



Mary Catherine Kalman Griglak

November 15, 1919 - August 14, 2016

Mary Catherine (Kalman) Griglak of Perryopolis, Pa. passed gently from this life at her home on Sunday, August 14, 2016. She was 96 years old at the time of her passing and was surrounded at her bedside by her children. She is survived by daughters Deborah Griglak, Marcia (Griglak) Hankle, son Jeffrey Griglak, daughter Betsy Griglak, son-in-law Robert Hankle, grandchildren Matt Hankle and Ben Hankle as well as numerous nephews and nieces. Cay, as she was affectionately known, was preceded in death by her loving husband of sixty-eight years, Laddie L. Griglak. Born November 15, 1919, Cay was a lifetime resident of Perryopolis. She loved the town and its residents and was very proud of the role her family and especially her father, Joseph A. Kalman, played in its growth and development. Cay graduated from Perryopolis High School in 1937 and went on to Seton Hill College as a Biology major. She graduated from her beloved Seton Hill with honors in the class of 1941. Upon graduation she taught in the Perryopolis school system for several years before taking a leave of absence to raise a family. She returned to teaching in 1956 and served as the chemistry instructor at Frazier High School until her retirement in 1982. With a zest for life and an indomitable spirit, she embraced each day fully. Cay loved gardening and shopping, which she could do for hours on end, playing bridge and collecting antiques. She was an avid golfer, a sport she and her husband Laddie played together until they were 90 years old. She was kind, caring, generous and not one to shirk from giving her opinion. She was a pioneer of her generation and promoted human and

women's rights long before it became fashionable to do so. She treated everyone with dignity and respect. As a result, she was trusted and loved by countless students and many dear friends. A passionate lover of the arts, Cay was an active member of the Perryopolis Fine Arts Club for over sixty years. She was a woman of grace, character and candor and will be remembered fondly by those who were fortunate to have known her. "Shine on, oh beautiful one; you are loved more than you will ever know." Friends are invited to attend a memorial mass at St. John the Baptist R.C. Church in Perryopolis on Thursday, August 25, 2016 at 10:00am with interment and reception to follow. Those who wish to honor Cay may make donations to the Perryopolis Area History Museum Memorial Fund. The Ferguson Funeral Home and Crematory, Inc., Belle Vernon is handling the arrangements. www.FergusonFuneralHomeAndCrematory.com 724-929-5300.

Cemetery Details

St. John Cemetery

Cemetery Road
Perryopolis, PA 15473

Tribute Wall



“ *Health Nut Basket was purchased for the family of Mary Catherine Kalman Griglak.*



August 29, 2016 at 02:39 PM



“ *Dru lit a candle in memory of Mary Catherine Kalman Griglak*



Dru - August 22, 2016 at 11:14 PM



“ *Susan And Dru lit a candle in memory of Mary Catherine Kalman Griglak*



Susan and Dru - August 22, 2016 at 11:13 PM

EL

“ I was a trombone student of Mr. Griglack's back in the early 70s and in his marching band all through high school. I also had Cay as a teacher at Frazier. What an inspiration to young women and an example of what we could achieve! Through the years I would see the Griglacks in church, always together, when I was back in Perry and they always, always had hugs and an enthusiastic interest in me, my life and family. These chance encounters were always a highlight of my trips home. What positive, fun, all embracing people. What full lives they led. I know Cay has 100 questions for St. Peter 😊 God grant eternal rest.

Eileen Larence - August 19, 2016 at 03:10 PM

NB

“ Both Bradley and I will cherish our time spent with Cay. Our weekly visits with her at the nursing home were moments that we hope to always remember. From the time we walked in with our "Randall's treat" to the time we left we were so thoroughly enthralled by her stories, or her beloved memories. She shared with us her time as a child, her and Laddies days in California, their love of golf. I had asked her why she took up the sport, and her reply was "I wanted to be with Laddie, it was something we could do together". Seeing her children always by her side was a sign of her love for them and their devotion and love for her and each other. The light in her eyes, the smile on her face, she was a Lady, one who made you feel comfortable, at ease, at home. To Debbie, Marsha, Jeff, and Betsy, Thank you for sharing this beautiful woman with us.
Norma and Bradley Baker

Norma Baker - August 19, 2016 at 02:14 PM

DI

“ *David Illig lit a candle in memory of Mary Catherine Kalman Griglak*



David Illig - August 18, 2016 at 09:56 PM

DI

“ *Mary Cay and her husband Laddie were among the finest, wisest teachers and most wonderful people that I ever knew. I am honored to been a student and a friend. My wife, Leona, and I will greatly miss seeing Mary Cay at least once a year on our visits to Perryopolis. Photo: Mary Cay, right, with Mary Martin at the Martin residence on Independence St., Perryopolis, on August 23, 2013.*



David Illig - August 18, 2016 at 09:51 PM

TG

“ *She was a wonderful person to have met. I will always remember her everytime I serve lemon merengue pie. Thoughts and prayers are with her family. Teresa Gallagher*

Teresa Gallagher - August 18, 2016 at 09:43 PM

SF

“ Mary Cay and her wonderful husband Laddie were lifelong friends of my parents(Betty and Harold Sager). Besides having good friendships, she and Laddie were talented teachers, activists in the Perryopolis community and dedicated supporters of The St John's Catholic Church. Mary Cay and my mother shared passionate conversations, laughter,love of The Fine Arts Club,love and pride in their community and beautiful memories that covered eighty years or more. The children of the Griglaks: Betsy,Debbie,Marsha and Jeff are living lives that represent Mary Cay and Laddie's love and dedication to the arts,their community,their friendships and their love of life. We are all blessed to have known MaryCay Kalman Griglak.

Suellen Sager Fitzsimmons

Suellen Fitzsimmons - August 18, 2016 at 02:00 PM

SF

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Suellen Sager Fitzsimmons

Suellen Fitzsimmons - August 18, 2016 at 11:17 AM

MG

“ With Mrs. Griglak's passing I feel like I have lost someone from my own family. I have known and admired her for many years. When I was young I spent many, many hours at her home having dinner, sleeping over and I always felt very welcome. She was a special lady who was always kind, pleasant and fun to be around. I remember her as always dressed with her suits and her hair done perfectly. She was very intelligent but I think her best qualities were she was a warm, kind person who will be missed by all!

Mary Ann Sleighter Grego

Mary Ann Sleighter Grego - August 18, 2016 at 09:15 AM

JT

“ Judy (Rabatin) Taylor lit a candle in memory of Mary Catherine Kalman Griglak



Judy (Rabatin) Taylor - August 18, 2016 at 07:35 AM

SF

“ Suellen Fitzsimmons lit a candle in memory of Mary Catherine Kalman Griglak



Suellen Fitzsimmons - August 17, 2016 at 10:20 PM