



## Marcia Mary Gray

December 27, 1918 - October 19, 2015

Marcia Parkison Gray released her life on earth on October 19, 2015. Marcia was born December 27, 1918 in Barkley Township, Jasper County in the house that her Great-Grandfather built before the Civil War and was a station for the Underground Railroad. Her Grandfather and Father and all of their brothers and sisters were born in this house. She was the daughter of William Kenton and Bess Hardy Parkison. She was educated in South Barkley School and graduated from Rensselaer High School in the Class 1936. She worked for a time in the court house for a government farm program and earned a bachelor's degree in education from Ball State Teacher's College. She taught in South Barkley School for 3 years and then in Rensselaer for 16 years. She married Hal Gray on August 20, 1955 in her parent's home in Gilliam Township. She retired from teaching in 1957 when she and Hal were expecting their first child. She was a caring and loving Mother, Grandmother, daughter and wife. She was a member of the First Christian Church of Rensselaer and a devout believer in God and had held the post as a deaconess and elder in the church as well attending many church circle meetings during these years. She also served on many committees doing the work of the church. She was a member of Sigma Phi Gamma Sorority. She loved cooking, cross-stitching, travel, and life in general. She especially enjoyed meeting many of her former students, some now having graduated fifty years ago, and remembering and telling stories about amusing antidotes that took place during her teaching and girlhood years. She was preceded in

death by a brother Tom, an ensign in the navy during WWII who was lost at sea in 1943 off the northwest coast of Australia, and brother Robert. Robert that was injured in an automobile accident in 1940 and was paralyzed from the waist down for the rest of his life. Marcia dropped out of teachers' college many times in order to be at home and help with the care that her brother needed. She often quipped that it took her twelve years to earn her teaching degree. She and Hal had two children, Eileen (James) Phegley of Renssealer and Kenton (Mary Ellen) Gray of Winthrop, Massachusetts. Five grandchildren, Patrick, Corey and Shannon Dowds, and Sean and Michael Gray. She loved her family and was never happier than when she had them all together under the roof again. Marcia had a keen sense of humor and so enjoyed the many years of teaching and raising her family. There will be no visitation or funeral. A Memorial service will follow at a later date. She will be greatly missed by her family and the many friends that she made during her long life. Jackson Funeral Chapel is entrusted with these arrangements.

# Tribute Wall

JA

“ *John And Melissa Ahler lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



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**John and Melissa Ahler** - November 04, 2015 at 08:36 AM

ED

“ *My condolences to the Gray family. Marcia will be missed by many.*

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**Ed Davisson** - October 26, 2015 at 11:23 AM

JL

“ *Jim & Dorrie Lefler lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



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**Jim & Dorrie Lefler** - October 24, 2015 at 09:53 AM

GM

“ *What a lovely woman... always so cheerful and kind when I came over to "play." My condolences to your loving family.*

*Gail Weinberg Murray*

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**Gail Murray** - October 23, 2015 at 09:14 AM

DF

“ Dear Mr. Gray & Family,  
We are so sorry for your Loss.  
We are " Thinking of All of You"..  
With Our Deepest Sympathy,  
Debby Hopp- Anderson & Family



Debby Hopp- Anderson & Family - October 21, 2015 at 09:09 PM

BP

“ She was my first grade teacher in 1939 RIP

Betty Pritchard - October 21, 2015 at 06:36 PM

DW

“ Don & Gloria Waymouth lit a candle in  
memory of Marcia Mary Gray



Don & Gloria Waymouth - October 21, 2015 at 05:51 PM

JC

“ Jane Cox lit a candle in memory of Marcia  
Mary Gray



Jane Cox - October 21, 2015 at 05:50 PM

JC

*Graduating over 50 years ago and having some days that I can hardly remember my own name now, there is absolutely no way I could or will ever forget Marcia Parkinson. She was the very best first grade teacher a child could ever have. She was always warm, comforting, caring and had the most beautiful smile that you would ever want to see. Miss Parkinson was the epitome of what every teacher should be, she was there to see that we were well educated and had self-esteem. It didn't matter which side of the track you lived on or what side of town you came from, all she knew was that you were her student and she was there for you. She was a wonderful lady and will be missed by many. Mr. Gray, you certainly picked an Angel.*

Jane Cox - October 21, 2015 at 06:17 PM



“ Missy Miller Tiede lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray



Missy Miller Tiede - October 20, 2015 at 08:13 PM

SS

“ In my 76 years of living, there are a very few people who have left a fingerprint on my life - one of those was "Miss Parkinson", my first grade teacher. She was a wonderful, warm, welcoming lady who made me feel safe in my strange, new world of academy. Bless her soul. Sandra Lintner Schauer

Sandra Lintner Schauer - October 20, 2015 at 05:54 PM

RS

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. Our deepest sympathy to your family. Roger and Vicki Steffen

Roger & Vicki Steffen - October 20, 2015 at 02:02 PM

ST

“ *Sandy Todd lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



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**Sandy Todd** - October 20, 2015 at 10:35 AM

ST

*Our family and community have lost a very special lady. Your smile, notes, creamy chicken soup and tea times will be greatly missed. I know God will have a special place for you in His kingdom. Our sympathy and love are shared with Hal and all the family. May God Bless you and give you peace.*

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**Sandy Todd** - October 20, 2015 at 10:37 AM

ST

“ *I always considered Marcia as my 2nd mother. I will always remember her smile, her many notes, cards and letters she shared with me and my family and of course that sharing of many cups of tea and cookies I will treasure her forever and greatly miss her. My hugs and prayers go to Hal and all the family. May the many wonderful memories keep you at peace in the days and months ahead. God Bless you all!*  
*Sandy Todd*

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**Sandy Todd** - October 20, 2015 at 10:18 AM

VL

“ *Valerie Lasko lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



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**Valerie Lasko** - October 20, 2015 at 08:24 AM

ME

“ *Marilyn Eckholm lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*




Marilyn Eckholm - October 20, 2015 at 07:10 AM

LS

“ *Lana Studer lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



Lana Studer - October 19, 2015 at 11:35 PM

 Nancy Pettet-Dunlap

“ *Nancy Pettet- Dunlap lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



Nancy Pettet- Dunlap - October 19, 2015 at 10:38 PM

DF

“ *Dale And Debb Cook And Family lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



Dale and Debb Cook and Family - October 19, 2015 at 09:40 PM

ML

“ *Michelle Lichte lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



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**Michelle Lichte** - October 19, 2015 at 09:26 PM

LW

“ *Will miss this great lady. She had a special place in everyone's heart that she met. Great neighbor to my mom and sister.*



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**Linda Williams** - October 19, 2015 at 09:17 PM

JH

“ *Sending my sympathy to your family.*

*Jane (Braker) Hilton*

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**Jane Hilton** - October 19, 2015 at 09:12 PM

WS

“ *Wendy Stevens lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



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**Wendy Stevens** - October 19, 2015 at 09:08 PM

WS

*Marcia was the sweetest lady. I always enjoyed taking care of them at the doctor's office. They were such a cute little couple. May your memories of her put a smile on your face and comfort in your heart.  
~~Wendy Stevens*

**Wendy Stevens** - October 19, 2015 at 09:10 PM

SF

“ *Shirley Minter Family lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



**Shirley Minter family** - October 19, 2015 at 09:01 PM

NB

“ *Nancy Berges sent a virtual gift in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



**Nancy Berges** - October 19, 2015 at 09:01 PM

BF

“ *Bethel Ford lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



**Bethel Ford** - October 19, 2015 at 08:49 PM

MA

“ *Melanie Putt Augustine lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



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**Melanie Putt Augustine** - October 19, 2015 at 08:21 PM

MC

“ *Mary Clark lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



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**Mary Clark** - October 19, 2015 at 08:18 PM

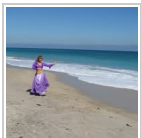
JW

“ *Jill Wilson lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



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**Jill Wilson** - October 19, 2015 at 08:00 PM



“ *Diana Brown lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



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**Diana Brown** - October 19, 2015 at 07:55 PM

KZ

“ Love you Aunt Marsha.



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**Kristi Zobel** - October 19, 2015 at 07:32 PM

SS

“ *Fond memories of elementary school years when our adored music teacher, Mr. Gray was courting the much loved teacher Miss Parkison! We were all abuzz with the lovely romance and so excited when they married! Reconnecting with them at Alumni's over the years was always a wonderful experience as they always remembered who you were and happy to see us all! Her contribution to our community and the wonderful woman she was.. will ALWAYS touch all our hearts!! Sincere condolence to Hal and family... Love Shiela Scott*

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**Shiela Scott** - October 19, 2015 at 07:31 PM

JR

“ *As a child, I loved going to Mr. & Mrs. Gray's house to practice for the Christmas programs because Marcia was always so welcoming. The world has certainly lost a wonderful woman.*

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**JoAnn Reese** - October 19, 2015 at 07:19 PM

RL

“ *Rich And Sue Ludington lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



Rich and Sue Ludington - October 19, 2015 at 06:37 PM

KB

“ *Spent a lot of time at the Grays years ago as Kenton and I were best friends. Marcia was a great cook and a great lady. My thoughts to the family.*

Kerry Brown - October 19, 2015 at 06:32 PM

KA

“ *Ken & Carla Anderson lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



Ken & Carla Anderson - October 19, 2015 at 06:31 PM

RH

“ *Richard & Dale Huhn lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



Richard & Dale Huhn - October 19, 2015 at 05:28 PM



“ *Rebecca Chastain lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



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**Rebecca Chastain** - October 19, 2015 at 05:22 PM

NJ

“ *My sweet first grade teacher. Still called me Fancy Nancy a week or so ago. Such a wonderful lady. Will be praying for her family.*



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**Nancy Dunn Justice** - October 19, 2015 at 05:13 PM

RF

“ *Ron & Julie Nagel And Family lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



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**Ron & Julie Nagel and Family** - October 19, 2015 at 04:58 PM

 Ginny Pitman-Holloway

“ *Ginny Pitman-Holloway lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



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**Ginny Pitman-Holloway** - October 19, 2015 at 04:26 PM

JH

“ *Jeff Hesson lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



Jeff Hesson - October 19, 2015 at 04:14 PM

JS

“ *You are all in my prayers.*



Judy Siegrist - October 19, 2015 at 03:45 PM

SD

“ *Sally Dobson lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



Sally Dobson - October 19, 2015 at 03:21 PM

ML

“ *Martha Langley lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



Martha Langley - October 19, 2015 at 03:21 PM

JB

“ *Judy Burvan lit a candle in memory of Marcia Mary Gray*



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**Judy Burvan** - October 19, 2015 at 03:08 PM

MG

“ *Such a sweetheart, the community shares your loss. We will be missed by many.*

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**Marsha Gratner** - October 19, 2015 at 02:29 PM

JM

“ *Sympathy extended to Marcia's family, she was a beautiful lady!! Prayers covering all.*

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**Janice Hopkins Malchow** - October 19, 2015 at 02:28 PM

RV

*She was a beautiful lady and a wonderful neighbor. Maxine and rosemary vaughn*

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**rosemary vaughn** - October 19, 2015 at 07:11 PM

JB

*Many warm memories of the grade school and miss Parkinson'..... 1950's early.....Heaven is a much richer place this day! Jim and Mary boles*

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**james boles** - October 20, 2015 at 04:41 PM

AS

*Marcia was such a beautiful person whom I will always keep in my heart. Alicia Stickel*

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**Alicia Stickel** - October 29, 2015 at 08:49 AM