



Mary Caroline Lafrenz

July 26, 2015

Mary Caroline Lafrenz, faithful daughter, sister and friend entered this world on December 27, 1922 has now joined the companionship of her mother, father, brother and friends in the grace filled presence of our Divine Lord July 26, 2015. Mary was always faithful to her word. She was always gracious and even the simplest treats were described by her as being elegant. Amongst her favorite things were Macaroni and Cheese, Pimento Cheese Sandwiches, Fresh Tomatoes with salt, Celery grown by her father and Oyster Stew made by her mother every Christmas. She had a flare for storytelling and would rivet you with stories growing up in her home town of Santa Rita. These stories would rival any Disney tale be it her narratives about two sisters known as the Gold Dust Twins and their mean goat that would chase you down if its gate were left open or climbing the peach tree to keep vigil over one dangling peace that each family member would watch with drooling tongues only to find it gone one morning after the mailman had visited. No evidence. No conviction. Worse of all, no peach. But perhaps the lasting fruit of all this was Mary's constant growth in fidelity to her word, her promise, her mother, her brother and friend. As I said, she was ever faithful, faithful to the end be it protecting a peach, watching over her mother and caring for her brother.

She is preceded in death by her father, William H. Lafrenz; mother Mary Elizabeth Lafrenz; and brother Father James M. Lafrenz all of Albuquerque. She is survived by her sister Barbara Ella Dora Massey and caregivers, Fred

Porter and Diego Gonzalez.

Her joys were anything that had to do with learning something new, reading maps and traveling, especially when it included her mom. All Mary had to do was pick up the keys and mother would lose the kitchen apron and be sitting shotgun in the car before Mary could even ask the words, "Mom, would you like to...". Mary did travel to Hawaii and Paris and spent most of her time marveling at Notre Dame Architecture. One of her fondest memories was traveling to Pennsylvania with her mother and brother after he was chosen to concelebrate mass with Pope John Paul, II.

Her accomplishments were many ranging from the high school band, tennis awards and recognition for outstanding contributions to the Government Industry Data Exchange Program at Sandia Labs. But her greatest accomplishment was the ability to befriend anyone who were lucky enough to visit with her. She always found interest in whatever you had to tell her and was less concerned about you having to find her interesting.

Rosary will be recited on Thursday, July 30, 2015, 6:00 p.m. at FRENCH – Lomas. Mass will be celebrated on Friday, July 31, 2015, 10:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Fatima, 4020 Lomas Blvd. NE. Burial to follow at Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please consider an act of kindness this day in Mary's name or having a Mass said for the Lafrenz family.

Cemetery Details

Gate of Heaven Cemetery

7999 Wyoming Blvd. NE
Albuquerque, NM

Previous Events

Rosary

JUL **30**. 6:00 PM (MT)

FRENCH Funerals - Cremations (Lomas)
10500 Lomas Blvd NE
Albuquerque, NM 87112
(505) 275-3500
<https://www.FrenchFunerals.com>

Mass of Christian Burial

JUL **31**. 10:00 AM (MT)

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church
4020 Lomas Blvd. NE
Albuquerque, NM

Tribute Wall

BW

“ I met Mary in about 1982 when I was assigned to take her position at Sandia Labs when she announced her impending retirement. She trained me to take over the work she seemed to love. She was energetic and fun and I was sorry to see her retire. I was a single mom in my twenties and I got a Christmas card from Mary with a \$20 bill in it after she retired; that is how big Mary's heart was. I'm happy to see she enjoyed many retired years and I'm sorry I never saw her again after she retired. I'm sorry for your loss. Mary was a great woman.

I am now retired from Sandia and I will try to replicate Mary's kindness to a young, struggling woman today in her memory.

Billie (Jojola) Weatherly

Billie Weatherly - July 29, 2015 at 11:05 AM



“ It was my honor and joy to know Mary nearly 40 years after I took instructions from her brother in my Catholic faith. Fr. Lafrenz and I would travel north from Deming to Albuquerque to visit with his mom and then care taker, Mary Caroline. Father had a love for trains but Mary, airplanes. We were sitting at the dinning room table and almost like livestock, there was a rustling in the barnyard. Mary's mother would look at her watch and Mary at the clock on the wall. Mary would turn to Father Lafrenz and say, "it's about time." Father would look at his watch and respond, "okay, let's go." We piled into Mary's car with mother and myself in the back. We drove out to the airport to watch airplanes fly in and fly out...wondering where each one came from and where each one was going. Then came along a Piper single prop. Mary turned to me and said, "Fred, those are puddle jumpers. We like the big ones." We Mary...your soaring now with your beloved airplanes. Bon Voyage my friend! Don't forget to send me a picture for my dreams and drop me a prayer from time to time. All my love. Devotedly yours, Fred



Fred Porter - July 27, 2015 at 10:04 PM

RS

“ On behalf of the FRENCH Family and Companies, we express our deepest condolences.

Richard T. Stewart - July 27, 2015 at 05:35 PM