



Mary Catherine (Ten Eyck) Milks

February 8, 1925 - July 24, 2014

Mary Catherine Ten Eyck Milks, Brodhead, passed away on Thursday, July 24, 2014, after a wonderful life of 89 years. Mary was born to her proud parents, Frank and Margaret (Taylor) Ten Eyck on February 8, 1925, at the Taylor homestead, Spring Valley Township, Brodhead, Wisconsin. Mary began playing the piano when she was two years old. By the age of five, she pestered her two older brothers, Pete and Frank Jr. (Hank), by repeatedly asking: ❖What song do you want me to play next?❖ Often they requested she play ❖Over the Hill and Far Away.❖ Mary was able to play any song that she heard and that brought joy to many. She taught piano lessons for 48 years, and was thrilled that her last full time student was her relative, Drew Ten Eyck. Mary played at community events, the Brodhead United Methodist Church, of which she was a lifelong member, and other churches in the surrounding area. God was an important part of her life and she felt richly blessed. Mary was married to Merritt ❖Putt❖ Milks for 41 years before he passed away; she was broken-hearted they were not together longer. Mary and Putt raised a fun-loving family in Brodhead, a city they loved. Mary is survived by her four children; Peggy (Dave) Dallman, Jane Dorcey, Merritt (Carole) Milks, and Connie Sue (Tom) Prochnow; seven grandchildren, Lyndsey (Rick), Nick, John (Britton Gandy), Justin (Amanda), Joia (Greg), Chelsea and Chase (Brenna); and four great-grandchildren, Seryna, Lyric, Griffin and Freya. Mary loved it when family gatherings ended with her playing the piano, which lent itself to a good time of singing and dancing, and ample

yahooing with frequent shouts of "Swing it, Mary!💎 Mary knew how to have fun, and she had lots of it! A Memorial Service will be held at 5 p.m., Thursday, August 14, 2014, at the United Methodist Church, Brodhead. Burial will be in Scotch Hill Cemetery, Spring Valley Township, Rock County, Wisconsin. Visitation will be held from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m., Wednesday, August 13, 2014 at the D.L. Newcomer Funeral Home, Brodhead, Wisconsin. In lieu of other expressions of sympathy, a memorial will be established in Mary💎s

name. 💎Brodhead has been especially good to me.💎 Mary Milks
\$(document).ready(function(){ var ifr = \$("#06N80141825D10L0");

ifr.data("ratio", ifr.attr("height")/ifr.attr("width"));

ifr.removeAttr("width").removeAttr("height"); // Resize the iframes when the

window is resized \$(window).resize(function(){ var width = ifr.parent().width();

ifr.width(width).height(width * ifr.data("ratio")); }).resize();

});

Tribute Wall



“ *D.L. Newcomer Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mary Catherine (Ten Eyck) Milks*



D.L. Newcomer Funeral Home - July 24, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ *I have always been proud of the fact that I can play nearly every hymn in the Methodist and EUB hymnals so that people could actually SING to them. I may not play every note written, but Mary Milks taught me to love them as I played them. Whenever anyone would ask who I took piano lessons from, Mary's name could not come out of my mouth fast enough. While I never appreciated her patience and talent enough when I was her student, I learned to love and appreciate her more every year as a fellow church member over the years. Rest in peace, Mary. Keep everyone tapping their foot in heaven.*

Marcia Petersen - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

CB

“ *Her remarkable life will live on in many stories and memories. A true gem of a person. I will miss her. My heart goes out to her family and friends.*

Carolyn (Bernie) Bernstein - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

DW

“ We are extending our sincere sympathy to Mary's family. She has brought so much joy to so many with her infectious smile, quick wit and her music. It was always a party when she would sit down at a piano, no one could help but tap their foot or clap their hands or even sing along. Knowing that she is at peace now and with "Putt", I hope it will bring some comfort. May God bless you all.

Dean and Nancy Walters - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

JO

“ To the wonderful family of a very special person in my life. Mary was like a second mother to me. Mary was a special person to all that had the joy and privilege to know her. Whether it was her beautiful music or beautiful personality, Brodhead will never be the same. She touched the lives of so many, and her wonderful family couldn't have asked for a greater mother and role model. Heaven has a special Lady tickling the ivories in that "piano room in the sky." Her music will live on in all of our hearts forever! Love you Mary!
I

Jeff & Stacey Olson - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

RF

“ Your Mom was wonderful, whether having coffee or at a Brodhead event she was a hoot! We are so sorry to lose such a treasure, and I believe there is music playing in heaven tonight. Take comfort in all your happy times shared, you will meet again.

Randy and Brenda Fowler - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

JB

“*Brodhead has lost a gem! A true talent, second to none. Her heart was as great as her talent, and her smile was even greater! A true joy to have known, and to have been scolded for not "practicing," I soon became in Mary's world, "Naughty Janet Ann." I cherished her friendship also... often telling stories of my dad's antic's in high school. Stories I never heard from others, stories that will remain in my heart forever. I will cherish my memories with Mary, as will hundreds of others. My sympathy to the family.. but so many wonderful memories to cherish! Love, sympathy and to the entire family - and the city of Brodhead. We've lost a beautiful lady.*

Janet "Naughty Janet Ann" Green Bartz - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

JS

“*So very sad to hear of Mary's passing. We are sending prayers for you all and hoping that God is granting you the peace and comfort to sustain you. Anyone that has known Mary knows what a wonderful person she was. Always with a smile on her face and kindness to share. Heaven has received one of the best. Grace and Mercy Peggy, Jane, Merritt, Connie Sue and to all your families.*

Jim and Cynthia Streuly - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

MK

“*Mary created a home that provided me so many warm memories, loud laughter, and many life lessons. When Jane had a party (impromptu or planned), Mary was laughing and singing with all of us whether we were 10 or 60! She often told me that her favorite place was being in her "warm and cozy home with her darling, precious children". I feel privileged to have known her. She touched so many lives. Listen real carefully... I hear "Boogie Woogie" music from heaven. I know she's there. I will miss her. Your mom was one in a million/gazillion!!! I love all of you!!!*

Mary Witte Kananian - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

AR

“*Mary Milks. A name when said immediately brings the words 'fun and music' to mind. She was always so excited to see you....no matter who she ran into! What a gem - not only to her family and friends, but to the entire community of Brodhead. Thoughts and prayers to all the family. She will be missed by many.*

Ann (Popanz) Reifsteck - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

MM

“*Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this difficult time. Mary was a wonderful lady and will be greatly missed. She always had a friendly smile and was very quick witted. I'm sure that her music will continue and will be enjoyed by many.*
Mary & Gary Mason

Mary & Gary Mason - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

AG

“*I will miss you Mary. You were such a great piano teacher to my sister and I. I loved your sense of humor. You always made me laugh.*

Angie Geiwitz - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

GV

“*What a woman! Brodhead will be a little more somber and sadder without her great personality and music. Condolences to her family and friends.*

Gail Vondra - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

TL

“ I am so sorry to hear about Mary's passing. She had a knack for making everyone feel so welcome. Mary recently played for my aunt's and my brother's services which she did wonderfully, willingly, and with such grace. I will never forget her. My deepest sympathy to her family.

Teri Lokrantz - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

BH

“ I'm sorry to hear about Mary's passing. Mary was a wonderful, spunky woman and I will miss walking by her house and seeing her outside watering her flowers with her dog and cat. She was a lovely lady & always made me smile with her quirky compliments and conversation. Brodhead was a better place because of her and she will be missed.

Brooke Haycraft - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

CZ

“ Brodhead has lost a great lady. As one of many, Mary taught our girls piano and her great love of music. We will miss her playing for us at church. We never had to look, we always knew who was at the piano as we entered church. Her memories will live on in Brodhead and in the hearts of all who we lucky enough to have called her our friend. She never forgot to send me birthday card, adding hello to Carl. She is playing for the angels and oh what the chorus must sound like!

Carl and Susan Zweifel - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

CA

“ God speed Mary. What a beautiful joyful mark you left on this world.

carolmomeny@hotmail.com - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

CC

“ WE will miss Mary as well as everyone in Brodhead. She was the loveliest and nicest person I have ever known. She made the world a lot brighter with her music and her wondersul smile. Mary we love you.

Chuck & Shirley Christman

Chuck & Shirley Christman - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

JB

“ *The Grand Lady of Brodhead. Mary touched many a heart with her music and beyond. She passed her musical as well as her spiritual beliefs on to her family. And everyone who's paths she crossed. I count Mary as more than just a friend. But part of my extended family too. Thank you Mary, till we meet again.*

John Bernstein - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

TA

“ *I haven't known Mary long. All I can say is she is an amazing lady. God has gained a beautiful angel. She will be missed by many, but her playing the piano and singing will be forever in our hearts. My thoughts and prayers go out to the family.*

Tanya - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

JB

“ To MY buddy old pal and her family,
Today I think back of all the wonderful memories your family will hold close to your hearts for years of your mom. Today I want to share with you how I saw it : To my dearest friend Jane: your example of caring for your family and your mom was inspiring! There was not a dinner that we shared together or a gathering we had that your moms name did not come up that put a better :) on your face. My memories of your mom was the years of the first sat in Novemeber off we went to the craft shows and that included "show and tell" at your moms house!!! I remember so well several times stopping in with her in her beautiful home with rollers in her hair (Jane taught her well) and lets not forget that brite red lipstick always in her pocket just in case she needed it to look good every moment. However these are just things that make us laugh!!!! Your family was blessed for 89 years with a "jewel" that not everyone has. You cherished this jewel each and everyday. Choose to live each and everyday from know on with her smile,grace, and love for life
Jackie Bier

Jackie Bier - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

DA

“ I have had the pleasure of belonging to the same Birthday Club as Mary, for the 25 years I lived in Brodhead and continuing for the last 11 years in Beloit. Mary along with 6 or 7 other gals visited me in Beloit and enjoyed luncheons at the Rock. Mary had a knack for making everyone feel special.
i am so glad that she came to Allens celebratin of life on April 10th this year. where we celebrated 90 years of his life. i have some great pictures of this event ,Mary and other birthday club gals.
i will always hold dear my memories of Mary . Love you Mary
Dorothy A.

Dorothy Armstrong - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

L"

“ We are so sorry to hear the news of Mary's passing. Mary taught "my girls" how to play the piano and will be remembered in our hearts forever with music. She was a wonderful, warm and delightful woman and will be missed by everyone she touched. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Linda Neuenschwander and "girls" - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

DA

“ All of my memories of Mary are so fond or darn right funny! She is one Lady who will be greatly missed and remembered.

Diane Anderson - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

JN

“ Deepest Sympathy to the Family of Mary Milks . Mary would always make you feel like you were the most important person on the planet , when or where you would meet her . Thank You Mary for all the great music you have played for so many . Mary was truly one of the finest people that ever lived in the City of Brodhead .

Julian Nordeng - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

RL

“ What a loss to Brodhead. She was the most beautiful Lady I ever met and very kind. We will all miss hearing here wonderful music and how she made you feel so good through her music. God Bless you Mary.

Roger & Phyllis Lentz - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

KK

“ It is a very sad time for the community of Brodhead. My deepest sympathy to the Milks family. Wonderful memories of hearing laughter from your home (around the corner from ours) and having personal concerts from Mary's own piano room... "Mary, you're on your way to your next adventure! We will miss you!"

Kris (Kjelland) Klemme - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

JF

“ Our sincere condolences to the Milks family on the passing of Mary. Her piano playing has always been a great comfort over the years and her friendship with my Mother, Dorothy is being re-kindled, I am sure in Heaven. Her memories will keep her alive in your hearts forever until the great reunion we all look forward to.

Jeff & Donna Fowler - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

TW

“ Brodhead has lost a treasure and I have lost my oldest and dearest friend. My love and condolences to the "kids". Sure hope there is a piano in heaven!

Toff Williamson - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

DR

“ When I read that Mary was quoted as saying “Brodhead has been especially good to me” tears immediately stung my eyes for I dare say Brodhead, and all of its inhabitants, have been especially fortunate to have been blessed with the likes of Mary. Her musical talent is legendary and I’m so fortunate she was a part of the fabric of my life. One of our family’s treasured traditions at Christmas time was to drive around town and look at the lights; a seasonal favorite was Mary’s sleigh stuffed full of dolls, toys and brightly wrapped packages that she had spot lighted on the front lawn. So poignant this became once it was down to just my mom, Joyce, and me for I can still see mom’s eyes lighting up with joy saying, “I see Mary’s got her sleigh out!” On behalf of the Rosman family our deepest sympathy goes out to the Milk’s family. We also celebrate her gifted life which was so abundantly full and well lived. I’d like to note that unlike Mary mother Joyce stopped playing her clarinet after high school but I think I can hear them starting up a rousing chorus of Roll out the Barrel and I know her friends welcome her home on the other side of the vale.

Deb Rosman - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

BM

“ I am so sorry for your loss. She was a great person and always made you feel you were special. I want to "thank all of you " for sharing your Mom with all of us . She will truly missed.

Love Barb Menehan

Barbara Menehan - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

JC

“ Oh how I miss Mary. She was such a grand lady, someone I and many many others looked up to. I will miss our talks about Brodheads past, wish we would have talked more often. She would always make my day if stopping in for lunch when I was working, what a wonderful and witty person she was. I so much enjoyed serving her, and she was always so thankful for getting her order exactly how she wanted it! :) And what a pleasure to drive through town passing by Marys house, enjoying her flowers and yard decor. Like so many others our lives have been touched by Mary, and she will forever be in our hearts.

Janet Cook - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

BC

“ To Mary's entire family. Mary was always smiling and happy I do not think I ever saw her angry unless Jane was naughty with the Malcook clan Ha Ha. Mary was a wonderful person and a good influence on many people in her life. She will be missed but I am sure she is glad to be with Putt again. Take care and you are in my thoughts and prayers you have each other to lean on.

Barb Clark - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

DO

“ To Mary Milks family: Sharing your sorrow and hoping it will comfort you to know that many hearts reach out to your family in sympathy and love.

Donna J Olson - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

SS

“ My deepest heartfelt condolences to all the Milks family on the loss of their beautiful loved one, Mary. She was a Sparkler! I was very lucky to know Mary and her family through my mother, Barb Bonlie, as she and Mary were best buddies from early childhood. According to Mary, who was a great storyteller, there were many fun high jinks involved. Later in life this fun was shared with husbands, Walt and Putt. They have all passed now, along with many other dear, sweet friends they shared with their children and grandchildren. If you can celebrate in the hereafter, I think they might all find each other with the unmistakable laughter of Mary.

Shelly Saunders - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

RV

“ My sympathy to your family for Mary's loss. She certainly livened up a place with her talents, namely her music, but also her people skills. She always expressed recognition and a smile no matter how busy she was. She radiated life and love of life clear through to her fingertips. How blessed you were to have such a beautiful lady, through and through. Brodhead was also blessed to have her in the community with her talent being used to expand her love of music. I always thoroughly enjoyed her holiday decorations, especially the sleigh, and also her flowers. They were stable decorations, just as was her stability. Our family was so thankful she was able to play for my husband, Hubie's, funeral in April, especially since we were not aware of her illness. Keeping you in my thoughts and prayers.

Rita Vickers - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

BS

“ Love, comfort and blessings to you are your family Connie Sue on the death of your dear mom.

Brenda (Krogwold) Simeth - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

JS

“ To the Family of Mary Milks: So sorry to hear about your mother's passing. Hope you are well and please accept our condolences. I'm so glad to have had a good visit with Mary when I was home last August for my 50th reunion. Our thoughts are with you!

Jim St.John and Nanci St.John - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

DP

“ My sincere condolence to the family. We've gone a long way together. Our families, Church, Jaycees, weddings, funerals, celebrations; nothing will be the same without Mary!

Dean Pawlisch - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

PC

“ Our sincere condolences on Mary's passing I was so happy to have known her and Putt when we were neighbors, then being included in the "birthday group" lunches later- she always brought a smile! Always happy and an inspiration about life
She played at our wedding in 1970-what a great memory
Pat and Steve Cordery aka Fricke

Pat Cordery - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

JT

“ As I sit & read all of the above memories, tributes & outpouring of genuine love I find it hard to come up with anything more! I echo everybody's sentiments, but of course I do have my own special memories & gratitude for an incredible woman, mother & talented performer.

She "took me in" so to speak - having no more family in Brodhead & going thru a divorce she became my surrogate mom so to speak. Of course, having my cousin Mary Witte being such a beloved family member didn't hurt either!

My sons & I were the benefactors of her love & generosity being included in family celebrations along with other family members' kindness & love - I am forever grateful and will do my best to pay it forward in Mary's memory.

She has taught us all how to be better people - that's her legacy that will go on forever. I can only imagine how much more fun Heaven is now! Thank you Mary for everything - I love you & will miss you....Janie

Janie Ties - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

JF

“ God gave Mary a special musical talent to encourage and lift many people's spirits through her lifetime. She used it well and her faith spoke through the music she shared at various occasions. May she be at peace as she is now with her Lord and those she loved that went before her. My deepest sympathies to all her family as you grieve and may you find peace in the hope of seeing her again in the future.

Juanita (Schwartzlow) Flater - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM

CJ

“ Dear Peggy, Jane, Merritt, and Connie Sue and your families,

Your mom was so precious to me. I loved to see her whenever I visited Brodhead. She was such an encouragement to me. She made piano lessons really fun. Music has remained a huge part of my life, largely because of the joy that it brings me, and that was due, in part, to Mary. She and my mom are probably having a grand time now, making music together once again.

*Blessing to you,
Colleen (Markham) Jennings*

Colleen (Markham) Jennings - May 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM