Her Journey's Just Begun

Don't think of her as gone away
Her journey has just begun
Life holds many facets
The earth is only one
Just think of her as resting
From the sorrows and the tears
In a place of warmth and comfort
Where there are no days and years
Think how she must be wishing
That we could know today
How nothing but our sadness
Can really pass away
And think of her as living
In the hearts of those she touched
For nothing loved is ever lost
And she was loved so much.

Author unknown



PORTER FUNERAL HOME

Forever Remembered



MARY KELLEY

May 18, 1953
October 18, 2026

Mary Elizabeth Mace Kelley was born on May 18, 1953, in Yankton, South Dakota, to Margaret and Ervin Mace, Sr. As a child, Mary's family lived in various places including South Dakota, Iowa, Missouri, and Nevada. In 1978, Mary moved to Hawarden, Iowa where she met her future husband, Jerry Kelley. They married in 1989 and built their life together, raising their 3 children.

Mary was a hard worker and worked in many places, notably, she worked at Coilcraft for 15 years and retired from Wells Blue Bunny after 17 years.

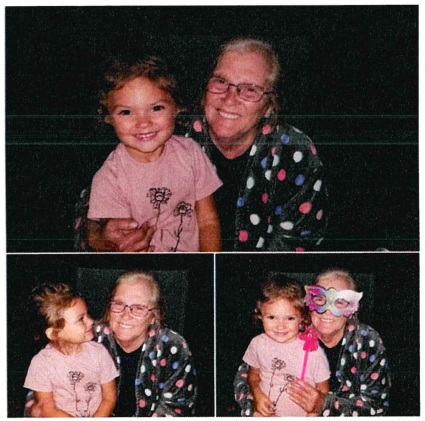
Mary loved her family fiercely and was always there with her contagious laugh and smile. She enjoyed spending time with her family whether it be camping, having meals, or watching her favorite shows together. Mary had a soft spot for animals and had many pets throughout her life. She was a child at heart and loved to laugh, joke around, and have fun. She was considered "Mom" and "Grandma Mary" to many of her children's and grandchildren's friends. She had a special bond with her great-grandchildren and adored every minute she got to spend with them. Mary will be remembered for her loving and generous heart, her fiery spirit, and witty humor.

Mary passed away peacefully, surrounded by her family, on Sunday, October 18, 2026, at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota at the age of 73.

Mary is survived by her children, Steve Mace, Jeri Kelley, and Teri (Charles) Kelley, all of Hawarden, Iowa; granddaughter, Brittany Mace of Hawarden; great-grandchildren, Bayleigh, Zander, and Nikolas; siblings, Leann McGraw of Kansas, Stephanie Orozco of Nebraska, Ervin (Tiffany) Mace, Jr. of South Dakota, Leo Mace of Nebraska, and Travis Mace of Nebraska; along with many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Jerry in 2008; brothers, Donald, Alan, Edward, and Jerry Mace; and grandchildren, Amber Mace, Greyson, Logan, and Baby Stock.

"She may have been little, but she was mighty!"



Celebrating Mary's Life

VISITATION WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday, October 23, 2026

Porter Funeral Home

Hawarden, Iowa





