



## Mrs Mary Jane Pignatelli

September 20, 1924 - February 5, 2019

Lenox –

Mary Jane Pignatelli, 94, of Lenox passed away early Tuesday morning surrounded by her loving family.

Born in Poultney, Vermont on September 20, 1924 to the late Charles and Kathryn McCann Flood, Mary Jane attended Cathedral High School in Springfield, Massachusetts and graduated from the College of Our Lady of the Elms. She continued her education at Middlebury College in Vermont where she earned her Master's Degree in Foreign Languages.

Mary Jane married John Pignatelli in 1954, and on February 20, they would have celebrated 65 years of marriage.

Mary Jane worked as a high school language teacher, spending most of her 38-year career in the Lenox Public School system until her retirement in 1986. While best known as a French teacher, she also taught English and Latin. Additionally, she taught the young seminarians Spanish at the former Bellefontaine Seminary. She shared her love of language by organizing and chaperoning several school trips to visit various regions of France and Canada, creating lifelong memories for her students. She believed in providing opportunities for students of all means by coordinating international dinner fundraisers to help defray the costs.

Mary Jane was a communicant of St. Ann's Church, a member of the Catholic Daughters of America, the Rosary Society and the Kiwanianne Club.

Throughout her teaching career, while raising her five children who were her

pride and joy, Mary Jane was also the bookkeeper for the family electrical business, Pignatelli & Piretti, and was a supportive partner in John's many years in public service.

Mary Jane and John enjoyed their retirement years wintering in Naples, Florida where they were very active and had many friends. Mary Jane, a gifted pianist, shared her musical talents in many of the Naples community variety shows. She was also a surprisingly good bocce player, garnering the club championship.

While at home in Lenox, she found great joy in caring for and spending time with her grandchildren.

Mary Jane will be remembered by all who knew her as a remarkable woman, humble beyond words, intelligent, polite, and courteous. She was a woman of great insight on matters large and small, and a gifted teacher. Most importantly, she was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, aunt and friend.

In addition to her beloved John, Mary Jane is survived by her children; Donna M. Pignatelli, Lisa P. Slosek (Wayne), William "Smitty" Pignatelli (Allyce Najimy), Laurie P. Schiff (Scott), and Scott M. Pignatelli (Kathy McNinch); and grandchildren, Travis and Anah Pignatelli, Peyton and Ayva Schiff, Mia and Jack Pignatelli. She also leaves many nieces and nephews who hold a special place in her heart.

A Liturgy of Christian Burial for Mary Jane Pignatelli will be held on Saturday, February 9, 2019 at 11:00am at St. Ann's Church with Monsignor John Bonzagni, officiating. Burial will follow in St. Ann's Cemetery. Calling hours will be held on Friday, February 8, 2019 from 4:00 pm-6:00 pm at St. Ann Church. In lieu of flowers, donations in Mary Jane's memory may be made to St. Ann's Church Parish Center or Kimball Farms Nursing Care Center Activities Fund in care of the Roche Funeral Home, 120 Main Street, Lenox, MA 01240.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Ann's Cemetery

1 Ore Bed Road  
Lenox, MA 01240

# Previous Events

## Burial

FEB 9. 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall

BL

“ *God Bless Mrs. Pignatelli,  
I agree with Eddie Kennedy's comments below. I remember how nice she was to me in her French class and when we hung around Eddie's house right across the street from hers. She had lots of patience with me in the classroom. Thoughts and prayers to Mr and Mrs P and all the Pignatelli's, from the Lahart family.*

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**Bill Lahart** - March 19, 2020 at 05:41 PM

EK

“ *To Big John and everyone,  
I can't begin to tell you how sorry I am for your loss. Word travels slower these days and I apologize I was not able to attend the service and give you all a big hug. Mary Jane was as wonderful, and sincere as one can be - She would always ask about others first and then, without complaining, listen or at least pretend to listen, to stories I knew she must have heard a hundred times. I hope she is not paying attention to my poor grammar. Again - I am so sorry for your loss. My Love to all.*

*Eddie Kennedy*

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**Eddie Kennedy** - February 16, 2019 at 11:26 AM

RK

“ *Rebecca Knox lit a candle in memory of Mrs Mary Jane Pignatelli*



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**Rebecca Knox** - February 12, 2019 at 10:30 PM

RK

*Dear Lisa, Smith and all,  
I am so sorry for your loss. Mothers are so special and it's hard to say goodbye, especially when they have been in your life for so long. I know. Sending hugs and prayers for peace and comfort in the days ahead. May beautiful memories sustain you and make you smile. I intended to be there with you, but Mike was hospitalized on Friday.  
Sincerely,  
Becky Knox*

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**Rebecca Knox** - February 12, 2019 at 10:34 PM

RG

*“ Smitty, I am so sorry for your loss of your mother, I am sorry that I cannot attend the services, please know that you and your family are in my prayers and thoughts. My sincerest condolences.*

*Roseann Giacalone*

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**roseann giacalone** - February 12, 2019 at 10:14 AM

JS

*“ Smitty, so sorry to read about your mom, obviously an accomplished and wonderful mother. Sorry to that I cannot be present for the services. My sympathy and prayer for you your dad and the extended Pignatelli family,*

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**Julie Sullivan, SSJ** - February 09, 2019 at 01:01 PM

S,

*“ Most Sincere Condolences to the Entire Pignatelli Family . Lisa ,Wayne, Smitty & Family , we are very Sorry for the loss of your Mom ,Mary Jane.Our deepest regrets as we cannot make the services. Prayers for all ! Sharon & Smitty*

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**Sharon & Dave Smith ,Stockbridge** - February 08, 2019 at 01:48 PM

LR

“ To Laurie and Family of Mrs Mary Jane Pignatelli:

*I'm so sorry to learn of your Mom's passing. She was a great teacher and lovely person who made a wonderful contribution to her community. I will always fondly remember her classes and our trip to France. May you all find peace and comfort in so many wonderful memories.*

*Laurie Rossini*

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**Laurie Rossini** - February 08, 2019 at 01:23 PM

JP

*To the entire Pignatelli family,  
Steven and I are so sorry to learn of the passing of your beloved wife and mother. We extend our deepest condolences. She was a lovely woman.*

*Joyce and Steve Pyenson*

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**joyce pyenson** - February 10, 2019 at 06:23 PM

MS

“ To Family of Mary Jane Pignatelli

*It with a heavy heart that i read of the passing of Mary Jane and for you all to know that even though I can't be there I am thinking of you all in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Mike Skorput*

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**Michael Skorput** - February 07, 2019 at 04:09 PM



“ *A Full Life was purchased for the family of Mrs Mary Jane Pignatelli.*



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February 07, 2019 at 01:45 PM



“ *It's the memories of her that sustain you...hold them close. Nancy and Allen Timmons*

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**Nancy Timmons** - February 07, 2019 at 01:11 PM



“ *To Smitty and family,  
Eddie and I send our deepest condolences on the loss of your dear mother. She sounds like she was a wonderful woman and a tremendous power of example in all of your lives.  
May your sweetest memories of her and her good works here on earth give you comfort as you walk the road without her. All the best, Dee Dee Acquisto and Eddie Sporn, West Stockbridge*

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**Dee Dee Acquisto** - February 07, 2019 at 12:25 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs Mary Jane Pignatelli.*



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February 06, 2019 at 03:12 PM

RG

“ *To the Pignatelli Family,  
My sincerest condolences to the family and loved ones of Mrs. Mary  
Jane Pignatelli, May she rest in peace.*

*R. Giacalone*

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**roseann giacalone** - February 06, 2019 at 02:23 PM

GH

*Dear John and Smitty, I was so sorry to read of the loss of your wife  
and mother. From reading her obituary it is obvious she was an  
extraordinary person. To you and the rest of the family, our  
condolences. Grier and Barbara Horner*

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**Grier Horner** - February 09, 2019 at 02:35 PM