



Frances Mary Buckley

December 26, 1926 - February 18, 2012

Mom was born on December 26, 1926 in New Bedford, Massachusetts to Frank and Eva Dunleavy. She grew up in New York City with one brother and three sisters.

In the city Mom enjoyed going to Central Park and the American Museum of Natural History. Her family often spent hot summer days at local beaches, including Coney Island. She graduated from Julia Richmond High School and later held a job as a messenger in one of the city's huge office buildings. No e-mail or text messaging in those days—she and her friend roller-skated around to the many offices delivering items that needed immediate attention!

Roller-skating was a social activity for Mom, too, and one evening at a skating rink she met a young Marine, Bill Buckley. They were married in New York on January 4, 1947, the beginning of 65 years together! They boarded a train and headed across the country to Omaha. It surely didn't occur to the city girl how different life would be in the central plains--or she might have reconsidered! She never could have imagined that she would end up living in—and treasuring—a home in the country for more than fifty years.

Mom's life centered on Dad, the three of us, and the large Buckley clan she married into that gathered so often at our home. Cooking, baking, and trying new recipes were some of Mom's favorite activities, and no one who came to her kitchen left disappointed! The aroma of delicious food greeted family and visitors almost every time they entered. Part of Mom's legacy is her love of cooking, as several of her children and grandchildren have carried on her traditions. She also taught by example her love of homemaking and creative arts like sewing and knitting. We have all enjoyed the clothes, toys, quilts,

and afghans she has made over the years, and many others have benefited from these skills she taught us.

Six grandchildren (and one grand-dog, we want to add) have been blessed to have our mom for a grandma. Among their many fond memories is playing games with her around the kitchen table. She was hard to beat in a heated game of Yahtzee or M & Ms poker! Grandma and Grandpa happily supported their young “stars” at dance recitals, games, school musicals, and theatre competitions whenever they could. These grandchildren now are bringing Fran’s ten (almost eleven!) great-grandchildren to the same home she made so loving and welcoming for them.

Although it seemed like she was always busy taking care of us, we know that Mom found time to give to others, too. She worked tirelessly with Dad in their sign shop and screen printing business. She studied cosmetology, and for a time she worked in a beauty shop in Fremont—and, of course, giving free haircuts to family! She worked with our 4-H groups and with church groups. Later in her life she developed a keen interest in birds and loved watching them in the yard. She loved shopping with her daughters, and she loved playing dominoes with friends at the YMCA.

We love you, Mom, and we love all that you left in us.

John, Marcia and Jane

Tribute Wall



“ *Frances Mary Buckley*

December 10, 2022 at 09:12 AM

NW

“ *My condolences and best wishes for your family. I really enjoyed Frances' company while I was able to have have it.*

Neil Wingate - February 23, 2012 at 10:24 PM

BW

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with your family at this difficult time. We enjoyed and appreciated Fran at the mother day events at John and Mary's, she was a very special person.*

Bud and Nancy Wingate - February 23, 2012 at 09:31 PM

DP

“ *Dear Marcia, So very sorry to learn of your dear Mom's passing. I have a lot of nice memories of her as were growing up. Hope you hold your memories near and they give you some comfort during this difficult time. We are thinking and praying for you and your family.
Love, Debby & Lynn*

Debby Plambeck - February 23, 2012 at 03:40 PM

TS

“ *Dear Bill,
We pray that the good Lord will give you strength to face the future.*

Frances was a gentle Christian to the core. When we were new at HOBC Frances was one of the first to befriend Saro

God Bless.

*Thomas & Saro
HOBC*

Thomas & Saro Sivalingham - February 22, 2012 at 07:39 PM

PA

“ Praying for you, Bill, during this time of grief. I know how much you loved and cared for Fran and how much you will miss her. My heart is with you and your family. I pray that God's love and the love of those around you will strengthen you and bring you comfort. Paula, OT from Gentiva

Paula Allen - February 21, 2012 at 07:52 PM

DW

“ Sorry to hear about your mom Jane.

Dave and Peggy Williams - February 21, 2012 at 12:45 PM

CF

“ Bill - You, and your family, are in my prayers today and in the future. I recall with pleasure the times when Carita and I were a part of your weekly prayer/fellowship times. The example you two set before us continues to bring blessings. God is gracious in providing strength for the ways before us and Fran will be rejoicing with Him forever, waiting for us to arrive.

Clint Frank - February 21, 2012 at 11:59 AM