

1 Mom
2 Shirley
3 Mary
4 Louise
5 Francis
6 TheLima

1 Hilton
2 Ray
3 James
4 Edward
5 Willie
6 Clifford (Buddy)

God is Good and All the time Good is Good

Good Morning family and friends

On Tuesday #2 and #4 --driven by #2 and #4 came into town. #3 and #5 called followed by #6. All about #1 . You see, #2 is Aunt Shirley #3 is Aunt Mary, #4 is Aunt Louise #5 is Aunt Francis and #6 is Aunt TheLima.. Also #2 is uncle Ray and #4 is Uncle Edward. Mom was the oldest of 12 children. With so many sisters and brothers the sisters started calling each other by their birth number. Today #1 is with the Lord. My Mom would never be loudest in the room, but her loving ways, kind words would always bring comfort to our hearts. Mom loved family all her brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews and would offer - not in a pushy way - wonderful insight to help us move through this world.

Mom was a loving wife and mother with a high level of independence that she gave to Craig and me. We learned how to cook, clean, wash, iron, find good bargains by going to store to store and back to the first store if they had the best price. Back when it was legal, if we got tired we could stay in the car with the windows down. Yes those were the days. I can still find the clearance rack any department store - ask my family.

But Mom taught us so much more.

That even though life maybe hard, gather yourself and persevere. Once when we jumped into a pool full of children who because of our appearance, did not want to play with us - I complained to Mom. She hugged me and told me to go jump back in the pool and play with Craig - we would not be moved.

In a world where people are quick to tell you how great THEY are and how much THEY accomplished, Mom displayed a quiet elegance that seems lost in the world today. I have to remember that gift as I go through each day forward.

Mom loved to laugh I can hear her voice laughing on the phone with her friends, with family at the reunion and at our all night house parties the projects of east Harlem. Family and friends all around until the early morning.

When we went through the photo albums looking for pictures to display, a few images resonated with me. Mom loved her family, mom loved our father, always gently holding his arm or shoulder, she loved her two boys, we have so many impromptu pictures with all of us grinning ear to ear. And she loved being a nurse. In those pictures her joy shines through her eyes, loving, intelligent, caring and kind. It has been a blessing that we had our own nurse as our mother, there to fix our hurts, real and imagine. And now she with the one true doctor, Jesus in heaven. I love you Mom and will miss you and I will keep you with me in my heart.

Thank you to Daddy

Thank you to Mom, Mr. SSA Joe + family
for being here for me.

Thank you to Bonnie, Matt + Ben

And especially Craig for being my
Brother