

From: **John Hanley** <john.hanley@comcast.net>

Date: Sun, Oct 1, 2017 at 12:35 PM

Subject: Catherine M. Hanley (1923-2017)

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Cc: Beth Dunn <BethDunn1616@att.net>, Amy Hanley <amy.hanley@comcast.net>, "Hanley, John F." <John.Hanley@gs.com>, dunn@conlondunn.com

Dear Family & Friends,

It is with much sadness and yet love and celebration that we announce the passing of our mother, Catherine "Kay" Mary Hanley. She died peacefully early Wednesday morning after a happy and healthy 94 years.

She lived an extraordinarily life that spanned a century: she was born in 1923 during the Roarin' 20s and she fondly remembered our grandparents enjoying the night life in Chicago during that time with many Bartsch and O'Reilly relatives; she grew up during the Depression years of the 1930s but she was always grateful for a happy and stable family; she attended the University of Illinois and then moved to Washington, DC, from 1943-45 to help with the war effort (where she saw FDR's funeral procession); she returned to Chicago where she worked in the business world during the 1950s and early 1960s; and then she married our father, Pat, and moved back to Wilmette and the North Shore after miraculously having children at ages 42 and 44.

She loved reading and history but was focused on living in the present with her family (and using FaceTime for those living away) and always being optimistic about the future. She was energized by an afternoon drive to see her beloved Lake Michigan or by talking about Chicago's rich traditions and pastimes. She visited me in her 70s when I lived in London (and we were able to take the train to Paris) and also flew to Washington by herself at the tender age of 90 to celebrate her birthday with us. She enjoyed her 94th birthday this spring with her six grandchildren at Easter Mass at St. Francis.

Ma Mere, as she wanted to be called by the grandchildren, was an avid Cubs fan and there is bit of family lore/mystery around her attendance at a World Series game at Wrigley Field in the first half of the 20th century. She told her oldest grandchild, Jack, that she remembered going to a World Series game as a young girl, most likely in 1932, the same series when Babe Ruth called his famous home run shot in Chicago and the legendary Gaby Hartnett played for the home team! She also gave Jack a pin from the 1945 World Series (attached). Since the Cubs didn't win any of those championships, she had to wait probably close to 80 years until the they captured it last year, for which we are all grateful!

I've attached a few photos. Visitation will be this Tuesday, Oct. 3, at 10 AM at St. Francis in Wilmette with a mass at 11 AM. Following internment at Sacred Heart cemetery in Northbrook, we invite people to join us at Michigan Shores Club in Wilmette. Additional details can be found here:

www.donnellanfuneral.com/sitemaker/memsol.cgi?user_id=2013231

Thanks to everyone who have expressed their love and support.

Warmly,
John & Beth