

Mary Luella (Bay) Ramsey (1937-2016)

Mary Lu Ramsey began life's last great adventure on Tuesday, December 27, 2016

Mary Lu was born July 12, 1937 in Athens, OH to Ralph and Gladys Bay. The family moved to Akron's Goodyear Heights in 1943 where their home came to include a younger sister and three grandparents. Mary Lu loved school and church. At church, she accompanied the junior choir on piano, did child care, and worked in youth groups. At East High School, her extra-curricular participations included the school newspaper (The Caravan), yearbooks (Minaret) orchestra (piano) and band (saxophone). She graduated in June '55 as valedictorian with a scholarship from Kent State University. In July, 1955, Mary Lu and Richard Ramsey were married in Goodyear Heights Methodist Church where they met. In August, 1955 Mary Lu and Dick moved to Kent and attended KSU's College of Education together.

Mary Lu graduated summa cum laude from KSU in 1960 with a BA in Ed and two sons. In 1965 she received MA in Ed. with Reading Specialization and four sons. Kent was great but she felt her most valuable education came from her children.

In 1964 Mary Lu and Dick moved to Akron's Highland Square and Mary Lu became active in King School PTA, Monroe Presbyterian Church and neighborhood activities.

Recruited by Akron Public Schools, Mary Lu began a part-time job tutoring children with learning disabilities. She became a teacher with Title I Programs assigned to several schools including 13 years at St. Mary Grade School. Later, she took a 1st grade classroom at Rimer School. After retiring she continued her education by teaching a few classes at AU.

Throughout her life, faith and church work was a constant. In 1984 she was ordained as an elder in the Presbyterian Church, USA. She became active in Eastminster Presbytery, serving as Moderator in 1990. Other interests she supported were with the Association for Children with Learning Disabilities, PTA, Compassionate Friends, DeMolay Mothers, and Pulmonary Rehab.

She enjoyed photographing people and events, posting on Flickr and printing copies to share.

Mary Lu goes to join many loved ones in heaven including her parents, husband of 55 years, Richard; son, Ric; sister, Carole Ann Smith.

Mary Lu will be remembered by many friends and especially her family: sons, The Reverend John Christy (Bette Lynn); Thomas (Ruth); Timothy (Bonetta); grandchildren: Rachel Ramsey (Catherine Hickey), Robert Ramsey, Olivia Ramsey, Abigail Ramsey; brother-in-law & sister-in-law, Bill & Jan Ramsey; special helper, Marlon Difulio

A service to Celebrate Mary Lu's life will be held on Saturday, December 31, 2016 at 11:00 AM at Goodyear Heights Presbyterian Church, 1430 Goodyear Blvd. Akron, Ohio 44305 Family will be at the church prior to the service at 10:00 AM for calling hours. After the service, luncheon will be served in Fellowship Hall.

Cremation has taken place. Memorials may be made to Goodyear Heights Presbyterian Church.