



## Mary C Warren

July 3, 1938 - August 18, 2021

Princeton - Mary Catherine Warren, 83, of Princeton, IL passed away on Wednesday, August 18, 2021 at Aperion Care in Princeton.

Mary was born on July 3, 1938 in Quincy, IL to the late Willie and Audry (Peterson) Wear. She graduated from Mt Sterling High School, Class of 1956. She obtained her bachelor's degree for teaching at Western Illinois University. She started her career at 19 at Sparland High School on a provisional certification after only two years of college. She worked at Roseville High School, in Roseville, IL. Then worked for Putnam County in 1966, teaching English and minored in Library Science. Retiring after 27 years of service. She was instrumental in putting speech back into the curriculum.

She was married to the late Merle Seckler, who passed away many years ago. She remarried Charles "Ray" Warren, October 24, 2008 in Henry County. They lived in Bureau, until moving to Spring Valley and in 2017 they moved back to Princeton, IL.

Mary and Ray put together a company in Spring Valley "The Doctors of Doll-Ology. They would travel around and do repairs to dolls, sell and repair doll clothing, and accessories, hitting local vendor shows as well. Repairing antique dolls was a specialty of theirs. Her and Ray enjoyed camping in their travel camper and would spend the winters in Arkansas or Texas.

She is survived by her husband of 12 years, Ray Warren of Princeton, IL; one sister, Ruth (Roy) Baker of Quincy, IL; one brother Earl (Catherine) Wear of Moline, IL; four Stepchildren, Stephen Warren, Connie Hoffman, Denise Grundman and Anthony Warren. Preceded in death by her parents, Willie and Audry Wear, two sisters, Norma Huff and Lila Kerr, and her first husband, Merle Seckler.

A visitation will be held on Monday, August 30, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at Norberg Memorial Home, Inc. & Monuments.

Services will follow at Norberg Memorial Home, Inc. & Monuments at 11:00 a.m. officiated

by Pastor Bill Jacobsen. Followed by graveside services at Greenwood Cemetery, Bureau, IL.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to The Seatonville Community Church or donor's choice.

Online condolences and memorials may be directed to <http://www.norbergfh.com>

Arrangements by Norberg Memorial Home, Inc. & Monuments.

# Cemetery

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**Greenwood Cemetery -  
Bureau**

# Events

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**AUG 19 Funeral Service 11:00AM - 12:00PM**

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Norberg Memorial Home, Inc.  
701 E. Thompson Street, Princeton, IL, US,  
61356

**AUG 30 Visitation 10:00AM - 11:00AM**

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Norberg Memorial Home, Inc.  
701 E. Thompson Street, Princeton, IL, US,  
61356

**AUG 30 Graveside Service 12:00PM - 12:30PM**

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Greenwood Cemetery - Bureau  
US

# Comments

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“ I met Mary while I was in H.S. and she was the librarian and known as Mrs. Seckler at that time. She called the girls that worked for her during our study halls her "cherubs". Ma Seckler made us each a special jello poke cake for our birthdays. I've never had another one quite as delicious as hers. She also had a Christmas party for us afterschool, where she ordered pizza and then gave us each a gift. I still have a Cupie Doll that she handmade for us. As a group, the cherubs all pitched in and got her an Effanbee Doll to add to her collection. I later went on to be a teacher and happened to get a teaching job at the little school next door to her house in Bureau. I stopped in afterschool for an occasional visit or she popped over to school to visit me. While I taught there, we went out for a weekly dinner. She took great pride in her extensive doll collection and proudly displayed them throughout her house. She always got excited for each season as she thought of new ways to display her beauties. Mary also loved her puppy dogs and they became her furbabies over the years.

I changed teaching assignments and moved further from home. Mary took me around that area looking for apartments and helped me find the perfect one. We still tried to get together for birthdays and an occasional dinner. I then met my husband who Mary liked right away. I met a lot of her family and remember visits with Norma, Lila, Bill, & Ruth. I was happy that she had found a new love in Ray. She loved working on her doll repair shop& going camping. We both went through some health issues and our calls and visits became fewer over the years with more home moves. Then we had phone calls and caught back up. I am now retired and had hoped to visit Mary again and then Covid happened so I regret that I never got to tell her goodbye. She gifted me with a beautiful baby doll on our last visit and I will treasure it always. Mary was a wonderful mentor and later friend to both me and my family. We send our sincere condolences to her husband, Ray, and to the rest of her family on the loss of this great lady. We were camping and were unable to attend her service but I plan on visiting the gravesite and leaving something special for her.

**Tama Nelson** - September 03, 2021 at 09:59 PM

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“ I met Mary and Ray at the Amtrak Princeton station several years ago. They took the train to Quincy for family reunions. One time they wore matching shirts! They were both a joy to visit with while waiting for their train. The conductors always looked out for them and made sure they had a safe trip. And actually, one of the conductors from Quincy just asked about them a few weeks back and I found out they were now living at Aperia Care. They will be missed by their train family!!

Prayers for Ray and the family

Chris Fues

Chris Fues - August 25, 2021 at 04:22 PM

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“ Mary was my English teacher in high school and loved to tell stories on her favorite students...the snake in her desk was one of her teaching memories...not guilty! Yes, it was me. Years later I heard my name in the grocery store in Princeton and it was her. We had both ended up living in Bureau County. Praying for you Ray. She was one of a kind and will be missed.

Stan Tinker - August 24, 2021 at 08:36 PM

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“ Condolences to the family



Barry Dugosh - August 24, 2021 at 08:27 AM