



Mary Margaret Donatini

February 13, 1926 - August 23, 2018

Mary was born in Portland, Oregon. She used to boast about singing on "The Stars of Tomorrow on the Nate Kohn amateur hour, in 1936". She would say, "I was a young little 10-year-old standing there on a soap box singing into a microphone". She remembered all the songs. Mary was also an accomplished seamstress with dreams of going to Paris to work for Chanel. She was always proud of her ability to quickly learn any style of dance. She would always say, "If she was dancing with the best- she could follow and if she was dancing with the worst- she could follow them too"!

It all started when Mary saw her future husband, she was on a bus with a girlfriend and saw Paul and said, "I'm going to marry that man". Mary finally met Paul at a popular dance hall and they danced for countless hours together. Once Paul returned from World War II, he went straight to her house and asked her to marry him. They married on November 23, 1946 and shortly after they had twin daughters Paula and Patricia, her "bundles of joy". She devoted her life to caring for and raising her wonderful daughters.

Paula, one of her daughters, has 3 children Jason, Kimberly and Kristine. She has 7 great-grandchildren Anthony, Serena, Tyler, Jaden, Bowen, Gauge and Savannah. Mary loved her grandchildren endlessly and would have done anything for them. Jason, Kimberly, and Kristine have fond memories of singing with her during car rides. Their favorite song was "Sing a Song by The

Carpenters". Every year she would get excited for the beach trips to Seaside with her daughters and grandchildren. One of her favorites was to wake up early in the morning to go collect sand dollars and seashells on the beach. She found peace in the sounds and smells of the ocean.

She was able to share her first trip to Disneyland with almost all her grandkids/great grandkids. In her last few months, she was able to fly to Las Vegas and enjoy time with her family there. Savannah and Mary had a special bond and she would say "They're best friends". She would play tea party, doctor and watch endless America's Funniest Home Video episodes laughing for hours. She loved watching Savannah grow and especially doing gymnastic routines in the family room and at the gym. She would always say, "I hope I'm here to see you get married, you're so beautiful Savannah".

Mary had the most vibrant personality, genuine smile, was kind and had a loving way that would warm your heart. She was the most selfless woman and spent most of her life caring for others, especially her daughter Patricia who has cerebral palsy. Patricia was in her daily care until her late fifties when it was time for someone else to take over. Mary would go visit Patricia and always looked out for her to get the best care.

We'll always remember her for her random bursts of songs. Especially, "On a clear day you can see forever by Robert Goulet". She had a love for animals, kitties and puppies would make her light up with an amazing smile and she would talk to them just like a person.

This may be a final tribute,

A day to celebrate her life and say goodbyes;

But it's not final.

Every day we'll celebrate in some way, just by the virtue of how she shaped our lives,

The absolute and incredible fortune that we knew her.

As a mother, a grandmother, a friend and a woman.