



Mary A. Austin

March 26, 1931 - September 6, 2018

Mary A. Austin, 87 year old resident of Pierz, MN, passed away on Thursday, September 6, 2018 at the Pierz Villa. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:30 A.M., Monday, September 10, 2018 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Pierz, MN with Father Kenneth Popp officiating. Burial will be at St. Joseph's Parish Cemetery in Pierz. Visitation will be Sunday from 4 to 8 P.M. and from 9 to 10 A.M. on Monday at the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Pierz. Parish Prayers will be at 7:30 PM on Sunday. Funeral arrangements are with the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Pierz, MN.

Mary was born on March 26, 1931 in Little Falls, MN to the late Jake and Rose (Medek) Girtz the 11th child of 19. Mary went through the 8th grade then went off to work in Illinois. In October of 1950 Mary was united in marriage to James M. Austin and together they had six children. Together they owned and operated Jim's Place in Pierz for many years and were also part owners of The Old Bank Restaurant in Pierz, MN. Mary then had many waitressing jobs over the years, also worked at the American Legion, Kentucky Fried Chicken and lastly at Taco Johns in Little Falls where she retired at the age of 80. Mary loved being around her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and her great-great-grandchildren. She also enjoyed visiting everyone she met and was known to BS with the best of them. She enjoyed shaking dice, playing a good game of Smear, Bingo, and most of all playing the stump fiddle.

Mary is survived by sons, Franklin (Elaine) Austin, Bruce (Cindy) Austin, and James (Gloria) Austin; daughters, Berniece (Steve) Vogl and Nelda (Kevin) Starr; daughter-in-law, Debbie (Jim) Wensel Austin; brothers, Ervin Girtz, Danny (Jan) Girtz, Gilbert (Joyce) Girtz; sisters, Delrose Keyes, Doreen Kapsner, Beatrice Adams, Alice Kahlhamer, and Sharlet (William) Lewis; 17 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

Mary was preceded in death by husband, James Austin (1996); son, Gordon Austin (2002); parents, Jacob and Rose Girtz; brothers, Leo Girtz, Virgil Girtz and infant James; sisters, Verna Gruber, Margaret Loidolt, Genevieve Franklin, Mildred Terhaar, Hildegard Dudink, Josephine Kaski, and Mary Jane Merklings; brothers-in-law, Art Gruber, Hubert Loidolt, Jerry Franklin, Severin Terhaar, Gerard Merklings, Dick Kaski, Eddie Merklings, John Adams, Roman Kahlhamer, Art Kapsner, Larry Selinger and Lee Keyes; sisters-in-law, LaVerne Girtz, LyAnn Girtz and Rosie Girtz.

Cemetery Details

St. Joseph's Cemetery

Pierz, MN

Previous Events

Service

SEP **10**. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Joseph's Catholic Church
68 North Main Street
Pierz, MN

Tribute Wall



“ *Lemieur Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Mary A. Austin*



Lemieur Funeral Homes - September 07, 2018 at 05:49 PM

GH

I'm very sorry for the loss of your Aunt Mary. I pray the Lord will comfort all of the family and friends who knew her.

Ginnie Bukovi Hudson - September 08, 2018 at 01:19 AM

GG

I just watched the video and what a beautiful tribute to this full life your mom had. My first memories of her was playing smear at Grandpa Girtz's home. I was so new to this family (not married yet) and new to this game. I sat by your mom and learned she did not like dealing cards so she would talk and talk and slide the cards over to the next person ... me. I wasn't sure and, of course, nervous and didn't want to make a bad impression so I didn't say anything; but Doug told me that is what she does. And the memories are many. I won't be at the funeral but please know my heartfelt thoughts are with you all. Blessings and Prayers in my heart for this life that blessed us, annoyed us (maybe) at times, but always made us laugh - what a gift. Love and Peace always - Geri Gruber (Goosie)

Geri Gruber - September 09, 2018 at 12:03 AM



“ *Mary A. Austin*

January 21, 2023 at 11:59 AM

DH

“ *Debbie Jelinski Harakel lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Austin*



Debbie Jelinski Harakel - September 13, 2018 at 02:07 PM

DH

My deepest sympathy to the whole Austin Family. Mom's are a special breed and she will be missed lots. God Bless all of you.

Debbie Jelinski Harakel - September 13, 2018 at 02:09 PM

WW

“ *Wendy Waltman lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Austin*



Wendy Waltman - September 10, 2018 at 12:06 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mary A. Austin.*



September 09, 2018 at 10:08 PM

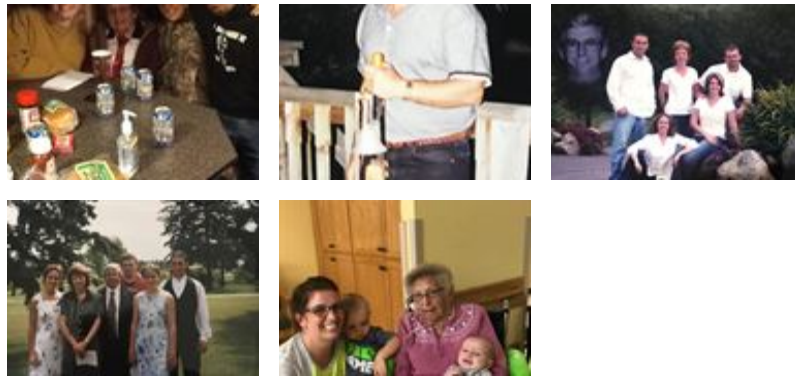
GK

“ Remembering all the years that were spent with Girtz family gatherings and our summer vacations to Pierz when our dad was in the National Guard. Being able to stay and share summer times with Mary and family at Jim's Place was always on the list. Thoughts and prayers to the Austin Family at this time. With love and great memories. Greg Kaski

Greg Kaski - September 09, 2018 at 11:37 AM



“ 8 files added to the album LifeTributes



Lemieur Funeral Homes - September 09, 2018 at 08:33 AM



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



September 08, 2018 at 07:21 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Mary A. Austin.



September 08, 2018 at 02:37 PM



“ Jim’s place was one of my dad’s and mine favorite stops. My dad Al Selinski stopped there every Tuesday for years delivering candy and cigarettes through Vons supply jobbing company and I would go along in the summer. First thing he said is “Mary where’s my coffee” and we ended up having lunch too. Later on in life I still loved to see her spunk at the red rooster. She is a legend ❤️ Nancy selinski beutz

nancy selinski - September 08, 2018 at 12:22 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary A. Austin.



September 08, 2018 at 11:22 AM



“ I only had the pleasure of meeting Mary One time, I’m sorry I didn’t get to know her better. The family has put together a beautiful Obituary and shared many wonderful photos. Rest In Peace now.

mary Mc - September 07, 2018 at 09:03 PM

DA

“ You all be missed Mary.



Donna Anderson - September 07, 2018 at 05:00 PM

PB

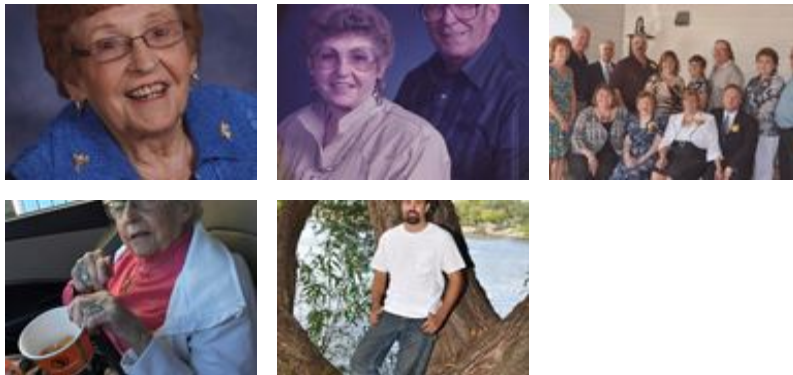
“ So many great memories I enjoyed our talks over picking rocks when I was redoing the landscaping. You were a wonderful Aunt.



Penny Buch - September 07, 2018 at 04:57 PM



“ 53 files added to the album LifeTributes



Lemieur Funeral Homes - September 07, 2018 at 04:48 PM

JB

“ Jerry & Audrey Becker lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Austin



Jerry & Audrey Becker - September 07, 2018 at 04:44 PM



“ Ruthann Jensen lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Austin



Ruthann Jensen - September 07, 2018 at 02:04 PM

CB

“ Correna Becker lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Austin



Correna Becker - September 07, 2018 at 01:55 PM

JS

“ Joan Sanoski lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Austin



Joan Sanoski - September 07, 2018 at 11:05 AM

DH

“ *Dennis & Janice Hoffman lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Austin*



Dennis & Janice Hoffman - September 07, 2018 at 08:33 AM

 Linda
Karst
Cherne

“ *Mary was always the life of the party, look out up there, here comes Mary and her Stumpfiddle!*



Linda Karst Cherne - September 07, 2018 at 07:47 AM

LD

“ *Auntie Mary was a legend to many! A spit fire, loved to party , drink beer and play her stophiddle! She will always be in my heart! RIP sweet lady! God has taken you to be with my mom now ! Party on ladies! Love Linda*

Linda Dirks - September 06, 2018 at 10:54 PM

PM

You took the words right out of my mouth Sister! I always looked forward to see the sparkle she brought to the table! Special Lady for sure! Loved to laugh and always had a smile! Love you Auntie Mary!

Patsey A Mueller - September 19, 2018 at 05:08 AM

AL

“ *Mary was like a grandma to me for many years as we worked side by side at taco johns I will miss you the world was a better place with you in it*



Annmarie Lyon - September 06, 2018 at 10:41 PM

LH

“ *LeRoy & Peggy Hoheisel lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Austin*



LeRoy & Peggy Hoheisel - September 06, 2018 at 09:56 PM

HB

“ *Hayley Bednar lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Austin*



Hayley Bednar - September 06, 2018 at 09:37 PM



“ *Delores Young lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Austin*



Delores Young - September 06, 2018 at 09:35 PM

LH

“ *Luann Hoheisel lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Austin*



Luann hoheisel - September 06, 2018 at 09:12 PM

LH

You have our sympathy Randy and Luann

Luann hoheisel - September 06, 2018 at 09:13 PM

SC

“ *Sandy Austin Chapin lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Austin*



Sandy Austin Chapin - September 06, 2018 at 08:51 PM



“ *Penny Wolters lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Austin*



Penny Wolters - September 06, 2018 at 08:45 PM



“ *Kelly Thomsen lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Austin*



Kelly Thomsen - September 06, 2018 at 06:54 PM



“ *Mary Fandel lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Austin*



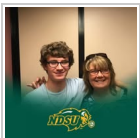
Mary Fandel - September 06, 2018 at 06:44 PM



“ *Darlene Pick lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Austin*



Darlene Pick - September 06, 2018 at 06:42 PM



“ *Pearl Wilson lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Austin*



Pearl Wilson - September 06, 2018 at 05:39 PM