



Mary Belle (Lawton) Lyons

July 12, 1914 - August 14, 2010

Mary Belle Lyons, age 96, passed away peacefully on August 14, 2010 at Oakwood Village West. Mary Belle was born on July 12, 1914, in Brodhead, WI, the daughter of Andrew and Lila (Zavitz) Lawton. She graduated from Brodhead High School in 1932 and from the University of Wisconsin in 1936 with a degree in education. She was a member of Gamma Phi Beta sorority and remained involved in sorority activities for many years. She met Robert W. Lyons at the UW and they were married on April 26, 1941. He preceded her in death in 1960. Prior to her marriage, she taught in the Lake Mills School District. She began working for UW Hospital in 1956. During her career she handled administrative functions when the Department of Pediatric Medicine was established and later served as supervisor of Outpatient Clerical Services. Following her retirement in 1976, Mary Belle served as a volunteer at the hospital for many years. As a single working mom, Mary Belle was a major source of inspiration and financial assistance for her three children while they attended the University of Wisconsin. She was an avid fan of the Badgers, Packers, and Brewers. She loved to travel, especially visiting her family in Florida every winter. She was an excellent card player who enjoyed her bridge groups and games of Casino at family gatherings. Nothing delighted her more than spending time with her grandchildren. Mary Belle was a strong, independent woman whose good humor and unflinchingly positive attitude about life will be dearly missed by all who knew her. Mary Belle is survived by her sons Robert (Peg) Lyons of Middleton and Michael Lyons of

Deland, FL and daughter Patricia Lyons of Singer Island, FL; grandchildren Andrew (Lindsay) Lyons of Middleton and Elizabeth Lyons of San Francisco, CA; and great-grandchildren Carson and Spencer. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, an infant brother, and her sisters Ann Timm and Helen Stencil. A memorial service will be held on Friday, August 20 at 11:30 A.M. at Resurrection Chapel, Oakwood Village West, 6201 Mineral Point Road, followed by a reception for family and friends at Heritage Oaks, adjacent to the Chapel. Graveside services will be held at 3:30 p.m., Friday, August 20, 2010 at the Greenwood Cemetery in Brodhead. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the UW Carbone Cancer Center, 600 Highland Avenue, Madison, WI 53792, or the UW American Family Children's Hospital, 1675 Highland Avenue, Madison, WI 53792. Specify Mary Belle Lyons Memorial. The family wishes to express their gratitude to the dedicated and caring staff at Oakwood Village for the comfort that they provided to Mary Belle in her final years.

Tribute Wall

PP

“*Mary Belle (I always called her Mrs Lyons) was my supervisor at UW Hospital for several years while working in the outpatient appointment area. I had no experience for the position that I was being hired for and she hired me solely because I had a Brodhead connection. After leaving the hospital in 1976 we still got together occassionaly for lunch and we always exchanged Christmas Cards. I hadn't heard from her for long I thought she may have moved to Florida. I wish I had know that she was still in the area as I would have loved to visit her. She was a remarkable women and we had many good times together. All of us that worked under Mrs Lyons felt like a family. Please accept my sincere condolences.*

Peggy Phillips - May 10, 2021 at 11:29 AM

PN

“*Oh, I can't believe you are gone. You were such an inspiration to those of us who had the good fortune to work for you at UW Hospital. I was a registration clerk back in the 1960's. We had many good times together as "family" Please accept our heartfelt sympathy. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family as they go through this difficult time. May God Be With You!!!!*

Penny Nipple - May 10, 2021 at 11:29 AM

DW

“ As usual there was so much I didn't know, including the fact that Mary Belle was born in Brodhead. And that she put her 3 children through University of Wisconsin single-handedly.

But I did know that she was amazing, bright, steadfast, and strong. The obituary notice summarized her life and character lovingly and beautifully. What a long and varied life, with many achievements, including teaching, and Pediatrics Department administration.

I am glad that she is back home at last, and I was proud to have been her physician.

My sincere condolences to her loving family and friends.

david watts - May 10, 2021 at 11:29 AM

HN

“ *"Mrs. Lyons", as we respectfully called her - was also my supervisor for many years while I worked Outpatient at UW Hospital in Surgery, Cardiology, Urology, Neurology and Oncology during the late 60's and early 70's. If that sounds busy....she supervised that and much much more. When I met Mary Belle she was in charge of Admissions to the hospital and all the Outpatient clinic appointments. It was a perfect spot for her as she was so kind to everyone and was a wonderful "spokesperson" for the Hospital.*

I too am sorry that I didn't know she was at Oakwood. It would have been wonderful to visit with her. She was loved and will be remembered by MANY people.

Dan and I send our most sincere condolences to Bob and Peg and the rest of the family of our dear "Mrs. Lyons".

Harriet Nelson - May 10, 2021 at 11:29 AM

JL

“ *What a long and full life your Mother lead. I'm sure all the good memories will help ease your sorrow at this time. Please accept our sincere condolences. Jerry and Jackie*

Jerry and Jackie LaPoint - May 10, 2021 at 11:29 AM