



Mary L. Mertz

February 29, 1960 - April 6, 2026

Mary L. Mertz, 66, of Valparaiso, Indiana, passed away on Monday, April 6, 2026, at Valparaiso Care Center.

Mary was born on February 29, 1960, on a military base in Germany, a leap-year birthday that made her story all the more unique. She was the beloved daughter of Donald and Donna (Peterson) Tollefsen. Raised with a strong work ethic, Mary learned the values of discipline, determination, and perseverance early in life, carrying those traits with her always.

In the summer of 1994, Mary married Ronald Eugene Mertz Jr., who preceded her in death. She lived a quiet and simple life, finding joy in reading and her love of horror movies.

Mary is survived by her children, Jackie Jender and Joshua (Chloe) Mertz; and mother Donna. She was preceded in death by her father, her husband, an uncle and her cherished cat, Tipper.

Honoring Mary's wishes, a memorial service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Misericordia, Heart of Mercy at <https://support.misericordia.com/>.

Tribute Wall

SP

“ I am sad to hear of Mary's passing. We were best friends in 7th and 8th grade, I think of her every birthday, even on the 28th. She was a beautiful soul💜🙏

Susan Paveza - April 24 at 06:06 PM

JM

Mom talked about you often near the end telling me stories. Thank you for the kind words. -Josh

Josh Mertz - May 12 at 04:43 PM

FM

“ Our sympathy and special prayers for Mary and all her family and friends

Fr. Jack Clair & Residents of Misericord - April 07 at 10:15 PM