



Marilyn Catherine Russell

May 8, 1942 - March 25, 2025

Marilyn Catherine Russell, age 82, of Leesburg, FL, passed away peacefully on March 25, 2025, surrounded by her loved ones. She was born on May 8, 1942, and was the beloved wife of the late Lee A. Russell. Marilyn was a devoted mother, grandmother, and friend who touched many lives through her kindness, dedication, and unwavering faith.

Marilyn was preceded in death by her parents Arthur and Marie Tillman; daughters Lisa King, Jennifer Gavelda, and Jessica (John) Swindeman; her son-in-law Richard King; and her grandsons 1st Sgt. William Baxter and Donnie Irvine. She leaves behind a legacy of love and family, including her children Lee D. (Elizabeth) Russell, and Elaine (Martin) Luers, as well as her grandchildren Michael (Kayla) Krebs, Kaleigh (Ian) Allen, Kevin (Kendall) Krebs, Matthew Irvine, Jake Gavelda, Joseph (Casey) Luers, Kathleen (Michael) Luers, Matthew Luers, Elena (Richard) Swindeman, Thomas Luers, Elizabeth Luers, Benjamin Luers, and her beloved dog, Buddy. She also leaves behind many great grandchildren.

Marilyn had a long and fulfilling career, first as a science teacher, and later as a park ranger, where she shared her love of nature and knowledge with all who crossed her path. She was deeply involved in her community, dedicating her time as a hospice volunteer, a wildlife sanctuary volunteer, and a voluntary Eucharistic minister. Her compassion and service to others were hallmarks of

her character.

A woman of great faith and strength, Marilyn will be remembered for her devotion to family, her love for the outdoors, and her selfless service to others. Her legacy of kindness, generosity, and unwavering faith will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

A funeral mass will be held on Thursday, April 3, 2025 at 8:30am at St. Paul Catholic Church, where family and friends are invited to celebrate her life and the many ways she made the world a better place.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to a local Hospice Organization of your choice in Marilyn's memory.

St. Paul Catholic Church 1330 Sunshine Ave.
Leesburg, FL 34748

Arrangements entrusted to Beyers Funeral Home of Leesburg, Florida.

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

APR 3. 8:30 AM (ET)

St. Paul Catholic Church
1330 Sunshine Ave
Leesburg, FL 34748

Tribute Wall



“ *Beyers Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Marilyn Catherine Russell*



Beyers Funeral Home - March 27, 2025 at 01:45 PM

SA

Elaine and family, a poignant and powerful message and music conveyed about a lovely lady reflecting a life well lived indeed. May precious memories bring you and your family and friends bring some comfort.

*Blessings,
Shelly Abrams*

Shelly Abrams - March 28, 2025 at 05:40 PM

MK

May your sweet mother rest in peace.

Mary Anne Kriesen - March 29, 2025 at 09:25 AM



*Mrs. Russell was one of the most beautiful, classy, and kindest woman I have ever known. She was my elementary teacher at St. Mary's School in Painesville Ohio. I always admired how she dressed, and that beautiful red hair styled with large curls behived on her head, her elegance, and the way she taught firm but loving. Her kindness towards me was best and she even taught me to sing loud and proud especially in church, when we rehearsed at our school mass. A remarkable woman whom I thought of many times over the years. God had certainly blessed us all with her in our lives whether great or small. Thank you Mrs. Russell, for being an important part of my life and showing me kindness and love when it was so needed in my life. My heartfelt condolences to all her family.
(Judith - former student)*

Judith D. Lennartz - March 30, 2025 at 11:53 AM



A beautiful tribute for a beautiful lady. Who knew anyone could rock yellow like that! Her loving and giving spirit shines through and will continue with all of you. May she rest in peace in our loving Fathers arms. Keeping the entire family in our prayers and thoughts during this difficult time. Much love, Stephanie & Mike

Stephanie Smith - March 31, 2025 at 05:02 PM



“ Jeffrey A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marilyn Catherine Russell.

Jeffrey A. - April 19, 2025 at 01:03 PM

TB

“ Mrs Russell was one of my 7th grade teachers at St Mary School in Painesville Ohio. She was an amazing science teacher, sparked an interest in science with us, her enthusiasm for teaching was a wonderful gift that she shared with us. She also taught religion which was quite a testament to her knowledge of her faith and gift for teaching since it was a Catholic school. Of course I still remember some of the lessons and her ability to “manage” 7th and 8th graders. She even allowed time for us to bring records to school of music that had a good message to share with the class, which led to interesting class discussions. She inspired so many people in her too few years.

Tim Bringardner - March 31, 2025 at 11:00 AM

JM

“ Marilyn was in our Water Aerobics class for many years. She was always a delight to be around but one day she became our hero- during class a black snake slipped into the water- all the ladies scrambled inthe opposie direction except Marilyn she went over- picked up the snake and threw it out of the water! I guess her animal adversity kicked in and she saved the snake! But she was our hero! She was a very loving and kind person and we are all glad we got to know her. Love you Marilyn! Legacy MWF Water Aerobics Class

Judy McFall - March 30, 2025 at 07:54 PM

JB

“ Joanna B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marilyn Catherine Russell.

Joanna B. - March 29, 2025 at 04:36 PM