



Mary Genevieve Durkin

October 29, 1933 - April 5, 2025

Mary Genevieve (Gefken) Durkin (affectionately known to many as “Muffy”), 91, of Orlando, Florida passed away on Saturday, April 5, 2025, peacefully at home with loving family members at her side.

A Eulogy will be delivered at 1:45 PM followed by funeral services will be held at 2:00 PM on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at the Cathedral of St. James - Orlando, 215 N. Orange Avenue, Orlando, Florida 32801 with the Reverend Phillip Mills of the Cathedral of St. James, officiating. A Celebration of Life will follow at the Embassy Suites, 191 E. Pine Street, Orlando, FL 32801. Arrangements are by DeGusipe Funeral Home Crematory.

Mary was born on October 29, 1933, in Orange Memorial Hospital, The Oranges, NJ, to father Frederick J. Gefken and mother Mary Demeter. She grew up in Maplewood, NJ, went to Our Lady of the Valley High School in Orange, NJ and St. Joseph’s School of Nursing in Paterson, NJ. She met her future husband in high school and married Paul George Durkin on December 28, 1955. They moved

to

Brick, NJ in the early 1960s and raised the Durkin family at the Jersey Shore.

She

was first and always a loving mother and homemaker and second, for many years,

a caring nurse that later in life worked private duty for elder patients who became

like a second family. She was involved in the KnitWits group at the Audubon Park

Covenant Church, Orlando, FL where women gathered to knit, do needlepoint,

make crafts and socialize. Mary was the family historian who kept track of generations of relatives like an encyclopedia. She also loved to go on cruises and

rarely (until her later years) turned down an offer to travel. Mary was the glue that

helped keep her eight children connected via daily phone conversations with each.

We will miss her terribly.

In addition to her parents, Mary is preceded in death by her late husband,

Paul

George Durkin and her sister Janet Eick.

Mary is survived by her eight (8) children, Stephen Durkin of Kauffman, TX;

Paul

Durkin and wife Gloria of Indian Shores, FL; Patricia Durkin of Bay Head, NJ;

Pamela Grossman and husband Glenn of West Hills, CA; Mary Beth Durkin of Point

Pleasant, NJ; Judy Scheller of Farmingdale, NJ; Karen McFadden of Orlando, FL; and

Todd Durkin and wife Melanie of San Diego, CA; 13 grandchildren, Paul G. Durkin II and wife Zahra and David Durkin; Taylor, Carly and Jonah Grossman; Ian Kirwan and wife Crystal; Sara Humeny and husband Rob and Brooke Scheller; Grant McFadden and wife Bailey and Madeline McFadden; Luke, Brady and McKenna Durkin; and three (3) great grandchildren, Autumn Mummolo; and Lochlan and Ilona Kirwan; and sister Valerie and husband David Blethen; and brother Raymond.

Memorials may be given to the American Diabetes Association, American Heart

Association or Audubon Park Covenant Church, Orlando, FL.

The family of Mary wishes to extend our sincere thanks to the caregivers of VITAS Healthcare (Hospice), particularly Chaplain Avika (Vishisho) Awomi and

Elizabeth Besgranges, Home Health Aide and to Anne Affarr, nursing assistant of Home Health Resources.

Previous Events

Funeral Service

APR 29. 2:00 PM (ET)

Cathedral of St. James - Orlando
215 N. Orange Ave.
Orlando, FL 32801

Celebration of Life

APR 29. 4:00 PM (ET)

Embassy Suites
191 E. Pine Street
Orlando, FL 32801

Tribute Wall

LJ

“ Love, Jackie purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mary Genevieve Durkin.



Love, Jackie - April 28, 2025 at 04:29 PM

DM

“ She lived by my cousin (Richard Neiland and my Aunt Thelma. I would go to Florida to help out with Aunt Thelma when Richard would go away. Ms Mary would always bring us the newspaper and come play games with us. Several times she would go to shows with us. I will always remember the times we had the pleasure of her company.

Dawn Moen - April 19, 2025 at 03:21 PM

CA

“ I remember many years ago, going to a party at Patti's and when I got there, Muffy was in the yard bouncing on a small exercise trampoline! She just cracked me up!

cathy - April 18, 2025 at 09:22 PM

F(

“ Muff was always an inspiration To us all and always a bubbling personality. She was the most caring of all ue!! LOVEYA MUFF!!!!

Frederick Gefken (Ray) - April 11, 2025 at 12:44 PM