



Mary "Mary Jo" Josephine Lanza

February 6, 1949 - December 3, 2021

Mary Josephine Lanza passed away Friday, December 3rd, 2021, in Pueblo Colorado. She was 72 years old and the loving wife of James Lanza, they were married for 48 years. Mary Jo was born in Crested Butte, Colorado on February 6th, 1949, and was the sixth child, as well as a twin born to Rudolph & Margaret Kochevar. She graduated from Seton high school in 1967. She lived and worked in Pueblo as a teacher & literacy coordinator for District 60 for 34 years. Before Mary Jo lost her 9-year battle with PSP, she enjoyed traveling all over the world, visiting her family, celebrating special occasions with her husband, daughters, family members etc. She was an amazing teacher who taught & inspired children, as well as co-workers over many years, and generations. Mary Jo will be remembered for being a truly genuine, sweet & loving soul, as well as a mother to many others in her life, and was given the nickname "Ma Jo". No matter who you were, she treated you with dignity and respect, always displaying her beautiful smile.

She is survived by her husband James Lanza; her daughters Jaime (Edward) Montanez of Denver and Stacie Lanza of Las Vegas Nevada. Mary Jo was a loving and proud grandmother "Nonna" of two grandchildren, Dominic & Vincent Montanez, as well as many nieces & nephews. Her twin sister Margaret (Mike) Hardin, another older sister Carolyn Judd, brothers Rudy (Peggy) Kochevar, John Kochevar, & Mark Kochevar. Mary Jo left us much too soon and will forever be loved & missed but will live on in our hearts every day. Her unconditional love for her family will go on, not ever forgotten. Our

family would like to send a special thank you and acknowledge the wonderful, caregivers & staff at Columbine Chateau. Another thank you to the staff of Bristol Hospice who came aboard recently in her last days. Mary Jo's funeral service will be held at 2:00pm on Tuesday, December 21st, 2021, at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 217 E. Mesa Ave. The family will also be hosting a gathering, "Celebration of Mary Jo's Life" following the service, from 4:00-7:00pm at the 4 of Hart's Restaurant, 102 S. Union Ave. Online condolences, www.roselawnpueblo.org.

Previous Events

Memorial Mass

DEC **21**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (MT)

St. Mary's Church
217 E, Mesa
Pueblo, CO 81006

Tribute Wall



“ *Anything for You was purchased for the family of Mary "Mary Jo" Josephine Lanza.*



January 23, 2022 at 10:20 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mary "Mary Jo" Josephine Lanza.*



December 21, 2021 at 02:03 PM



“ *Dear Jim, Jaime and Stacy,
Mary Jo was one of my idols growing up. She was so so beautiful and sweet. She was very kind also.. .she was always helping someone.. Much later when my father was ill, she visited him often. Will miss her very much. May the wonderful memories of her comfort you during this difficult time. Much love,
Pam (Kochevar) Hayoun and family*

Pam Hayoun - December 20, 2021 at 09:49 PM

CC

“ *Mr. Lanza, I'm so sorry for the loss of your dear wife. There are never appropriate words for this time. We also fought the PSP battle with our sweet Mother. It's cruel and unimaginable. Just know she suffers from it no more. Please accept my prayers during this difficult time.*

*Sincerely,
Cindy Jones Cira*

Cindy Cira - December 18, 2021 at 09:54 PM



“ *Delightful Dieffenbachia was purchased for the family of Mary "Mary Jo" Josephine Lanza.*



December 14, 2021 at 06:28 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mary "Mary Jo" Josephine Lanza.*



December 12, 2021 at 06:43 PM

TM

“ *Jim, Tim and I are so sorry for your loss. MaryJo's smile and sweet demeanor will be missed. Please know that we have you in our thoughts and prayers. 🙏*

Tim and Kathi Miller - December 12, 2021 at 10:57 AM

RC

We were so sorry to read of Mary Jo's passing. I am sorry that we will be unable to attend the service, my daughter is having health issues and we must see her doctor at the same time. Our sincere sympathy in the loss of your special wife and mother. Bob and Carol Centa

Robert R Centa - December 12, 2021 at 03:02 PM

WB

*We are very sorry to hear about your loss. May God give you strength. You are in our prayers.
Marlene and Bill Bregar*

William Bregar - December 17, 2021 at 10:58 AM