



Mrs. Joy S. Farrelly

September 17, 1926 - July 28, 2024

Helen Joy Farrelly, née Stimm, age 97, of Williamsville, New York, passed away on July 28th, 2024, at her home in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. Born on September 17th, 1926, Joy was the second of three children of Howard Frank Stimm (1895-1969) and Mary Walker Stimm (1897-1993). She was the first girl born in five generations on her father's side of the family, leading her parents to give her the middle name, Joy.

Joy grew up in a wonderfully supportive family that encouraged her many interests. Her childhood was filled with adventure, including tennis, Adirondack summers, archery, swimming, Girl Scout challenges, and even becoming the high school badminton champion. A favorite pastime of hers was skiing, which she started from a young age and continued to enjoy into her 80s. She attended Skidmore College, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts. Her love of travel was ignited by a trip to Sweden in 1948 with The Experiment in International Living, foreshadowing the extensive international experiences that would follow.

Joy, along with her beloved husband Scottie and their four children, spent 17 years living abroad in France, Belgium, Italy, and Canada. She founded the International Women's Group in Lake Como, Italy, and served as the president of the American Women's Club in Paris, France. Joy was deeply committed to volunteering for various organizations and generously supporting those in

need. She and Scottie traveled the world and energetically immersed themselves in various cultures, learned new languages, and provided their children with countless valuable life experiences.

Throughout her life, Joy continuously explored new passions, including cooking, entertaining, painting, piano playing and composition, jewelry design, and gardening. She started playing chess in her late 80's with family and friends and several online games were in progress at the time of her passing. Always seeking new adventures, Joy and Scottie became established innkeepers of the Cliffwood Inn in Lenox, Massachusetts at the age of 60, running it for 27 years. Their rich life experiences and Joy's remarkable hospitality provided guests with unique and memorable stays.

Joy was a mother, mentor, and dear friend to many. She demonstrated strong faith, unconditional love, and a fierce independence. Joy had an ever-hopeful outlook on life, a generous spirit, perseverance and a continual outpouring of care for family and friends.

Joy is survived by her brother Kean, her four children, Virginia, Mark, Cordelia, and Jennifer, their spouses, twelve grandchildren, and five and a half great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her sister Virginia, and her husband Scottie.

Her life was a testament to the joys of embracing adventure, the importance of family and friends, and the impact of a generous and loving spirit. She was cherished by all and will be deeply missed by those who knew her.

A Liturgy of Christian Burial will be held on Saturday, August 3, 2024, at 10am at St. Ann Church in Lenox. Burial will follow in St. Ann Cemetery. There will be no calling hours. Memorial donations in Joy's memory may be made to either Breakthrough T1D or Tunnel 2 Towers, both in care of Roche Funeral

Home, 120 Main Street, Lenox, MA 01240.

Cemetery Details

St. Ann's Cemetery

1 Ore Bed Road
Lenox, MA 01240

Previous Events

Service

AUG 3. 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM (ET)

St. Ann's Church
134 Main Street
Lenox, MA 01240

Burial

AUG 3. 10:45 AM - 11:15 AM (ET)

St. Ann's Cemetery
1 Ore Bed Road
Lenox, MA 01240

Tribute Wall

TM

“ Dear Jennifer, Cordelia, Mark and Virginia, I am so sorry to hear about your mother's passing. It's a huge blow to lose a beloved parent. Aunt Joy was always so kind and gracious. I have memories ranging from playing with you and wading in the creek behind your Litzsinger house to visiting the beautiful Lenox, MA house to seeing Aunt Joy at a cousins' picnic. An amazing life for an amazing woman. Please accept my deepest condolences sent with love.
Tish Farrelly Murphy

Tish Murphy - August 04, 2024 at 02:24 PM

PH

“ To all of Joys

Peggy Houdek - August 03, 2024 at 04:32 PM

PH

I feel so strongly that Joy is no longer just around the corner from us, but I have so many lovely Joy and Scottie Memories that they will feel much closer.

We shared so many memories of lovely times, which will always be special and the thoughts of the two together again, is really special.

My heart goes out to your wonderful, beautiful family.

With very much love,

Peggy Houdek

Peggy Houdek - August 03, 2024 at 04:47 PM

AA

“ Alice Farrelly, Tucson Arizona purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mrs. Joy S. Farrelly.



Alice Farrelly, Tucson Arizona - August 03, 2024 at 09:25 AM

AA

“ Alice Farrelly, Tucson Arizona planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Joy S. Farrelly.

Alice Farrelly, Tucson Arizona - August 03, 2024 at 09:25 AM

BS

“ She will be missed in the neighborhood. Always enjoyed chatting with Joy at the pool. So sorry for your loss, but what a wonderful long life! Barb and Ted Shiffman

Barbara Serating - August 02, 2024 at 03:42 PM

KM

“ Joy was the best grandmother anyone could ever ask for. She was kind, loving, curious, motivational and much more. She always believed in me and my potential, and she was such an inspiration in every aspect of her life. Living in Missouri, I didn't get to see her as often as I'd like, but visiting her and family was always a great time. Going back in time a bit, I have fond memories of visiting the Cliffwood Inn that Joy and Scottie (Grandmere and Grandpere to me) owned, when I was younger. It was almost magical, and I have so many good memories of spending time there with the whole family. I will miss Joy so much, but the positive impact she had on everyone around her will continue on.

Kyland Miener - August 02, 2024 at 03:06 PM

BP

“ I’m so sorry Jennifer and family. She lived a wonderful life and sounds like she was a great mom and grandmother. Please accept my condolences..

Barbara Paola - August 02, 2024 at 11:51 AM

LM

“ Dearest Joy! We lived in Paris at the same time. We cooked together, took classes everywhere and she taught me so much about organisation. A few years ago, we met in Lenox at the Inn. It was September, she remembered we both had birthdays and made me a birthday cake! That genuine kindness is what I so appreciated along with her lilting voice and giggle! Love to her incredible family- always 🌹 Liz Martin

liz Martin - August 02, 2024 at 11:33 AM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Joy S. Farrelly.



August 02, 2024 at 10:49 AM

JB

“ I met Joy when her daughter Jennifer and my daughter Jerilyn attended Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. They became very close friends and still are to this day. I remember her just as her name implies, joyful and gracious. My sincere sympathy to her family. Joan Bourland

Joan Bourland - August 02, 2024 at 10:05 AM

LP

“ Love and hugs, Nancy Pollock purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Mrs. Joy S. Farrelly.



Love and hugs, Nancy Pollock - August 02, 2024 at 07:02 AM

KS

“ Kazuhiko and Fujiko Sato purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Mrs. Joy S. Farrelly.



Kazuhiko and Fujiko Sato - August 01, 2024 at 11:07 PM

MH

“ Marla H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Joy S. Farrelly.

Marla H. - August 01, 2024 at 04:50 PM