



Mary Ann Stroka

June 8, 1958 - June 6, 2024

Mary Ann Stroka, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on June 6th, 2024. She was a woman of many talents and passions, whose vibrant spirit touched the lives of all who knew her.

Mary Ann was born in Buffalo, New York, and attended Alden High School. She was the cherished daughter of Robert Edwin Drum and Mary Lou (Harris) Drum, both of whom preceded her in death. She grew up alongside her siblings: Mary Beth (Drum) Seaman, John Drum (who is deceased), and Martha (Drum) Bunyan.

Mary Ann spent her early years cultivating a deep love for crafts and creativity. She could often be found at a spinning wheel, or with a needle and thread, paintbrush, or crochet hook in hand, always ready to share her latest project with anyone willing to learn. She could always be found with a dog or cat in her lap, providing her with comfort and companionship.

Her life took a delightful turn when she and her family established 'A Stroka Gene-Us Alpacas' in 2007. The farm became a haven not only for the alpacas she adored, but also for the community that grew around it. Visitors would come from near and far to experience the warmth and charm of the farm store, where Mary Ann's handcrafted goods were always a highlight.

Her commitment to service was evident in her dedication to the YWCO and Agape Church in Laurel. Mary Ann's compassionate nature and unwavering faith made her a pillar of these communities. She found immense joy in giving back and supporting those in need, whether through organizing events, leading craft sessions, or simply offering a listening ear.

Mary Ann is survived by her loving husband, Terrance Andress, and her cherished children: Dawn Stoll (Shay French), Christopher Stroka (Courtney), Brian Stroka (Melody), and Amy Swartzfager (Jon); stepchildren: Terrance Andress (Katie), Kara Andress, and Kelly Worley (David).

Additionally, Mary Ann leaves behind her grandchildren: Alex & Winter Stoll, Taylor Pudlin (Mike), Jeffrey Reaves Jr., Olivia, Lillyan, Nathaniel, Isabella, Anna Katherine & Emily Stroka, Aliyah, Addyson & Ayda Barrentine, Mason Swartzfager, Chloe and Sophia Andress, and Maya and Eliana Romero; and two great-grandchildren: Elliot and Sophia Pudlin.

As we remember Mary Ann, we celebrate a life filled with laughter, love, and creativity. Her legacy lives on in the countless lives she touched, the beautiful crafts she created, and the memories we hold dear.

In lieu of a funeral or viewing, a celebration of Mary Ann's life will be held at the YWCO in Laurel on June 30th. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Animal Rescue League in her memory.

To view the online guest book, visit www.memorychapellaurel.com.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUN **30**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

YWCO
428 W Oak Street
Laurel, MS 39440

Tribute Wall

MM

“ Terry- so sorry to hear of Mary Ann's passing. Our thoughts and prayers for you, and family. MaryAnne and Matt Mroz

MaryAnne Mroz - June 14, 2024 at 03:28 PM

LB

To the family of Mary Ann u are in my prayers so sorry for your loss she was special friend of mine

Iana Buckley - June 29, 2024 at 02:45 PM

AW

“ So sorry for your loss. Always enjoyed visiting the farm where she made everyone feel welcomed. Praying for family and friends during this time.

Amy Williams - June 09, 2024 at 03:52 PM

LS

“ From the moment i met you, to the last moment i saw you, you made in impression on me. I saw the strong woman you were and can't thank you enough for being the support system for my husband prior to my exsistance in his life. I am forever grateful to be apart of such an amazing family. And thank God he brought me to you all. We will see you on the other side, with Nana Papa and Uncle John. With love... Lori Seaman.



Lori A Seaman - June 08, 2024 at 06:33 PM



Mom is so very proud of you both! You held a special place in her heart! She will be looking down with pride and joy on the 30th! I love you!

Brian Stroka - June 09, 2024 at 12:55 PM

SZ

“ *Terry, so sorry for the loss of your wife. Sending my condolences to you and your family.*



Sue Stirnelli Zinkievich - June 08, 2024 at 05:58 PM

JZ

“ *Terry and family-so sorry for your loss. Prayers for all as you go through this difficult time.*

joyce Zawistowski - June 08, 2024 at 03:56 PM

DD

“ *Dana D. purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Mary Ann Stroka.*



Dana D. - June 08, 2024 at 03:43 PM

AM

“ *Mrs. Mary Ann was such an inspiration to me. I am so glad to have met her and am a better person for having known her. May she finally be pain free and may God be with the family through this time.*

Amanda Miller - June 08, 2024 at 03:24 PM



“ *Mama,*

If there is one word I could use to describe you, it's tenacious. You had the cards stacked against you from the very beginning and you prevailed. You taught us to transcend labels, earn our keep, never back down, and defend the defenseless. Your time on this side of Heaven was short lived, but your legacy lives on in the countless lives you affected. We love you, and we are so grateful for all the good you've done in this world. Happy birthday, and save us a seat at the table!



*All our love,
Brian, Melody, and the girls*

Brian Stroka - June 08, 2024 at 11:38 AM