

Prayer for a Journey

Almighty and merciful God, You have commissioned Your angels to guide and protect us. Command them to be our careful companions, from our setting out until our return; to clothe us with their invisible protection; to keep us from all danger of collision, of fire, of explosion, of falls and bruises; and finally, having preserved us from all evil, and especially from sin, to guide us to our heavenly home. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

“Near us is a celestial spirit, who, from the cradle to the tomb, does not leave us for an instant, guides us, protects us as a friend, a brother; will always be consolation to us especially in our saddest moments.”

Padre Pio



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Celebrating THE LIFE OF



Marie M. Leonard

June 11, 1951 ~ February 20, 2025

Marie M. Leonard, a beloved wife, mother, great grandmother, and friend, passed away peacefully on February 20, 2025 at Hospice Comfort Care. Born on June 11, 1951, in Ayer, MA, she was the fourth of five children born to Joseph and Gertrude Murray. She was preceded by her brother, Billy and her parents. She is survived by her sisters, Sheila Conrad, Eileen Dennahan; her brother, Jerry Murray; many nieces, nephews; her devoted husband of 40 years, Paul; her loving children, Eric and Kelly Drury-Frazier; her son-in-law, Shane; and her great-grandson, Gavin.

Marie had a heart of gold, a radiant smile, and a spirit that could brighten any room. She was one of the kindest souls, always ready to help, pray for, and encourage others. She never spoke a negative word about anyone and believed deeply in the power of kindness, friendship, and faith.

She was an inspiration in more ways than one. A breast cancer survivor, Marie participated in several Susan G. Komen events, offering strength and support to others facing similar battles. She retired from the commercial lending department at the Bank of Little Rock Mortgage, where she formed lifelong friendships.

After she retired, she really embraced her time, “doing whatever I want to do.” Whether her boat was packed with friends and family or it was just her and Paul, she loved her time on Greers Ferry Lake sipping a few beers, relaxing and floating in her upside down life preserver. She had a passion for reading, shopping, and watching football—especially cheering on the Arkansas Razorbacks, whether from the stands or in front of the TV with family and friends. Marie loved ice cream and pizza (especially NY pizza). Walking was among her favorite hobbies; her after-dinner strolls with Paul in their neighborhood, around the lake or to the park was a simple pleasure that brought her joy along with cruising in the car to go drink a milkshake.

Marie had a lot of fun while taking some time to travel, from visiting family in Massachusetts to exploring the U.S. and beyond. She cruised to Alaska, floated down the Rhine River, and toured Ireland extensively, her favorite destination. But no matter where she went, home was where her heart was—surrounded by the people she loved.

More than anything, Marie relished being a mother. She raised two children, Kelly and Eric, who were 16 years apart in age—each bringing their own joys and challenges. Marie always had an ear to listen, encouraging words to offer, a welcoming home and a warm hug. Even in her final days, despite the struggles she faced, she never stopped making sure her family knew how much she loved them.

Marie’s warmth, kindness, and unwavering love will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

Marie lived by a simple yet powerful life motto:
"Always think positively, think good thoughts, always do what is right, and try your best."

In lieu of flowers, donations in Marie’s memory may be made to Alzheimer’s Disease Research or Immaculate Heart of Mary School in North Little Rock, AR.

Visitation is 5:30-7:30 PM, followed by a 7:30 PM Rosary, Tuesday, February 25th at Smith North Little Rock Funeral Home. Mass is 10:00 AM, Wednesday February 26th, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church.

