



Mary Salewski

April 11, 2020

Mary Salewski(nee Missun) passed away on Saturday April 11, 2020 at the age of 100 years. Loving and devoted wife of previously deceased Adam Salewski. Loving mother of Richard (Karen), Hilde (Rolf) Lecke, and Irene (Jim) Cesar. Loving oma of Paul (Diane), David, Daniel and Thomas Salewski, Darren (Catherine), Christopher (Lori) Lecke, Kimarie (Mike) Nasser and Timothy (Bridget) Cesar. Also survived by 12 great-grandchildren. Also survived brother-in-law Arnold Retzlaff, sister-in-law Carol Missun, other relatives and friends.

Private interment Good Hope Cemetery. A Christian Burial Church Service will be held after the existing pandemic.

Cemetery Details

Good Hope Cemetery

4141 S 43 St
Greenfield, WI 53220

Tribute Wall

DS

“ It seems like forever since Grandma and Grandpa have passed and now Dan. I miss her and Grandpa as they were the glue that kept us all together. Sunday's and every holiday our family was never not together. No matter what we had we made it over to visit. the food was incredible. I have spent my whole adult life trying to rival Grandma's chicken soup with some but limited success. Stopping for coffee and crulers from Grebes bakery was Grandpas favorite. Grandma would always say, "David you eat you too skinny!". Grandma I am not skinny anymore. I stop and see Grandma and Grandpa's final resting place often as I drive by daily on the way to work. We talk...well I talk they just listen.

The summer vacations were the best and folding each other in the hide a bed in the back room and racing in the rolling carts around the pool table. Paul and I and Kim and TJ(Tim now). we were the luckiest kids on earth for the summers we spent with Grandma and Grandpa.

Grandma was always cooking canning or gardening and sewing when ever you stopped.

Grandma and Grandpa never played favorites always loved us for who we were as we were family.

We have been blessed to have as many generations living in the same moments with us, more than most people. I am glad that my children got to have Grandma and Grandpa as part of they're lives and to have touched them with the history of where we all came from.

The day before Grandma and Grandpa's house sold I did a final walk through and the memories came flooding back of all the great things that happened in that house. It was a huge part of our lives. As in life we all moved on and started new branches in the family tree. As I have read we all are still together bound by the great memories of our shared lives.

I can only hope to enjoy as long of life as Grandma and Grandpa

did and to have as much family as they enjoyed.

It still makes me sad when I think we can never go back to those days but I hope we all carry those days forward as we grow up and grow old.

Every Sunday that I drive back from the the U.P. there is a Polka Jamborie on the radio I listen to every song and think of all those great times we had with Grandma and Grandpa.

I loved reading what everyone has written and hope I have made Grandma proud.

David Salewski - October 14, 2021 at 03:55 PM

IC

“ *It's been a while since my moms passing, but she certainly is not forgotten. We will have a memorial service for her on July 11th at 11am, at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, 3820 W. Layton Ave, Greenfield, WI. Unfortunately, there will not be luncheon to follow due to the pandemic. However, the church will be open to us at 10 am. We hope you will be able to attend to give her the church service she would have liked.*

irene cesar - July 04, 2020 at 12:12 PM

IF

“ *INGE STIBBE FAMILY purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mary Salewski.*



INGE STIBBE FAMILY - April 27, 2020 at 08:47 PM

JC

“ I was the first to attempt to share memories of Oma but because of my inept ability, lost it during the process of posting. As others posted there memories, they were so inclusive and loving I felt what could I say. Opa told me during my first year of marriage to there baby daughter, Irene, that Oma was the person in control of the family. He told me she was strong but would be right as to family matters. Over the many years I learned just how right he was. Oma loved her family and did all she could to show it to all. After Opa died Oma wanted the grass to be as nice as Opa kept it. She would ask me to help with with the task. I did my best but still had some grab grass. I treated the area but it did not go away fast enough and she spent hours pulling it out by hand, I cleaned it up and seeded the area. Over many years she gave Irene and I advice regarding lives decisions. Between her and Opa they made it possible for us to get ahead in life. I will miss her as much as Opa. I feel that they were my Mother and Father, much more than in-laws. One last thought is Oma and Opa's deep faith and how it has passed on to family members.

Jim Cesar - April 20, 2020 at 09:46 AM

“ There are not many 50 year olds that can say they have a grandparent and not many younger people that can say they have a great-grandparent. We were the lucky few. It will be difficult to try to capture so many memories in this space. Most of all, Grandma (and Grandpa) were very respected by myself and others. We all knew there was a wisdom they had not from formal education, but from their vast life experiences. Experiences that I will never completely understand, because the difficulties will probably never be faced by me in my lifetime. Grandma could have been bitter because of her past. Instead, she showed nothing but caring and love to all that knew her. Many people would meet her only once and were amazed by what a beautiful person she was inside and out. I have 2 memories that stick out the most from my childhood. One, was our "vacations" to grandma and grandpa's. They probably didn't have a ton of vacation time each year, but every year they would host myself, Tim, Paul and Dave to their house for a week of activities. The domes, the zoo, a movie, a day of shopping for a special gift, and McDonalds. One time we even went to Dietz's for dinner....I don't think we ever went back because all of us ordered burgers instead of German food! Why Grandma even thought going out to eat was a good idea, I'm not sure. She was such a good cook. Her chicken drumsticks (which I try to make at home for my kids and they tell me they are not right), pork and mushroom stew, sauerblatten soup (I probably killed the spelling), pickles, canned pears...oh the list can go on and on. My kids still will tell me how good grandma's cooking was. A very fond memory they have. My second most vivid memory is Sunday's at my grandparents house. Sometimes it included food...but that's not what I remember most. It was the whole extended family in their family room. Parents would be seated in chairs/couches around the room. Cousins would be running around playing until Wonderful World of Disney would come on and we would lay on the floor in front of the TV. I probably didn't appreciate that time while it was happening. But, as an adult I so appreciate it. And, wish that I could have provided that same scenario and feeling for my kids growing up. Another very special memory of my grandparents was when they came out to Portland to

visit along with my Aunt Hilde and Mom. It was such a special visit. Grandma said to me, "we just wanted to see how you live". I remember taking them to the Portland Test Rose Garden...which has more roses than anyone could imagine. While they were here I think (If my memory serves me correctly), they came to Sabrina's piano recital. Grandma wanted to give Sabrina flowers after the recital. Aunt Hilde suggested buying a plant that we could put in the ground to enjoy for years to come. Grandpa and I planted that hydrangea together....and it's still here today. I think of both my grandparents whenever I see it. It's interesting to me how my grandma's passing has opened up the sadness again for my grandpa's passing. It's something that I've felt and expressed that to my mom...she said she is feeling the same way. I think it's because Grandma and Grandpa belonged together. They were a dynamic duo. And, you can't think of one without thinking of the other. I will miss them both immensely. Grandpa, I hope you were waiting for Grandma with open arms. I will think of you both very fondly, when I look at my hydrangea, use my toothpick holder, bread boards and coasters, and look at the doily's around my house that grandma crocheted. I love you Grandma and Grandpa. You will be missed.

Kim - April 19, 2020 at 07:07 PM

DH

“*Mary was a great woman, strong in spirit and love. My Mom and I have many fond memories of Tante Marichen that we will always treasure. My parents & I had many visits with Tante Marichen & Onkel Adam at their home, spending time in the kitchen, admiring her roses and flowers, and exploring her wonderful garden.*

As I learned more about our family history, I admired both Tante Marichen & Onkel Adam tremendously. Along with my family members in Germany, as well as my Mom, we are all grateful and blessed to be family.

"The memory of the righteous will be a blessing," Proverbs 10:7a

Meta & Diane Holzmann, and Family

Diane Holzmann - April 16, 2020 at 10:16 AM

CM

“*Mary was a very loving, caring, and generous sister-in-law. Her family and faith were very important to her. She enjoyed sharing the vegetables from her garden and pears and apples with us. Every year she baked many zucchini breads and always saved one for us. She took great pride in her lovely rose garden. She knew my favorite was the peace rose. During the past several years we have phoned each other quite often and with the help of Hilde I was able to visit her. She will be greatly missed, but always remembered.*

Carol

Carol A Missun - April 15, 2020 at 03:29 PM

BR

“ I was blessed with another grandmother later in life through marriage to Tim. Grandma was full of love and bestowed that love onto me and others unconditionally. I recall that it was either the first or second time I met grandma that she said to me as I left her house, "I love you!" I am happy that she is at peace but will miss her very much.

Bridget - April 14, 2020 at 07:12 PM

TI

“ If you could create the model grandmother, it would be Oma. I have nothing but positive memories of her. She always put others first and taught many lessons by example. She was a role model. She loved the things that most matter, her family. Having gone through what she did in life she could have been bitter, but was exactly the opposite. I will remember fondly our family gatherings at her home, the kids watching the Wonderful World of Disney in the living room, the woman at the kitchen table and the men in the basement probably having shots (more on that later). I recall playing shuffleboard with her in Florida when no one else wanted to play, and riding Space Mountain with her at Disney! I can only imagine that her job offered limited vacation time, but every year she would spend it with us grandkids for sleepovers at her house, seeing a movie, the Domes, the Zoo and even McDonna (as she called it), the latter of which I can't imagine she enjoyed based on her cooking as the metric. And speaking of meals . . . the amounts of incredible food she would make at family gatherings was legendary. There was enough to feed every one twice over, which we did, and enough for everyone to have left overs for a week. There was always unlimited supplies and varieties of soda for us kids, and the never-ending candy dish! She never forgot a birthday, a Christmas gift/card nor an Easter basket when we were young! When I introduced her to my wife, she immediately took her in as her own. At my wife's first meeting, grandma brought out shots to celebrate. On the day of grandma's death, my wife and I broke out some German liquor, put on some Polka music, cut up some sausage and cheese and toasted her four times over. A fitting tribute. I know from my visits after she moved to her apartment that she did not fear death. She was confident in where she was going. I was so blessed to have a grandmother in my 50s, but will still miss her very much.

Tim - April 14, 2020 at 03:24 PM

“ As the second youngest of eight grandchildren I have some very special memories growing up and spending time with my grandparents. It is hard to put them all into thoughts to share, but the thing that sticks out to me the most is their love for their family. I specifically remember one summer I was taking a summer school course at UWM and working at the Ace Hardware near their house. For the better portion of the summer I would take the bus to UWM and then to my grandparents house before work. Everyday I would eat lunch with my grandparents and spend some time with them before work. Grandma's lunches stick out in my memories vividly (her chicken soup, her turkey legs with vegetables, her beef tips with potatoes, her pink soup, her chicken legs and wild rice, etc.). After lunch grandma and I would watch game shows on the couch while she crocheted and grandpa worked on his next project in the garage.

I will always remember grandma for her love, her cooking, her garden, crocheting, and her love of my children. I also will primary remember grandma with grandpa as so many of my memories are with them both. I think it is just how I always saw them, as together. I love you grandma, rest in peace.

Christopher - April 14, 2020 at 01:55 PM

HI

“ My Mom had a full life being being almost 101 on September 6. Throughout our life Mom and Dad always thought of us first. Even in the worst of times we never went without food or cloth. Mom always took her cloth apart and made dresses for us or a suit for my brother if it were wool. Then I remember always going gleaned at the end of the year. One time we had gleaned too many potatoes (they always went on our bikes) and the bike front wheel broke, so we had to make two trips. Also every year we had to provide for our pigs, that meant picking nettles by the sack full. We had to wear long sleeves and pants for protection. Just the same here in the US, she always had a garden and shared it with us and her neighbors. She also had beautiful rose bushes. They were her pride and joy. Whenever Carter her grandson came over he always asked for a flower bouquet that he could give to his mom. She loved seeing all her grandchildren, and I brought them over as often as I could. Her vacation time was always spend by taking her grandchildren to see the ducks, the Domes, the Zoo or just going to the park. She always kept busy. Even in her new home Manor Park she insisted on taking a walk every day. She always said if you don't use it you loose it. So she walked up to the end, except for the last two weeks after her fall. She loved it when I read the Bible to her. I made it a point to see her every two days, sometimes every day when she wasn't feeling good. Then I read the Bible to her, and she always said this is rely a good book. I guess she could understand it better because I read from the new version. In the end when she didn't respond too well I read the Bible to her any way. When we were not there my sister said to ask the nurse to put the phone to her ear and then read the Bible, so I did that. One thing I learned from her that you can do most things for yourself if you try and not to depend on someone else to do things for you. She lived her life well. I love you Mom and for your lives lessons. They will stay in my memory forever. You will be missed, but you finally were able to go to your real home, which you wished for so much.

Hilde - April 14, 2020 at 11:01 AM

DA

“ As a child I remember taking walks with grandma at her home on West Halsey Avenue. I remember complaints about one or the other (grandpa) being faster or slower than the other. Now when I take walks with my wife, I am remembered of those moments, being told to slow down or speed up. I tell my wife I have two speeds fast and slow.

During those walks I remember visiting a lot of the neighbors in the neighborhood. Everybody seemed to know her and grandpa. One of the neighbors gave haircuts, grandpa used go their all the time. One of the neighbors had a garden like grandma's and always had pea pods that they would share with us kids. Speaking of gardens, grandma had an awesome garden full of all sorts of vegetables fruits. Grandma always had raspberries in hers which were my favorite, and every time I visited she would have pint full of them for me.

Grandma always loved good company and enjoyed having people visit. She always put everybody first, and rarely took no for an answer.

I will always miss grandma and cherish the memories I have of her.

Darren - April 14, 2020 at 09:35 AM

IC

“ My mom died peacefully in her apartment and in her bed, April 11, 2020. She almost made it to a ripe old age of 101, which would have occurred on September 6th. Her birthday was September 6, 1919. I called my mom at least twice a day for about 10 years. I started it when my dad passed away. Every conversation ended with I Love You. Almost five years ago my mom decided that she wanted to go to a senior living place because she said it was too hard to live in her home. After visiting some places with her, my mom decided Village of Manor Park in West Allis fit her well. Her apartment was very nice and cozy with things from her home. She really liked the place and the people liked her too. Something she would say is “I don’t know why I live so long, I worked hard all my life”. Also “I cannot go there by myself”. She would also say that she could not remember too well anymore, and everyone knows how grandma never forgot a birthday, no cell phone to remind her, and nothing written on a calendar. She would say, “my head is too full”, or “my head is too lazy”. I would tell her, don’t worry about it, you are doing ok, you remember the important daily things you need to do in your home, and we will do the other remembering for you. I am not sure that this was a consolation for her because my mom was very strong willed and wanted to do things herself. I think her strength came from being married at age 19 in Poland, my dad going to the war, being left alone to take care of a small farm in a house which was not quite finished, of living through World War 2, living in East Germany for awhile, leaving there and immigrating to the United States in 1956. They started a new life three times. But, she always said the years spent in the US were the best years. She is missed daily, and will always be a “good mom” in my memory. Love you mom.

Jim and I thought this picture of Oma and Opa was appropriately for this website, because they are together again.

Irene Cesar - April 13, 2020 at 08:59 PM