



## Mary E Ross

October 23, 1932 - July 17, 2015

Mary Ellen Ross, 82, passed away on July 17, 2015 at Nation Cottage, Western Home in Cedar Falls, IA. She was born October 23, 1932, the only child of George and Ruth Sawyer in Hawarden, Iowa. She graduated from Hawarden High School and then received her Bachelor's Degree from the State University of Iowa where she was in the Scottish Highlanders bagpipe band.

Mary taught high school business subjects in Grundy Center, IA and Algona, IA before she was joined in marriage to Robert L. Ross, August 31, 1957. Thereafter, she focused on raising their five children. They settled in Cedar Falls in 1963 then moved to Waterloo, IA in 1969. This lasted twenty years and firmly established her as an East Waterloo High School booster as her four oldest children graduated from East High.

Mary enrolled the children in competitive swimming in 1970, which became a major family activity that continues with her grandchildren. She also encouraged her children to participate in vocal and instrumental music and faithfully attended all performances. She volunteered to support the activities of her children including various PTAs, Waterloo Swim Club, and East Waterloo High School Booster Club.

She was a life-long Catholic and a parishioner since 1989 at St. Patrick's

Catholic Church in Cedar Falls. Local organizations she volunteered for over the years included Western Home, Catholic Charities, Meals on Wheels, and the Democratic Party. She enjoyed reading, crossword puzzles, jigsaw puzzles, baking and especially ice cream. In her later years, she became interested in genealogy.

She is survived by husband Robert, children Becky (Bill Mitchell) of Gaithersburg, MD, Brian (Jean Coleman) of Minneapolis, MN, David (Michelle) of Des Moines, IA, Teri (Mike Stewart) of Naperville, IL Dan (Erica) of Denver, CO and nine grandchildren.

Her funeral service will be held at St. Patrick's Church in Cedar Falls Monday, July 20 at 11:00 a.m. An informal reception will proceed the mass at 10 a.m., with lunch following. Internment will occur in Sidney, Iowa at a date to be determined.

# Cemetery Details

## Sidney Cemetery

Sidney, IA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 20. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Patrick Catholic Church  
705 Main Street  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
(319) 266-3523  
<http://saintpatrickcf.org>

## Mass of Christian Burial

JUL 20. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Patrick Catholic Church  
705 Main Street  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
(319) 266-3523  
<http://saintpatrickcf.org>

# Tribute Wall

MW

“ On behalf of the family of Pat (Rush) Wall, I'd like to send our deepest condolences to the Ross family. Our mom, Pat, who also grew up in Hawarden, passed away in 2013. I know that she always enjoyed exchanging Christmas cards/letters with your folks.  
*Michael Wall*

---

**Michael Wall** - July 20, 2015 at 11:25 AM