, playing video games in their home, or just hanging out and laughing and joking with the family. They were always great to me and made me feel like part of their family during a time when my family was struggling.

I know things have been hard with Cecilia's health in recent years. I hope that her family can find comfort in knowing that she has gone home to be with her Lord whom she loved and served so faithfully throughout her life.

Dave Hansen - December 03, 2020 at 09:50 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Cecelia K. Mudd.



December 02, 2020 at 04:48 PM



“ We are so sorry to read of Cecelia's passing. We always enjoyed visiting with her. Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers. Brian and Anne Ahlschwede

Anne Ahkschwede - December 02, 2020 at 04:37 PM



“ On behalf of the AMBOOKENS, we wish you peace and comfort during this challenging time. We have sent a memorial gift to The House of Hope in Cecilia's memory. Fondest regards, Prince, Katherine, Nicholas and Ellie Ambooken



Katherine Ambooken - December 02, 2020 at 04:30 PM



“ Chris and Michelle Edmonds & Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Cecelia K. Mudd.



Chris and Michelle Edmonds & Family - December 02, 2020 at 03:59 PM



“ James and Birdie Chow & family purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Cecelia K. Mudd.



James and Birdie Chow & family - December 02, 2020 at 03:53 PM



“ On behalf of the Merrill Hach family, we wish to extend our condolences and gratitude for the friendship and fellowship Merrill and Tedda enjoyed with the Mudd's for so many years. It was a blessing for us to know that mom and dad had so many friends of whom the Mudd's were spoken of so lovingly and frequently. God's Speed to the entire Mudd family as we celebrate the Mudd family today.

Jeff Hach - December 02, 2020 at 03:08 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Cecelia K. Mudd.



December 02, 2020 at 03:03 PM



“ It's been years since our days at The Mudd Group but we remember Cecelia visiting regularly and she ALWAYS entered the building with a smile and kind words for whoever she met. What a legacy she has left. Our sympathies to the entire Mudd family; you are in our thoughts and prayers.

Luke & Carrie Baldwin - December 02, 2020 at 02:59 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Cecelia K. Mudd.



December 02, 2020 at 12:49 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Cecelia K. Mudd.



December 02, 2020 at 11:25 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Cecelia K. Mudd.



December 02, 2020 at 10:55 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Cecelia K. Mudd.



December 02, 2020 at 10:54 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Cecelia K. Mudd.



December 02, 2020 at 09:29 AM



“ Cecelia reflected such grace, beauty, dignity, love for God, love for her family and love for her community. We were blessed every time we saw her. May God's promises and memories bring strength and comfort to all the family as they journey forward. Scott and Nancy Graen

Nancy Graen - December 02, 2020 at 08:46 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Cecelia K. Mudd.



December 02, 2020 at 08:21 AM



“ Rosie, Chris, Riley, Caitlin, Erin, Michael Conway purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Cecelia K. Mudd.



Rosie, Chris, Riley, Caitlin, Erin, Michael Conway - December 02, 2020 at 07:54 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Cecelia K. Mudd.



December 02, 2020 at 07:39 AM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Cecelia K. Mudd.



December 01, 2020 at 11:11 PM



“ Mike and I moved to our residence on Clark Drive after the 4th of July 1981. We had not moved into our home, but Cecilia invited us to join the neighborhood for the 4th celebration: Parade, Swimming at their home, Baseball game in the cemetery and a neighborhood potluck. She included us in the neighborhood activities before we moved in and we felt so welcomed. Our daughter, Stephanie, and her daughter, Liz, became neighborhood friends. We loved the years we lived on Clark Drive and the subsequent 4th of July neighborhood celebration. Cecilia was such an encompassing, welcoming friend.

Chris Smith - December 01, 2020 at 09:39 PM



“ I grew up with Jim in Owensboro and when it came to selecting a "best man", I could choose no other but Jim. Small problem, Cecilia and Jim were married the week before Kathleen and my wedding. But the goodness of their hearts Jim and Cecilia interrupted their honeymoon to be in our wedding. A wonderful gift and showed their giving personalities. Love to both Kathleen and David Smith

David Smith - December 02, 2020 at 02:01 AM



“ Cecelia was so beautiful....inside and out! Even as those who loved her are grieving, certainly we can be sure that the Angels in heaven are rejoicing that she has joined the eternal chorus! In sympathy and prayer, Deacon Dan and Nancy Rigel, Waterloo, Iowa

Deacon Dan and Nancy Rigel - December 01, 2020 at 09:24 PM



“ Chris, Tracy, Sam, Grace, and family,

We express our sympathy. You are all in our thoughts, and prayers. We think we met Cecelia at Sam's graduation open house. She was such a beautiful lady. Tracy, we felt we knew them through your mom and dad. They often mentioned Cecelia and Jim, and said how wonderful they are, and how they loved, and cared about everyone. May the fond, loving memories of Cecelia be in your heart forever. God bless you all.

Blessings, and prayers.
Harlan and Marge Baack

Harlan and Marge Baack - December 01, 2020 at 09:14 PM



“ Heavenly and Harmony was purchased for the family of Cecelia K. Mudd.



December 01, 2020 at 09:03 PM



“ We express our sympathy to the family of Cecelia. We always felt so welcome in her presence. Thank God for such a caring person. God has added an Angle.

Dan and Millie Godfrey - December 01, 2020 at 06:12 PM



“ My most sincere and deep sympathies to her husband Jim, her children and all the grandchildren. She was magnificent person. She will be missed more than words can express. God bless.
~Jerry Stych

Jerry Stych - December 01, 2020 at 12:57 PM



“ Scott and I send our condolences to the Mudd family. Cecelia was a dear friend and a true prayer warrior in our Bible study. She shared many stories about her family, and life experiences I will never forget. She had a beautiful smile and contagious laugh.
She and Jim have left a legacy through their family, business and fine example. Heaven has gained an angel!!! Scott and Cindy Miller

Cindy Miller - December 01, 2020 at 12:53 PM



“ Jeff Clayton, Ali, Cammy, Robby & Joan from HMA purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Cecelia K. Mudd.



Jeff Clayton, Ali, Cammy, Robby & Joan from HMA - December 01, 2020 at 12:36 PM



“ Dear Mudd family-

We are so sorry for your loss. You will be in our thoughts and prayers.

With sympathy,

Jeff Clayton and all of us at Holmes Murphy & Associates.

Jeff Clayton - December 01, 2020 at 12:28 PM



“ Jim and the Mudd family,

I have fond memories of Cecelia. She was a great Christian and strong community supporter. She loved her family very much. She will be deeply missed.

With sympathy,
Pete and Marilyn Voorhees

Marilyn Voorhees - December 01, 2020 at 11:27 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Jim and family. Craig's father passed away yesterday. Sincerely, Craig and Blair Thielen

Blair Thielen - December 01, 2020 at 08:14 AM



“ Jim,

I am so sorry to hear of Cecelia's passing. I remember her well during my first days at KCFI. I recollect her telling me once that her favorite song was "I Don't Want To Walk Without You" so I would play it by Barry Manilow every so often and dedicate it to her. May God Be with you.

Kelly Neff

Kelly Neff - December 01, 2020 at 08:01 AM



“ Our sincere sympathy to you Jim and your entire family. As you will hear over and over Cecelia left a lasting impression of strong faith and strong family to all who were lucky enough to know her. A special lady indeed! RIP Cecelia. George and Nancy Meyer

Nancy Meyer - December 01, 2020 at 07:56 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Cecelia K. Mudd.



December 01, 2020 at 07:47 AM



“ Cecelia's life inspired many friends to grow in their faith! God has promised eternal life to all who believe in Jesus. It's been my honor to have known her in these last few years as a resident living next to my mother at the Cottage and I will miss her whenever I can return to see mom. Prayers are with you all through your grief. Friends forever!
Patti Cole

Patti Cole - November 30, 2020 at 07:33 PM



“ Cheryl and I are so sorry to hear of Cecelia's passing. We have many fond memories of her. She was one of the finest ladies we ever knew. We will remember her and the family in our prayers.
Larry & Cheryl Hetherton

Larry K Hetherton - November 30, 2020 at 05:18 PM



“ My sympathy and prayers to all of you at this time of Cecelia's death. May her example of faith be a comfort to all of you. I shall remember her in my prayers.
Father Jim Secora

James Secora - November 30, 2020 at 03:00 PM



“ Scott and I send our condolences to the Mudd family. I will never forget her stories she shared about family and her faith in our Bible study. Such a dear friend she was a true prayer warrior and an inspiration to others. What a legacy of family, faith and love. RIP beautiful lady I, heaven has gained an angel. Cindy Miller

Cindy Miller - December 01, 2020 at 08:58 AM



“ My heart reaches out to Ceceiia's family. I know you will miss her, she definitely loved you all. I cherish the many times we met for coffee or lunch. Her family was her top priority but she always had time for friends. May God bless you during these difficult days. She lived to make heaven her eternal home. Jim thanks for your friendship as well.

Eleanor Nelson - December 01, 2020 at 08:49 PM