



Mary Kay Nichols

April 24, 1928 - October 22, 2013

Mary Kay Nichols, age 85, of Milford, passed away on Tuesday, October 22, 2013, at Hilltop Care Center in Spirit Lake. She was born on April 24, 1928, in Los Angeles, California, to Arndt and Hannah Marie (Freeburg) Jensen.

Mary Kay earned her Master Degree in Education Administration and was an assistant principal for seventeen years. She was united in marriage to Raymond Nichols on August 5, 1949, in California. Mary Kay enjoyed spending her spare time sewing.

Mary Kay is survived by her husband, Raymond Nichols of Milford; her son, David Nichols of Milford; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; and her daughter, Katherine Honnatte. A memorial service will be held at 11:00A.M. Wednesday, October 30, 2013, at Good News Community Church.

The Schuchert Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Tribute Wall

EL

“ Ray and David, We were back in the lakes area July 2015. We are so very sorry to hear of Mary's passing. We did not know until we returned home. We felt like she was family since we stayed at Hannah Marie many times since 1989 both just the 2 of us and with family. Thank you to the entire Nichols family for your very generous hospitality. Mary set the bar for all innkeepers. We are sure she went to Heaven with many, many ideas - she was an ever ending spirit and soul how to make the inn a better place for your guests. Such Talent!!!! You guys had the 5 star plus of b&b's. Because of your excellence, we became b&b guests wherever we traveled around the USA. Thank you and God Bless, Eddie and Janet Lozon

eddie and janet lozon - July 24, 2015 at 03:13 AM

PT

“ I am so sorry to hear Mary passed. We knew each other from innkeeping conferences and loved to chat about the industry via phone and email and the commonality and differences between Minnesota and Iowa. She was as dedicated to the success of other innkeepers as she was to the comfort and well being of her guests and family. I will never forget when we partnered on a tea workshop that she surprised even me when she ran into the classroom backwards in full costume yelling "off with his head" for the most vibrant example of a Mad Hatter's Tea. She is indeed in heaven serving tea and sprinkling blessings everywhere. Her spirit of generosity and kindness will be missed by us Northerners as well. She spoke so often and fondly of husband Ray and son David. So very sorry for your loss. Pam Thorsen from Classic Rosewood Inn and Thorwood in Hastings, Mn.

Pam Thorsen - January 15, 2014 at 07:20 PM

JG

“ Lots of love and prayers Precious memories from The c ... Jerry and Jacque.. Amanda, Liz and all the California Crew..... So many memories... Luv Ya...
. JnJ

Jerry Grinstead - November 01, 2013 at 03:29 PM

RH

“ I always felt Mary was the Grandmother of Innkeepers in the IBBIA. She was so dedicated and a believer in making things work. Always thought I would come stay and visit her B&B, but never made it. Missed her when she was unable to go the conferences. I'm sure she will be greatly missed. God's peace to you, Ray and David.
Ruth and Wayne Henderson Back Inn Time B&B Greenfield

Ruth Henderson - November 01, 2013 at 11:40 AM

SU

“ The best Innkeeper ever, I loved Mary. My friends and our daughters spent many summers staying at the Hannah Marie. Mary will truly be missed.

Sue - October 31, 2013 at 09:33 PM

VT

“ My husband and I loved staying at the Hannah Marie Inn in Spencer. Visiting with Mary was always a highlight:) Mary was a wonderful women, such a gracious hostess, I loved getting to know her with each visit, listening to her stories of teaching and her childhood. Our deepest sympathy to Mary's family, what a wonderful person!

Vicky & Brian Tiedemann - October 30, 2013 at 03:37 PM

JJ

“ Mary was a stellar hostess whether it was business or pleasure. She was dedicated to making all guests feel welcome. Interestingly, I was researching old photos last evening. I discovered Mary's photo with Duane Hutchinson, a visiting writer. Mary hosted a tea for Duane and Spencer middle school students at her B & B. She was cordial and dedicated to people. Mary never knew a stranger. I am certain that Mary hosted her first tea in heaven where she served angel food cake and star-lit tea.

Judy Johnson - October 25, 2013 at 10:43 AM



“ Mary Kay Nichols

October 23, 2013 at 09:05 PM

VT

“ The past few years of knowing Mary as B&B host, passionate baker and homemaker, she put her heart and soul into all she did and was a sincere and dedicated Innkeeper, making sure everyone else was comfortable. Mary, we will miss you....

Virginia "Gin" Schultes @ Gin's Inn B&B, Templeton - October 23, 2013 at 07:41 PM

SI

“ I knew Mary Kay from seeing her in church many years, but only had personal contact with her the past 12 months. She was a prayer warrior for Good News Community Church and an inspiration to myself and my husband Duane. Her faith was unshakable. Her humility inspiring, and her HOPE in God Almighty unfailing. I am thankful to have had even limited contact with her. GNCC will miss such a soul in our midst. Our prayers for your family and friends.

Sally Ites - October 23, 2013 at 10:17 AM