



Mary Irlbeck

February 17, 1934 - April 22, 2024

Mary B. Irlbeck, age 90, of Carroll, Iowa, passed away peacefully and prayerfully surrounded by her loving family on Monday, April 22, 2024, at St. Anthony Regional Hospital in Carroll. Mary was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, and friend.

Mass of the Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m., Monday, April 29, 2024, at Holy Spirit Church - St. John Paul II Parish in Carroll. The Celebrant will be Fr. Patrick Behm. Music will be by Jane Heithoff and Sherry Loughran. Lector for the Funeral Mass will be Kelly Foley. Gift Bearers will be Mary's great-grandchildren. Eucharistic Ministers will be Larry and Vicki Reiling. Honorary Casket Bearers will be Rosemary VandeBerg, Nicole Dentlinger, Kelsey Dentlinger, Abigail Johnson, Bekah Sonntag, Mollie Sherman, Sariah Sherman, and Clara Irlbeck. Casket Bearers will be Dave Dentlinger, Tom Irlbeck Jr., Sam Pudenz, Joel Pudenz, Christopher Pudenz, Matt Irlbeck, Cole Sherman, Brock Sherman, Liam Irlbeck, Emmett Irlbeck, and Nolan Irlbeck. Burial will be in Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Carroll.

Visitation will be from 3-5 p.m. on Sunday at the Sharp Funeral Home in Carroll with a Christian Wake Service at 5 p.m. The casket will be moved to Holy Spirit Church on Monday morning where additional visitation will be from 9:30-10:15 a.m. Memorials may be left at the funeral home or the church for a later designation.

Funeral arrangements are under the guidance of the Sharp Funeral Home in Carroll and online condolences may be left for Mary's family at www.sharpfuneral.com.

Mary was born on February 17, 1934, in Odebolt, Iowa, and was the youngest of Cornelius and Clara Dalton Bird's 12 children. She graduated from Odebolt High School in 1951, where she enjoyed art, cheerleading, and was the drum major for the marching band. Mary then moved to Carroll and worked at Mac's Casino Café as a waitress, where she met Alvin "Al" Irlbeck. Mary and Al were united in marriage on June 15, 1953, at St. Martin's Catholic Church in Odebolt by Fr. Lawrence Greteman and celebrated 60 years of marriage in 2013. The couple made their home in Carroll where they raised their eight children.

Mary was a devout wife and loving homemaker. She was a member of St. Peter and St. Paul and then Holy Spirit Parish for 70 years where she was an usher and a prayer chain volunteer for many years. Mary was very committed to attending her children's and grandchildren's various activities, cheering them on and supporting all that they did and accomplished, "busting all of her buttons" in pride and joy.

Mary called all her family, including nieces and nephews, and friends on their birthdays every year and sang them a sweet birthday song of blessing.

She enjoyed cutting articles out of the newspaper and sending them out to people she knew and loved. She loved baking banana bread for family, friends, and neighbors. Mary had a passion for photography and took thousands and thousands of pictures of her family and friends, as well as taking pictures on many family vacations and trips.

She was a strong and faithful prayer warrior for many, keeping her candle lit 24 hours a day for all the requests and petitions. Her door was always open for a nice chat, a loving hug, showing kindness to all her visitors. "Queen" Mary had a fun sense of humor and would often show up for celebrations and holidays dressed up in fun outfits and coordinating earrings.

She loved her coffee and a cookie for breakfast and everything chocolate in-between. Mary attended a bible study every week for 20+ years. She loved and cherished her "Bible Babes," making life-long friendships and devoted prayer partners. Mary truly demonstrated Christ's example of unconditional love, grace, and forgiveness. She loved the Lord and lived her life for Him. As Mom was known to pray over all of us in our coming and going, she would say, "bumper to bumper, angels go with." Right back at ya, Mom.

Mary is survived by her eight children: Alvin "Alvie" Irlbeck Jr. (Shari) of Carroll; Tom Irlbeck (Jan) of rural Carroll; Wanita Dentlinger (Duane) of Carroll; DeAnn Pudenz (Doug) of rural Carroll; Cynthia Myers (Brian) of North Liberty, Iowa; James Irlbeck of Carroll; Amy Sherman (Steve) of North Liberty, Iowa; and Dan Irlbeck (Nicole) of Erie, Colorado; nineteen grandchildren: Abigail Johnson(Tanner), Matthew Irlbeck, Tom Irlbeck Jr. (Brienne), Rosemary VandeBerg (Vince), Dave Dentlinger (Dora), Nicole Dentlinger, Kelsey Dentlinger (Joe Karstens), Samuel Pudenz (Megan), Joel Pudenz (Ashley), Christopher Pudenz (Grace), Bekah Sonntag (Quinn), Mollie Sherman (Seth Hickman), Cole Sherman, Brock Sherman, Sariah Sherman, Liam Irlbeck, Emmett Irlbeck, Clara Irlbeck, and Nolan Irlbeck; 16 great grandchildren (and one on the way): Brody, Hayden and Harper Irlbeck; Maryn and Millie VandeBerg; Daniel and Derek Dentlinger; Logan and Olivia Karstens; Theo and Eva Pudenz; Joanna, Adalyn, and Melody Pudenz; and Lewis and Ivy Sonntag; two brothers-in-law: Kenny Foley and Virgil Irlbeck; and two sisters-in-law: Roe Irlbeck and Cindy Irlbeck; and many nieces,

nephews, and cousins.

Mary was preceded in death by her husband, Al on February 16, 2014, her parents Cornelius and Clara, 6 brothers and 4 sisters, 10 brothers-in-law, and 7 sisters-in-law.

Tribute Wall

SB

“ We were so privileged to spend time with Mary and several of her eight children, Dad's (Connie Bird) cousins, a couple years ago when we stopped in Odebolt/Carroll on our way to Niagara Falls from Washington state. She was such a fun, loving lady, joking constantly, and telling us about how she was a pole dancer when she was younger (not true but funny and memorable!). We've stayed in touch with her since then. About a week after our stay in Carroll, Mary surprised us with a video call while we were at Niagara Falls, so for half an hour we shared the sights of the Falls with her and talked over the roar coming from it. We'd video chat with Mary just about every other month since then, and she always maintained her excitement for everything and everyone around her, wanting to talk about all of our adventures, relating what was going on with the family, telling hysterical stories and making jokes. We'll so miss Mary and our calls with her!
Love and hugs, Dick and Shannon Bird

SHANNON BIRD - April 29, 2024 at 01:11 PM

AF

“ All of the Jim Yankovich family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Irlbeck.

All of the Jim Yankovich family - April 28, 2024 at 10:29 AM

AF

“ All of the Jim Yankovich family purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Mary Irlbeck.



All of the Jim Yankovich family - April 28, 2024 at 10:29 AM

FF

“ Fierce, Gordon & Shaffer families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Irlbeck.

Fierce, Gordon & Shaffer families - April 27, 2024 at 05:33 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mary Irlbeck.



April 27, 2024 at 05:33 PM



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



April 27, 2024 at 11:06 AM

MV

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Mary Villa - April 26, 2024 at 04:05 PM

LH

“ Love Dave and Sandy Hopper planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Irlbeck.

Love Dave and Sandy Hopper - April 26, 2024 at 11:57 AM

LH

“ Love Dave and Sandy Hopper purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Mary Irlbeck.



Love Dave and Sandy Hopper - April 26, 2024 at 11:57 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Irlbeck.



April 25, 2024 at 11:18 AM

PK

“ Phil and Pam Karp planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Irlbeck.

Phil and Pam Karp - April 25, 2024 at 10:05 AM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Irlbeck.*



April 25, 2024 at 10:05 AM



“ *Thoughts & prayers are with all of you. I have many happy memories. 🙏🙏🙏❤️*



Kristi Pudenz - April 25, 2024 at 08:34 AM



“ *Missy Bartell Houston Texas planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Irlbeck.*

Missy Bartell Houston Texas - April 24, 2024 at 08:26 PM



“ *Missy Bartell Houston Texas purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Mary Irlbeck.*



Missy Bartell Houston Texas - April 24, 2024 at 08:26 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mary Irlbeck.*



April 24, 2024 at 07:22 PM



“ *My prayers are with the family, she would call me on the phone and tell me what she needed. After 1 conversations she said love you, she called me back and said did I just say I love you and I said yes. We had a chuckle about that.*



Diane Campbell - April 24, 2024 at 06:25 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mary Irlbeck.*



April 24, 2024 at 04:09 PM



“ *Marilyn Jeschke lit a candle in memory of Mary Irlbeck*



marilyn jeschke - April 23, 2024 at 03:02 PM

SI

Thanks for the Happy Birthday song

Scott Irlbeck - April 24, 2024 at 02:57 PM

FC

“ *From the Connie Bird Family Children purchased the Serenity Wreath for the family of Mary Irlbeck.*



From the Connie Bird Family Children - April 23, 2024 at 02:27 PM

JG

“ *Love you Queen! Rest in peace* ❤️
Julie Gehling

Julie Gehling - April 23, 2024 at 07:27 AM