



## Mary Ellen Maxe

September 28, 1934 - April 17, 2024

ADRIAN- Mary Ellen Maxe, age 89, of Adrian, MI died Wednesday morning, April 17, 2024 at Lenawee Medical Care Facility and under the care of Hospice of Lenawee.

Mary was born on September 28, 1934 in rural Northern Minnesota, the youngest of seven children. She graduated as Valedictorian from Pine River High School in 1952.

On July 25, 1954 Mary married her sweetheart, Ray Maxe. Soon after they married, Ray was deployed to Germany and Mary joined him later. During their 69 years of marriage, they shared love, laughs and adventures while raising their family, traveling and spending lots of time outdoors.

Mary loved people and her career working for Adrian Public Schools. Her work as a high school secretary provided endless opportunities to bring a smile to faces around her, retiring after 27 years. She was a long-time member of Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church. Mary invested in her community by volunteering with Adrian Community Nursery, Bixby Hospital Auxiliary, Tau Delta Sorority and PEO. Mary was skilled in the kitchen preparing many delicious meals for friends and family. She was always ready to share coffee, a cookie and good conversation.

In addition to Ray, Mary is survived by their children, Krista (Kurt) Beenen and Mark (Beth) Maxe; 4 much loved grandchildren; 1 great-grandson with another great-grandson due any day; and one sister.

There will be a gathering celebrating the lives of Ray and Mary on Monday, June 3 at 11:00 AM at Wagley Funeral Home. Family will greet friends an hour before the service.

Memorial contributions may be made to Adrian Community Preschool, PEO, or The Croswell Opera House.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Wagley Funeral Home, Adrian, where online condolences and memories may be shared at [www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com](http://www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com).

# Previous Events

## Gathering of Family and Friends

JUN 3. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home and Cremation Service  
1501 W. Maumee St.  
Adrian, MI

## Celebration of Life

JUN 3. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home (Adrian)  
1501 W. Maumee St.  
Adrian, MI 49221  
(517) 263-1400  
[info@wagleyfuneralhome.com](mailto:info@wagleyfuneralhome.com)  
<https://www.WagleyFuneralHome.com>

# Tribute Wall

EM

“ One of my favorite people ever! I loved that her desk was right by the cafeteria so I could stop by for a visit almost every day. One of my best high school memories: On Secretary's Day of our senior year (1986), two friends and I "kidnapped" her, blindfold and all, and took her to the fanciest restaurant in town, The Brass Lantern (!!). We had a lovely time! When we got back, we begged her to write passes for us since we missed 4th period--and she did!! Happy we stayed friends for the rest of her life! She was the best!  
Condolences and love to Mr. Maxe. Eileen Bell Moulin

Eileen Bell Moulin - April 29, 2024 at 12:19 PM

MM

I had the pleasure of working with Mary in the Adrian High School Counseling office. Mary was kind and cheerful, most of all efficient . She was a treat to work with. Martha Poppink-Melcher

Martha Melcher - May 12, 2024 at 07:18 PM

NH

“ Ray and Mary became very dear friends while attending Christ Redeemer Lutheran Church. Mary always had such a lovely smile and always made me feel special. Enjoyed many evenings on their patio enjoy wine and pizza, but most of all their lovely company and conversations. Rest in peace my dear Mary and hugs to Ray.



Nancy Hebb - April 23, 2024 at 12:08 PM

BR

“ Mary was a beautiful person, inside and out. Enjoyed being with her at church functions. Her smile was contagious. Becky Rubel

Becky Rubel - April 22, 2024 at 05:44 PM

JP

“*Mary was truly a beautiful woman inside and out. She had the most beautiful smile for everyone she came in contact with. I came to know Mary as an involved parent when my children attended Adrian High School.*

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**Jeannette Pfeffer** - April 22, 2024 at 10:48 AM

DM

*She made everyday of my 14 years at AHS as my helpmate, organizer, and friend so enjoyable in my counseling position. What a gem.*

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**David McKelvey** - April 28, 2024 at 11:36 AM

GM

“*Mary was my secretary for many years in Adrian public schools.....could not have asked for a better “partner” in working with me/ in the system.*

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**gary mcnitt** - April 20, 2024 at 04:01 PM

LN

“*Mary was a sweetheart. Doug and I both taught at AHS where she was a secretary. She ALWAYS ALWAYS had a smile on her face. Joy personified. Heaven welcomes you!!!*

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**Lu and Doug Nelson** - April 20, 2024 at 01:48 PM