



## Mary Jo Rutten

April 15, 1931 - January 21, 2024

Mary Jo Rutten, age 92, of Carroll, passed away Sunday, January 21, 2024 at her home in Carroll after a brief but courageous battle with cancer.

Mass of the Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Thursday, January 25, 2024, at St. Lawrence Church – St. John Paul II Parish in Carroll. The Celebrant will be Fr. Patrick Behm. Con-Celebrant will be Fr. Brian Feller. Music will be by Kathy Halbur and Kathleen Macke. Lectors will be Lindsey Shelton and Holly Janning. Gift Bearers will be Henry Janning, Oliver Janning, and Graham Janning. Eucharistic Minister will be Joan Rutten. Casket Bearers will be Luke Shelton, Parker Foley, Denny Rutten, Jim Rutten, Allan Rutten and Joe Janning. Burial will be at 2:30 p.m. at Glendale Cemetery in Des Moines, Iowa, 4909 University Ave. Des Moines, Iowa 50311.

Visitation will be held from 9 to 9:45 a.m. Thursday at the church.

Funeral arrangements are under the guidance of the Sharp Funeral Home in Carroll and online condolences may be left for Mary Jo's family at [www.sharpfuneral.com](http://www.sharpfuneral.com).

Mary Jo, the daughter of August and Serena (Gentile) Spagnolo was born on April 15, 1931, in Des Moines, Iowa. On October 13, 1956, Mary Jo was united in marriage to Gerald Kelley. The couple made their home in Kansas

City.

Mary Jo enjoyed entertaining and cooking for friends and family in her home. She was a long-time member of Sweet Adelines. A true entrepreneur, she started several successful businesses over the years. She was a friend to everyone she met.

Mary Jo is survived by her daughter: Kathleen Shelton; grandchildren: Lindsey Shelton, Luke Shelton, Serena Kelley, and Mathew Kelley, JR.; great-grandchildren: Parker Foley and Tai Ana Marie. Also surviving are her step-children: Allan (Cindy) Rutten, Dennis (Joan) Rutten, James (Mary) Rutten, and Lisa (Philip) LaPenna as well as many step-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren.

Mary Jo was preceded in death by her first husband, Gerald Kelley in 2005; her second husband Richard "Dick" Rutten in 2023, and her son, Matt Kelley.

# Previous Events

## Mass of the Christian Burial

JAN **25.** 10:00 AM (CT)

St. John Paul II Parish Holy Spirit Church --- St. Lawrence Church  
1607 N. West St.  
Carroll, IA 51401  
(712) 792-9244

## Burial

JAN **25.** 2:30 PM (CT)

Glendale Cemetery  
4909 University Ave  
Des Moines, IA 50311-3303  
(515) 248-6320

# Tribute Wall

MK

“ Aunt Mary Jo was the sweetest person and she & Uncle Jerry always came to visit us; they came to see my parents when they were sick and that meant so much! She was loved by all of Jack & Rose Kelley's family. Rest in peace now. Sending love to Kathleen Mary and family. ☐🕊️🕯️

Mary Kelley-Vaughn - January 27, 2024 at 12:09 AM

MB

“ My sympathies and condolences go to the Mary jo's family so glad she and Richard made out to the farm ,she really enjoyed it. God bless her and her family. Sincerely Mark g bruening

Mark bruening - January 24, 2024 at 01:24 PM

KA

“ Mary Jo's Family, We became acquainted with Mary Jo when she came to Carroll and became Mrs. Dick Rutten. We enjoyed our time with the Ruttens, sharing our common interests. Eternal Rest granted to Mary Jo, May she enjoy the rewards of a life well spent here on earth! Roger and Kaye Stock Arndorfer

Kaye Stock Arndorfer - January 24, 2024 at 11:13 AM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Jo Rutten.



January 24, 2024 at 08:27 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mary Jo Rutten.*



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January 23, 2024 at 02:41 PM



“ *Mary Jo's family: We were happy to become acquainted with Mary Jo when she moved to Carroll. She was such a sweet person, and we both enjoyed talking with her. She treated others in a special way and always took time for them. We will miss her. Our thoughts will be with you all.*

*Wes and CJ Niles, Carroll*

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**Wes & CJ Niles** - January 22, 2024 at 10:49 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mary Jo Rutten.*



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January 22, 2024 at 03:59 PM