



## Patricia Marie (Purcell) Garrity

May 17, 1925 - May 29, 2020

Patricia Marie (Purcell) Garrity, age 95, of Aurora, Illinois, and Niceville, Florida, and originally from the south side of Chicago, died peacefully on May 29, 2020, after a full and graced life and with family present.

She was preceded in death by the love of her life, her husband of over sixty-nine years, Dr. Edward R. Garrity, Sr., M.D., and by her parents Edward and Bernice (Hisel) Purcell of Chicago and of Bristol, Illinois, and by her brothers, Edward (Patricia) Purcell and Jack (Virginia) Purcell. Pat is survived by many relatives and friends and neighbors, along with many nieces and nephews and their families, and members of her extended spiritual family and her immediate family: daughters Janann (Tracy) Licklider of Cambridge, Massachusetts, Maryl (Lawrence) Hankes of Big Rock, Illinois, and Patricia Marcella Garrity of Chicago; niece Patricia Purcell of Aurora; sons Dr. Edward (Linda Keipert) Garrity, Jr., M.D. of La Grange, Illinois, Fr. Robert Garrity, SThD of Ave Maria, Florida, and Thomas (Colleen Magoon) Garrity of Laconia, New Hampshire; grandchildren Zachary Licklider, Francisco Licklider, Bridget Hankes (Isa) Ixpatá, Brian (Eileen McEnroe) Hankes, Jonathan (Katsiaryna Radziuk) Garrity, Colin Garrity, Joseph (Kate Bergeron) Garrity, Nathan Garrity, Trevor Garrity, Hannah Garrity, Ryan Garrity; and great-grandchildren Caitlyn Hankes, Nora Hankes, Joseph Ixpatá, and Grace Ixpatá. Pat is also survived by her sister-in-law, Virginia Purcell, and by the families of several in-laws and other relatives.

Born on May 17, 1925 on the south side of Chicago (St. Sabina's Parish), the second child of Edward and Bernice (Hisel) Purcell, Pat was the loving mother of six children, eleven grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. She attended Loretto Academy of Englewood in Chicago, through a generous scholarship from the Archdiocese of Chicago for students in need, which she tried to repay throughout her life. Pat also attended St. Teresa College in Winona, Minnesota, St. Francis School of Nursing in Evanston, Illinois, and years later she received a Master's Degree in Religious Education from Mundelein College in Chicago. Her greatest joy was to serve others, at home and elsewhere, particularly those in need through poverty or sickness, suffering or sadness. Pat especially enjoyed serving through Holy Angels Church, Marmion Academy, and Rosary High School in Aurora, Colegio San Jose in Guatemala, and Christ Our Redeemer Parish in Niceville, Florida. Also she gladly assisted in service projects as diverse as the senior citizen ministry, Golden Agers, Silver Threads, the Dominican Literacy Center, Respect Life, service at Presence Mercy Hospital, meal service to AIDS patients, the Rockford Diocesan Pastoral Council, and service as her husband's nurse and medical assistant for 31 years each winter after 1970 in providing free medical care for the poor in Guatemala at Marmion's Colegio San Jose.

As wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, student, nurse, and friendly neighbor, Pat found joy and meaning in giving of herself to benefit others. She especially enjoyed serving a tasty meal to the hungry, at home and elsewhere and at charitable gatherings, among friends and neighbors, to the poor and the sick, the dying and the bereaved. She lived by the Lord's words, "I was hungry and you gave me food." She loved excellent medical care for all from the womb to the tomb and clean sanitation for everyone everywhere. Her family tell the joke that a family member's cold or flu was a personal insult and a mission for Pat to bring healing immediately; in fact, her aggressive attacks against common colds, and her persistent questions about the progress of the disease, were worse than the sickness itself and actually forced the sick to get

well quickly in order to avoid the ongoing questions.

Patricia Purcell Garrity lived a full and blest life – a life for others. Her family and friends are grateful for her fine example and extend their heartfelt gratitude to all who have expressed their condolences. Under current coronavirus guidelines, the Funeral Mass was celebrated on Saturday, May 30, 2020, at 1:30PM at Holy Angels Church in Aurora, preceded by a brief Visitation prior to the Mass, which was attended by immediate family members only. Services were provided by Daleiden Mortuary in Aurora, with burial at St. Patrick's Cemetery in Bristol, Illinois. Contributions can be made to the Dominican Literacy Center in Aurora, where non-reading persons are assisted in reading English, or to Marmion Academy, or to Rosary High School, or to Holy Angels School, all in Aurora.

# Cemetery Details

## **St. Patrick Cemetery**

Bristol, IL

# Tribute Wall

KP

“ To all of the Garrity family, I am so saddened of the loss of your mother. She was such a wonderful woman who carried herself with such grace and dignity and so generous to everyone around her. Both of your parents gave so much of themselves to others. I feel honored to have known such fine people. My prayers are with you always.

*Katherine P. Purcell*

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**Katherine P. Purcell** - June 01, 2020 at 06:16 AM

SA

“ My sincere sympathy and prayers to all the Garrity's at this time. Pat as well as Doctor will always be remembered for their generosity and friendship to the early Dominicans of Rosary High School . May God bless them and each of you.

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**Sister Mary Alberta** - May 31, 2020 at 04:47 PM

LW

“ My deepest sympathy to all the Garrity family. Your Mom was a wonderful, smart and fun woman. She was an inspiration to all that knew her. I was truly blessed to have Pat as a friend and to know such a wonderful family. She will be truly missed by many people. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.

*Linda Wrona*

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**Linda Wrona** - May 30, 2020 at 09:45 PM

SW

“ My sincerest sympathy to the entire Garrity family. I went Rosary with Janann and my heart goes out to her and her family. It is so difficult to lose your mom. I am keeping you in my thoughts and prayers during this sad time.



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**Sandra Whiteis** - May 30, 2020 at 08:12 PM

CR

“ Janann and all my dear Garrity neighbors, your mother was an inspiration to all of us. But besides that, she was the fun mom in the neighborhood – whether chasing your runaway pet rabbit or driving a carload of us neighborhood kids in the “limo.” I don’t remember seat belts, but I sure remember the jump seats! All of you have lived lives of charity and service that are a beautiful reflection of the values your parents held dear. Pat made such a difference in the world, and especially by passing on her ideals to the six of you. My condolences to you all. I hope your immediate family was able to gather to celebrate her life despite the pandemic. I regret that the rest of us who also loved her could not be with you.

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**Carol Rice Rosignolo** - May 30, 2020 at 03:37 PM

DR

“ Pat was everything thats been said and more. The Garritys were wonderful neighbors and friends. Our families had many good and happy memories

Yes ! everybody misses the Garritys

*Dr. Ransom Rice*

*Crooville Tn.*

*yersheinds for yeas. Their children and ours had so many good times together.*

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**Dr. JR Rice** - May 30, 2020 at 02:58 PM

GP

“ *Your Mother was one of the special people in Aurora. She was a beautiful person! She will be sadly missed. Doc and Pat did so much for the community, esp. Marmion and Holy Angels. They were the best in Aurora! I knew them for sixty years, and never once did they flinch from someone's needs. I Loved them both. I could tell you some great memories of thier generosity with help from Phil Schalz!!*

*I am so Sad!*

*Jerry Pigatti*

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**Gerald Pigatti** - May 30, 2020 at 11:19 AM



“ *Simply Lily was purchased for the family of Patricia Marie (Purcell) Garrity.*



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May 30, 2020 at 10:13 AM

AG

“ Mike and I are so sorry for your loss of your beautiful mother. We knew her through Holy Angels and that I will never forget that smile for everyone she met. When my oldest son started serving mass she was always encouraging him what a good server he was. Our prayers and thoughts go out to all of you but especially to Meryl and Larry! Virtual hugs to you!

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**Agnes** - May 30, 2020 at 09:55 AM

KW

“ Meryl, my sympathies to you and your family in the passing of your mother. May she Rest In Peace. Kay Woulfe

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**Kay Woulfe** - May 30, 2020 at 09:05 AM

KS

“ We knew Pat long long ago as members of Holy Angels parish and even earlier as schoolmates of the Garrity siblings. Remembering her as one of the most generous, patient and gracious people we've ever known. Our sincere condolences to all of the family.

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**Kent Schielke** - May 29, 2020 at 10:00 PM

BL

*Mrs. Garrity was a delight. I had the pleasure of visiting with her and Patty twice these last couple of years when I was in Aurora. The first time was after Mass at McAuley and again after Mrs. Abell's funeral Mass. It was a pleasure seeing her as she personified a truly positive personality, strong faith and selflessness.*

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**Beth Roberts Lang** - May 30, 2020 at 08:58 AM

SR

*Pat Garrity was a truly wonderful woman. She was strong, kind, compassionate and unashamed to say what she felt. When she heard about our work with immigrant women at the Dominican Literacy Center, she jumped in with whole-hearted support, and became our first Advisory Board President. She was president for 9 years, and never missed a meeting; at her last meeting, she received the "Perfect Attendance" crown, and wore it proudly. She passionately loved Ed, her children, God.....and cookies! We all loved her deeply, and we will truly miss her presence in our world.*

*Sr. Kathleen Ryan, OP  
Dominican Literacy Center, Aurora*

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**Sr. Kathleen Ryan** - May 30, 2020 at 05:18 PM

JC

*Of all the moms in the neighborhood, Pat Garrity held a special place in my heart. If I close my eyes, I can see her wearing blue jeans and a grey Beetovan sweatshirt. She was the cool mom. From a child's perspective, she had this amazing posture (lol) and a wonderful bounce in her step. She would make us feel special every time we were at the house. She would always greet us with that beautiful smile.....only second to Doc, who would greet us with a firm handshake. Having not lived in Illinois for decades, I will be forever grateful for a visit with Pat and Doc at Toni Fox's 95th birthday party. We reminisced about the good old Garfield days. Ahhh....the good old days. To the wonderful Garrity family, you have all my love and my heartfelt sympathy. Your mom was the epitome of kindness, grace and a life committed to serving others. She was a gem.*

*Jane Readey Collins*

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**Jane Collins** - May 31, 2020 at 07:15 PM