



Marie Catherine Dalkiewicz

December 8, 1926 - February 22, 2024

Marie Catherine Dalkiewicz, 97, of Marietta, passed away on Thursday, February 22, 2024 at her residence with family by her side. She was the daughter of the late Aladar and Gizella (Fuerstinger) Koor. Catherine was the wife of the late Thaddeus E. Dalkiewicz who pass away on March 22, 2020. Catherine was a graduate of the St. Vincent School of Nursing. She started her nursing career at Sloan Kettering in New York in 1948. She worked at various civilian and nursing hospitals before a 25 year career at Columbia Hospital. A life long devout Catholic, Catherine was a member of Mary Mother of the Church Parish. She served on the Council of Catholic Women and was a promoter of the Miraculous Medal . She recited the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet daily. An avid reader, Catherine enjoyed history, archeology, flowers, birding, Native American history and was a philanthropist.

Catherine is survived by six children, Thaddeus J. Dalkiewicz, husband of Debra Roth of Harrisburg, Teresa M. Via, wife of Gary of Marietta, Anny C. Wilhelm, wife of Mark of Wrightsville, Helene M. DeRose, wife of James of Suisun, CA, Thomas M. Dalkiewicz, husband of Carol of Mount Joy, and Rita A. Rice, wife of Douglas of Marietta; seven grandchildren, Matthew, Molly, Bethany, Brian, Janele, Thaddeus, and Kathryn; and eighteen great grandchildren, Kendall, Matthew Jr., Norah, Zachary, Rylee, Grayson, Ellis, Harper, Everett, Meadow, Emery, Xavier, Dominic, Caterina, Myla, Zelig, Violet, Wisdom, and Cara.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at Mary Mother of the Church

Parish, 625 Union School Road, Mount Joy, PA 17552 on Thursday, February 29, 2024 at 11 AM. Family and friends will be received on Wednesday, February 28, 2024 at the Sheetz Funeral Home, 16 East Main Street, Mount Joy, PA 17552 from 6 PM to 8 PM and again on Thursday before Mass at the church from 10 AM to 11 AM. Interment will follow at East Donegal Township Cemetery (Reichs Cemetery). On Wednesday at 7:45 PM honors will be conducted by the Lancaster Nursing Honor Guard. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Association of the Miraculous Medal, 1811 West Saint Joseph Street, Perryville, Missouri, 63775 or Seraphic Mass Association, P.O. Box 9130, Pittsburgh PA 15224-0130

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **28**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Sheetz Funeral Home, Inc.
16 E Main St
Mount Joy, PA 17552
(717) 653-5441
<https://www.sheetzfuneralhome.com/>

Visitation

FEB **29**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Mary Mother of the Church
625 Union School Road
Mount Joy, PA 17552

Mass of Christian Burial

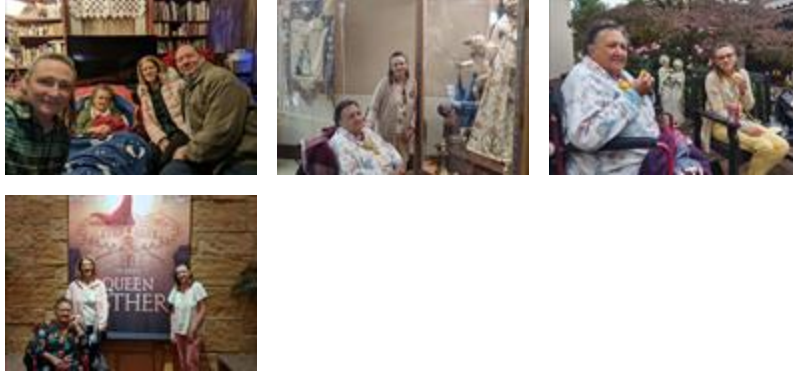
FEB **29**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Mary Mother of the Church
625 Union School Road
Mount Joy, PA 17552

Tribute Wall

SM

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Shirl Madonna - March 05, 2024 at 02:42 PM

SM

“ I'm sorry for your loss, I will miss Catherine greatly. She has always been an inspiration to me and I'll think of her often. Her generosity and beautiful spirit was contagious. She always had an open mind, open heart, open home and open arms. She welcomed me into her home since I was in grade school with Helene. I've had many happy times at the farm thanks to her and Ted. Her faith was steadfast and strong, and she shared her joy with everyone she met. She encouraged me to have fun because life is short. In her hugs I knew warmth, stability and acceptance. Love is great especially in the simplest of things, and I will always appreciate the love and care she shared with me. After my Mom passed, I knew I could count on her for prayers and support and fun times. I'll be forever grateful.
Shirl Madonna

Shirl Madonna - March 05, 2024 at 02:31 PM

KW

“ My sincerest condolence to the whole Dalkiewicz family upon the loss of Catherine. She will forever hold a very special place in my heart and in the hearts of all my family. From about 1989-2006 my dad suffered thru several strokes and several heart attacks leaving him bedridden and unable to attend church at those times. I was his caregiver as Mother had passed away years before. A Eucharistic Minister from Mary Mother of the Church would come around to give Dad his Communion on Sundays and Holy Days. We lucked out. Ted was that Eucharistic Minister, bringing Catherine with him. We got two for the price of one you could say. They were there faithfully, week after week, bringing not only the Communion but bringing friendship and kindness too. We would look forward to them coming and missed them when they were unable to come or on vacation. We never knew what we were going to get when they did come. On Super Bowl Sundays, they would bring homemade subs made by the church, at Easter, candy and so on. They also shared their faith and we had such wonderful times talking about all things imaginable. One Easter season, Ted and Catherine introduced Dad and I to the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Novena which became a real comfort to us during Dad's last days. I am most grateful to these two very loving Catholics who shared so much of themselves with us. They were there to comfort us during such a time when we really needed it. They will always have a very special place in the hearts and prayers of all my family. Although, something tells me they won't really need those prayers as they are already "up there." Praying for us! May God Bless you all during this very sad time.
Kathleen Wagner

Kathleen Wagner - February 29, 2024 at 04:28 PM

HD

Thank you so much for sharing this beautiful memory. I knew that my dad took Jesus to the homebound but I did not know that my mom accompanied him like this. The Divine Mercy Chaplet is a wonderful gift from God. Jesus I Trust in You.

Helene DeRose - March 01, 2024 at 09:34 AM

BM

“ Mrs. Dalkiewicz was always such a nice lady. I am so sorry to hear that she is no longer with us. I wish I could be there for the whole family. I will keep all of the family in my prayers. Sending Love to you all! Bobbi John McEvoy

Bobbi John McEvoy - February 28, 2024 at 08:07 PM

MD

“ I have so many wonderful memories of my Grandma Catherine...in fact, most of my childhood memories are of her and Grandpa spending time at their "farm" - my home away from home. I remember her helping me find ice skates and gloves so I could go skating on the pond when it froze. I remember her laughing at me chasing the chickens around the meadow. I remember her "yelling" at Gram (her mom - my great grandma), who was hard of hearing, and making me laugh because kids find that stuff to be funny. I used to get so excited when she would have time to go in the pool with us, and even on one or two occasions she convinced Grandpa to jump in with us! I remember going to church with her and pancake breakfast in the church basement - I would help serve the adults and she would always brag to everyone at the table that I was her favorite grandson. I also remember attending rosary prayer group with her and Grandpa and getting to eat all the leftover snacks. She was always so loving and every time she would see me, she would say "Hi Honey" and give me a hug and kiss. She always remembered to send me birthday, Christmas, and Easter cards and include a special devotional or light a candle. Mostly I remember how strong she was - physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Even up to the last few months before she had her stroke, I was so amazed at how strong she was and what an amazing life she lived. I miss her so much already, but know she is at peace alongside Grandpa looking down on us and praying for us. I love you, Grandma....rest in peace.

Matt Dalkiewicz - February 28, 2024 at 04:00 PM

HD

Thanks, Matt, I love hearing the memories of others. It gives me more to think about and to be able to see her more fully than just my own "slice of life" with her and Dad.

Helene DeRose - March 01, 2024 at 09:40 AM

AN

“ I have many fond memories of Mrs. Dalkiewicz and her family. Spent many days with them as a young girl. She always treated us as one of her own.

First time I ever rode a bicycle built for two was on the farm. The farm was like a playground and you were always made to feel welcomed.

It didn't matter that she always had a houseful with just her family, she still treated you like you belonged.

As I got older no matter where I saw her she always hugged and kissed my forehead, or squeeze my cheeks and kiss my forehead with a I love you.

Reading about her heart I can't help but think that with the Love for God in her heart she lived a life of love for everyone she encountered. Always giving of herself and showing how much she cared.

A few years ago I was at the farm and the fun times came flooding back. Although the farm (playground) wasn't the same anymore the feelings of being loved and happiness was still there. Right after covid, I went to the farm and we had lunch and played Yahtzee it was so much fun, we shared our spirituality as well.

Mr. & Mrs Dalkiewicz surely were very welcoming always.

Thanks for the memories and the love. You both are now in a place of pure love, how fitting that that fits you both.

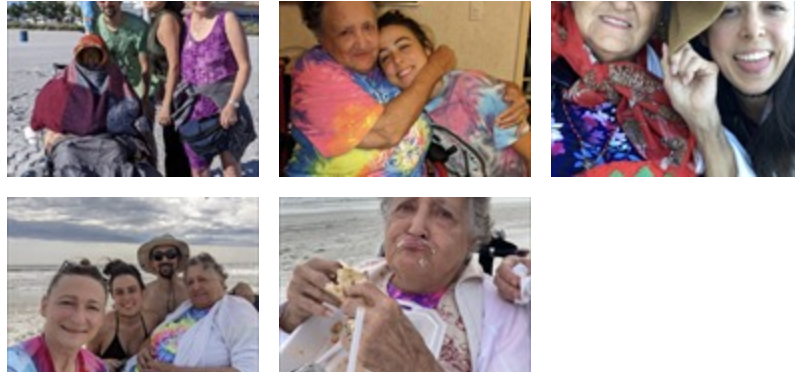
God be with all the family and may he bring you comfort in the day's ahead.

Alice Sheetz Noll

Alice c. Noll - February 28, 2024 at 04:00 PM

KA

“ ❤️❤️❤️



kat - February 28, 2024 at 02:23 PM

MB

“ *My grandma gave the best hugs in the entire world. My brother Matt and I would run inside to see her and all the family and she would always take us in her arms and welcome us, even though we would likely cause trouble and make a big mess... and eat all her food:). My best memories as a kid are at the farm, and she was always there to take care of our bumps, bruises and sometimes more serious injuries. And into adulthood, she never forgot to send a card on special occasions, even with so many people for her to remember. Recently she reminded me to be happy. I will never forget that advice or her beautiful face and wonderful hugs. Miss you Grandma!*

Molly Brady - February 28, 2024 at 11:26 AM

HD

Thanks , Molly. Yes, her cards were always great to receive from 3000 miles away. She would even send cards that were "repurposed" from other cards that she loved. She would make them into new cards so that I could enjoy the same card that she didn't want to throw away because it was so cute. Stickers always embellished everything she mailed to me and my family. And sometimes included was the scratchy handwriting of my dad too.... Always with JMJ across the top for Jesus Mary and Joseph.

Helene DeRose - March 01, 2024 at 09:53 AM

BD

“ We always enjoyed hearing stories of when grandma and grandpa were young and establishing their lives. My wife especially liked hearing the stories of grandma as a nurse and the different patients she had. My kids (her great grandkids) also loved all the old stories she used to tell. We will miss her alot, but are glad she got to live such a fulfilled life!

Brian Dalkiewicz - February 28, 2024 at 10:30 AM

AN

After watching the funeral on live stream this evening another memory came to me. That a song that our mom taught us from a card from Mr. Dalkiewicz and that's believe it or not is still a favorite of mine. I sang that song on rocking chairs to my children and grandchildren. We were brought up patriotic and I still sing The Marine Corp Hymn often. Love the last verse!

Alice c. Noll - February 29, 2024 at 10:16 PM

HD

This reminds me of that fact that he taught me to play the hymn on the piano even though neither he nor I played the piano :) I spent 8:years in the AF Nurse Corps and never learned their tribute song but I surely know the Marine Corps Hymn and love his enlisted uniform - the best of all the services.

Helene DeRose - March 01, 2024 at 09:59 AM

NF

“ My sincere condolences to the family during this time of the passing of Catherine. I've known her through our Red Hat group from Marietta some years ago. She was a beautiful, wonderful woman who wore her grace, poise and love for others on her sleeve. She was always smiling and enjoying her life. What a lady! I thought of her often and will continue to do so. Goodbye Catherine...I never told you, but I loved you and still do. Nancy L. Fantom

Nancy Fantom - February 28, 2024 at 09:50 AM

BM

“ Mrs Dalkiewicz was my nurse for the birth of my son at Columbia Hospital. She was also the mother of Teresa whom I went to school with and Anny who worked for me. I so sorry for your loss she was a wonderful lady. Bonnie Melbert Martin.

Bonnie Martin - February 27, 2024 at 06:21 AM

“ (Written in 2016 for the descendants of Ted and Catherine Dalkiewicz)

This is a true story you may or may not know about the faith that made your life possible.

Many years ago there was a little girl named Marie Catherine Koor who lived with her mom and grandma in Manhattan Island NY.

Those three loved each other very much and called themselves “the 3 musketeers”. When she was 8 years old, Catherine contracted rheumatic fever which attacked her poor little body and tortured her with red painful lumps on her legs and elbows which hurt more when she stood up. Worse than this pain was the damage it was causing in her heart. This was a time before antibiotics were available to kill germs and save lives. She spent many painful weeks in the hospital. The doctors and student doctors would make rounds and measure her hot angry looking lumps on her shins and listen to her noisy, sick heart. Catherine had one of the worse cases of rheumatic fever they had ever seen. One night when she felt very lonely and afraid a kind student nurse held her and let her cry on her shoulder. The day finally came when they released her to go home on bed rest - the doctors couldn't do much else for her. Her mom had her blessed with a relic of St. Anne, the mother of Our Blessed Mother and home she went.

When Catherine got home her legs were still very painful and her mom would carry her to the bathroom so they wouldn't hurt so much and her heart could rest. Her teachers dropped off her homework for months so that she wouldn't miss school and have to repeat the grade. Catherine finally got better but she was careful not to exert herself so that her heart would not have to work too hard. She became a whiz at marbles which was played on manhole covers in the streets of New York. Her skill enabled her to win lots of marbles from her opponents. Books also became very important in her life – she could read about all kinds of adventures and hoped that one day she could fly on the airplanes that swooped over her apartment building.

When Catherine was ten years old she was again afflicted with rheumatic fever. She was hospitalized and suffered much all over

again. After recovering she realized that she would have to be careful with her heart maybe all of her life. She couldn't play sports but she was an excellent student and won awards because of her dedication to her studies. As the years went by Catherine made the decision to go to nursing school so that she could help people. She had also found out that if she wanted to have her dream of flying that she needed to become a registered nurse in order to become an airline stewardess. In those days the rules were very different. She had to live at school and had to keep a curfew. She was not allowed to get married while in school.

During her first year at St. Vincent Hospital's School of Nursing and after the end of World War II, she was asked by a friend to be a pen pal to a young marine stationed in China far from his Pennsylvania coal-mining hometown. Ted, his nickname and also his initials for Thaddeus Edward Dalkiewicz, was so happy to get a letter that he wrote back right away. Soon the letters were flying back and forth rapidly to and from the other side of the world. Sometimes they wrote every day. Among other things, they learned that they both were Catholic and loved the faith. For 2 years this relationship that was built upon letters grew. When Ted's assignment in China ended he was anxious to meet his devoted pen pal.

Well, when Ted met Catherine, he knew immediately that she was the one he wanted to spend the rest of his life with. Catherine however had two other suitors, but when she compared them to Ted, he came out on top – their shared faith, couple prayer and joint mass attendance surely tipped the scale. During their engagement Ted would drive his car all the way from Camp Lejeune North Carolina to see his sweetheart in NYC on his days off. Just before the wedding date, Ted allowed a friend to borrow his car. The friend had an accident and the car was totaled! Ted was stuck having to take a bus to get to the wedding. On January 29th 1949 they were joined together forever in Holy Matrimony in the gorgeous church of St Monica where Catherine had been baptized. She was stunning in his sister Josephine's wedding gown with a long bridal veil and he was handsome in his sharply pressed Marine Corps dress blues sporting staff sergeant stripes.

The trip south was not romantic. Without Ted's car they were stuck

traveling by bus. They were bounced around with all sorts of people and even chickens. However, after 24 uncomfortable hours they made it to Camp Lejeune safely and began their life together. Ted had applied to Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), one of the best schools in the nation, and was accepted into their engineering program. They had planned that Catherine would work as a nurse while he would leave the Marine Corps to get his coveted degree. They also got the great news that God had blessed their love with a baby. As the excitement of beginning a family was setting in, Catherine got sick. Her old enemy, rheumatic fever had returned when she was 3 months pregnant. The nasty disease started working on her heart. The cardiologist said it sounded like a broken down machine. Catherine listened to the gurgle, swish, clanks of her heart too. This was not good. The stress and bodily demands of pregnancy would be very dangerous for her sick heart. The doctor told her that she should have a therapeutic abortion to save her own life and that she should never get pregnant again. What a blow to the newlyweds! What about all their plans? They took their fears and hopes to the Lord. They knew they could never kill the child that God had given them. In order to help protect Catherine's heart Ted gave up his plans to get an engineering degree from MIT. Since he needed to make money and have health care for his wife and unborn baby, he reenlisted for 6 more years which came with a \$2k signing bonus. They also devoted themselves to praying for Catherine's healing and for the birth of a healthy baby. Ted and Catherine prayed a 30-day rosary petition followed by 30 more days of thanksgiving. They also prayed the annual Solemn Novena to St Jude Thaddeus, the patron saint of impossible causes, asking for his intercession. This solemn novena consisted of daily mass in the morning and special prayers at night in the church for 7 days. They made a promise that if they had a boy, he would be named after St Jude Thaddeus. Their trust in God and willingness to accept whatever was in store for them was answered with the delivery of a healthy baby boy named Thaddeus. Their son was not named as a "JR." after his dad but named in honor of St Jude Thaddeus. Catherine's heart made it through the pregnancy and delivery and Ted's fear of losing his new

bride was alleviated. She still was not able to work for quite a while and only started back one day per week at light duty administering medications.

The young couple was still faced with the recommendation from the cardiologist to never have more children since Catherine's heart would not be able to withstand the strain. However, their faith told them that God was the author and finisher of life. They continued to trust God and be open to having children by not using artificial birth control as they journeyed on in married life. God blessed their faithfulness. Teresa, Anny, Helene, Thomas and Rita would not have been conceived and born if Ted and Catherine had listened to the doctor. She never became a flight nurse and Ted never got to be an engineer, but he retired from the USMC after 22 years of service. So after many years of military living and hopping from place to place, they settled down on 12 acres in the Pennsylvania countryside to continue to raise the family that God had so graciously blessed them with. The heart that God healed has loved many children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and cared for countless patients in a 50-year nursing career. After retirement, Ted devoted countless volunteer hours working at the various parish ministries. Together they donated their time, talents and treasure selflessly in the vineyard of the Lord.

Our family can all be grateful that these two people loved and trusted God enough to both risk her life and sacrifice his engineering degree so that their six children could be born and later grow to have their own families.

Deuteronomy 30:19 I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse.

Choose life, then, that you and your descendants may live

Helene DeRose - February 26, 2024 at 08:35 PM

MH

Such a wonderful testimony of faith, love and trust in the Lord.

🙏❤️ Thank you Helene for sharing your family story.❤️❤️❤️

Marie G Hernandez - February 27, 2024 at 12:04 AM

JT

I was blessed to have known both of these remarkable people. As a child, I could see and feel the caring and devotion that filled that Pennsylvania farmhouse.

Jessie Prugar Thumser - February 27, 2024 at 07:40 AM

KS

A beautiful testimony to Faith. And quite a story!

Kate Sciacca - February 27, 2024 at 09:26 AM

JB

What a fantastic love story; love of God, love for spouse, and love of family. Such a blessed and fortunate family.

Joseph G Borden - February 28, 2024 at 04:27 PM

HD

“ 25 files added to the album *Grandma Catherine (Nana) with the DeRose Family*



HELENE DEROSE - February 25, 2024 at 02:23 AM

HD

“ 4 files added to the album *Wedding Photos*



HELENE DEROSE - February 25, 2024 at 02:16 AM

“ I thank God for the gift of my mom to me. She was wonderful in so many ways. As a child I remember her loving care when I was sick and miserable with chickenpox. She made a cloth clown called Doodle Dear and taught me a song to go with it. She loved to sing and remembered countless songs from her days as a camp counselor in New York during WWII. When I was in high school, I would sit on the edge of her bed while Dad was snoring and chat for long periods of time. Whenever I met someone in Columbia and they told me that they knew mom from the hospital, I never had to worry about what they might say – everyone loved her and extolled her virtues and wonderful nursing care. She absolutely loved being a nurse and would tell me stories about both her amazing training from the nuns at St Vincent Hospital who instilled a deep respect for the human person’s body and her experiences during a 50-year career. Her example influenced me to follow in her footsteps – but she never tried to convince me to do so.

After the USAF Nurse Corps moved me to California, she would visit often. My husband (also a nurse) and her got along fantastically and we loved taking her on our family vacations. His coworkers would begin to offer him condolences when he said that his mother-in-law was visiting for a month, but he quickly corrected them. Other than vacationing with us, she attended prayer meetings and Catholic charismatic conferences with us. She said that one of the things she loved about our parish in California was that when you looked around the church you saw the universal church – there were so many cultures represented. She loved snuggling with my children and reading aloud to them. They were delighted with her even when they grew up. She would tell us later that they were some of her best memories. We were grateful to be her destination vacation – saddened when she could no longer travel.

I must say that the best gift she ever gave me was introducing me to Our loving Savior. Her beautiful faith and example of prayerful devotion has continued to impact my life. I could always count on her to be a prayer warrior for my intentions and those of my friends. I also knew that she would never reject or hold a grudge against those I loved – this made it possible to be honest with her about

sticky family issues and receive needed prayers and support. And now, her prayers will be even more focused and powerful because I believe she is with Jesus and His Blessed Mother to whom she was deeply devoted. May her soul rest in peace while she awaits the resurrection of her earthly body at the end of time.

HELENE DEROSE - February 25, 2024 at 12:02 AM