



## Mary Tornabene Coleman

September 20, 1943 - September 20, 2024

Mary Tornabene Coleman died peacefully, surrounded by family at home, on 9.20.24.

Mary spent her life in service to others. After her parents passed away, by the time she was 21, Mary went on to be the caretaker for her siblings. Mary attended St. Mary's of Notre Dame and graduated from Loyola University with the express purpose of teaching. Having impacted the lives of thousands of students, Mary was always grateful for and aware of the responsibility that lay within teaching. She never forgot a student's name and always took time and care with each student she encountered. She either taught or was an administrator at Annunciation School, Drumpark School in Scotland, St. Rita of Cascia School, Jefferson Middle School, West Aurora High School and Aurora University.

Mary was born at St. Charles Hospital in Aurora, IL. She lived in Aurora for the majority of her life with the exception of an extraordinary year spent teaching in Scotland. In Scotland, Mary made lifelong friends and continued to visit them along with our extended family throughout Scotland and England. Her trips to the UK and time spent with friends and family were always highlights of her years.

Mary was an avid reader who loved traveling and attending the opera and

symphony. She never missed an opportunity to cheer on her beloved University of Notre Dame football team. But, her favorite pastime was supporting her grandchildren, whether that was by attending a sports competition, play, or musical recital. Mary never missed an opportunity to be Alex, Viviann, Simone or Russell's biggest cheerleader.

She is survived by her husband, Lott, with whom she was married to for 51 years, and daughters, Felicia Brabec (David) and Christina Coleman. Mary was exceedingly proud of her grandchildren, Alex, 17, Viviann, 15, Simone, 9, and Russell, 8. She is survived by her brother, Vince Tornabene (Beth).

She is preceded in death by her parents, Felix and Ann Tornabene, as well as siblings, Ann and Catherine.

Funeral Mass for Mary will be on Saturday, September 28, 2024 at 9:30am from THE DALEIDEN MORTUARY to Annunciation Church at 10:00am. Fr. Abbot Joel Rippinger, OSB will officiate with interment at Marywood Cemetery.

Visitation will be held on Friday, September 27, 2024 from 3:00pm until 7:00pm with a wake service at 6:00pm at THE DALEIDEN MORTUARY, 220 N. Lake St., Aurora, 630-631-5500. Please visit our website at [www.daleidenmortuary.com](http://www.daleidenmortuary.com) where you may leave condolences for Mary's family.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Brain Tumor Association or Our Lady of Mount Carmel High School in Benque Viejo del Carmen, Belize.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **27**. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Daleiden Mortuary  
220 N. Lake Street  
Aurora, IL 60506  
(630) 631-5500  
daleidenmortuary@gmail.com  
<https://www.daleidenmortuary.com>

## Wake Service

SEP **27**. 6:00 PM (CT)

Daleiden Mortuary  
220 N. Lake Street  
Aurora, IL 60506  
(630) 631-5500  
daleidenmortuary@gmail.com  
<https://www.daleidenmortuary.com>

## Funeral Mass

SEP **28**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Annunciation Church  
1820 Church Road  
Aurora, IL 60505

# Tribute Wall



“ *Sorry for your loss. When ever I did her hair I realized what a wonderful soul she was.*

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**Jo Dillard** - September 29, 2024 at 03:06 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mary Tornabene Coleman.*



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September 27, 2024 at 12:03 AM



“ *Dear Lott, Felicia, Christina, and all other family members so deeply affected by Mary's passing, my hearts hurts for you all. On every occasion that I was privileged to spend with Mary and you all, I felt her warmth, her generous, welcoming and gracious spirit, her kindness. She touched so many lives in such a lovely way. May she be eternally blessed to be in God's presence. May you all be comforted by her presence in your hearts and minds.*

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**Meredith Anderson** - September 25, 2024 at 11:16 PM



“ *Jen and Pat Prikkel purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Mary Tornabene Coleman.*



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**Jen and Pat Prikkel** - September 25, 2024 at 02:52 PM

LC

“ *I pray that you find comfort and strength in Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit knowing that God is with you. May the memories of your loved live in your heart forever. Liz Campbell*

Liz Campbell - September 25, 2024 at 04:25 AM

KW

*A dear lady and friend...an exceptional teacher who touched the hearts & abilities of many students/peers and positively impacted SO many lives. She was truly an angel on earth and will live on in many hearts & memories. Sending my warmest thoughts & sincere sympathy to Mary's dear family and many friends.*

♥ Kathy Wagner

Kathy Wagnet - September 26, 2024 at 02:41 PM

LM

“ *Linda & M.H purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mary Tornabene Coleman.*



Linda & M.H - September 24, 2024 at 12:40 PM

DE

“ *Dearest Christina,  
Tony shared with us the passing of your mother who he always spoke so fondly of. We send you, your father, your sister, all of her grandchildren and her entire family our deepest condolences. May our Lord and Savior continually comfort all of you with His love ♥. GOD Bless Mr and Mrs Evans*



Dan & Yvonne Evans - September 24, 2024 at 12:30 PM

DE

“ Dearest Christina,  
Tony shared with us the passing of your mother who he always spoke so fondly of. We send you, your father, your sister, all of grandchildren and entire family our deepest condolences. May our Lord and Savior continually comfort all of you with His love ❤️. GOD Bless Mr and Mrs Evans

Dan & Yvonne Evans - September 24, 2024 at 12:23 PM



“ Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Mary Tornabene Coleman.



September 23, 2024 at 06:33 PM

DK

“ Mary's parents, Dr. and Mrs. Tornabene were my parents very close friends, best friends, when we were growing up in Aurora. They were the most friendly and entertaining couple I knew, not only with my parents but also with all of us children in the Kaman clan. I'll never forget Dr. Tornabene's booming voice when he'd tell a funny story or joke. I don't think I ever saw him frown! Ditto Mary. She was loving, caring, and always ready to support and help those around her! She truly served!

Dick Kaman - September 23, 2024 at 04:34 PM

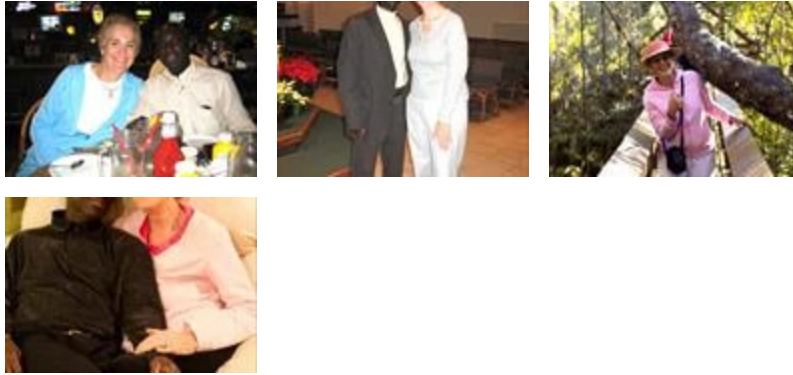
SD

“ Scott D. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Tornabene Coleman.

Scott D. - September 23, 2024 at 03:36 PM

RM

“ We've never known anyone kinder, more loving and so full of life than Mary. She was a great story teller and she had plenty of stories to share having led such a full and adventurous life. We will miss her tremendously. David and Rosanna



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**ROSANNA SARTORI MALATO** - September 23, 2024 at 01:57 PM

HF

“ Hugs, the Juriga Family purchased the Ginkgo Gift Tree for the family of Mary Tornabene Coleman.



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**Hugs, the Juriga Family** - September 23, 2024 at 10:40 AM

HF

“ Hugs, the Juriga Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Tornabene Coleman.

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**Hugs, the Juriga Family** - September 23, 2024 at 10:40 AM

VW

“ Mary was the Symbol of graciousness and she passed that trait to her daughters. May her memory be a blessing. Rest in Peace.

Vicki Wyman

Vicki Wyman - September 23, 2024 at 09:52 AM

CD

“ Mrs. Coleman was such a wonderful, warm and caring woman. Growing up, her house felt like a second home to me because of her. She had such strong faith and I know that her absence from us is only temporary. I am sorry for your loss, Christina, Felicia and Mr. Coleman.

Claudine Rigaud Dulaney - September 22, 2024 at 05:30 PM

MF

“ Mary was part of the interview team when I was hired at Jefferson Middle School. What a wonderful mentor and friend. She cared about all her students and their success.

Mary A. Frazer - September 22, 2024 at 03:10 PM

TC

“ Mary was a beautiful, special person who always put others first. We are so sorry for her families loss  
Tom and Pat Conlon 🙏🙏❤️

Tom and Pat Conlon - September 22, 2024 at 01:26 PM

JL

“ My thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Mary was a great lady.

Jane Lynn - September 22, 2024 at 11:18 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Tornabene Coleman.*



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September 22, 2024 at 10:19 AM



“ *Solomon Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Tornabene Coleman.*

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**Solomon Family** - September 22, 2024 at 10:19 AM



“ *Christopher E. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Tornabene Coleman.*

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**Christopher E.** - September 22, 2024 at 09:16 AM



“ *Mary was our dear and wonderful friend! She was the epitome of kindness, good manners and taste, and a terrific example to her students! Her deep and abiding faith shone like a beacon! We share 45+ years of happy and special memories with her, Lott, and their girls. She will always be treasured and loved in our minds and hearts. We love you Mary!  
Ray, Marcie, Joe, Holly, & Jay Boulay*

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**Marcie Boulay** - September 22, 2024 at 08:47 AM

DS

*My heart is broken as I think of the many memories I carry for Mary. My five kids had the good life at St Rita's. I could write a book. I also was blessed to be able to bowl with husband Lott for years. RIP Mary.  
Denny Sutherland*

**Dennis Sutherland** - September 22, 2024 at 04:57 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mary Tornabene Coleman.*



September 21, 2024 at 11:30 PM

PW

“ *Patrick and Demetrike Wells-O'Brien planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Tornabene Coleman.*

**Patrick and Demetrike Wells-O'Brien** - September 21, 2024 at 11:30 PM