



Mary Lou Conti

March 18, 1940 - August 14, 2025

GROSSE POINTE FARMS - Mary Lou Conti, (nee Turrin), age 85, was called to heaven

by her Lord and Savior on August 14, 2025.

Beloved wife of late husband John Amedeo Conti (2020); dear sister of the late James

Turrin; cherished mother of Amanda Conti-Duhaime (Jonathan Clark), Andrew (Amy)

Conti and Alana Conti; loving grandmother of Henry Duhaime, John Clark, Joseph and

Anika Conti, Luca and Matteo Marciano; and, treasured friend to many, Mary Lou

passed after a brief illness which she faced with her characteristic grace, quiet strength,

and a deeply held faith and belief in eternal salvation.

Mary Lou was born in Detroit, the daughter of Italian immigrants Louis and Emma

Turrin. She enjoyed a humble but memorable childhood in the ethnically diverse

neighborhoods of Highland Park, Michigan and later, Madison Heights. From a very

young age, Mary Lou was relied upon by her parents to bridge the divides of culture and

language. She rose to the challenge. She graduated from Mercy High School, a school she selected on her own to attend, and—with the encouragement of her dentist brother James—became a licensed dental hygienist via the University of Detroit. While some questioned her decision to accept the courtship of a newly arrived Italian immigrant electrician—who on their first date appeared “in a borrowed truck, a coat with holes, and not two pennies to rub together”—Mary Lou saw something in John Amedeo which others did not. They married in 1964 and built a modest home in Southfield, Michigan, where they raised three children and welcomed both of their mothers to live with them. It was in the basement of that same home—where Mary Lou handled bookkeeping and John estimated jobs—that a small electrical contracting business (Conti Electric Co) was established. This mom-and-pop venture would grow into one of Michigan’s largest multi-trade, multinational corporations, known today as Conti Corporation (Sterling Heights, MI). With some reluctance, in 1994 Mary Lou moved with John from Southfield to a lakeside home in Grosse Pointe Farms, where they shared many sunrises over favorite tea and cookies, and where Mary Lou formed many new and cherished friendships. In their

fifty-six years of marriage, she and John were blessed to enjoy homes on Harsen's

Island, as well as in Florida and Italy.

Whether during many turbulent times in the business, or amidst the joys and challenges

of managing the household, Mary Lou—a deeply kind, loving, principled, and faith-filled

woman—was the glue, the heart, and the conscience of the Conti family.

She was beloved by friends and family alike for her warmth and wisdom; for finding and

celebrating the best in others; and for making complete strangers feel like longtime

friends. Amongst her greatest joys were the times spent with her beloved children and

grandchildren, and in visits, chats, and laughter with dear friends. Mary Lou had a gift

for conversation and raised the common practice of phone calls—in English or Italian—

into an extended art form. Well into her eighty-fifth year, Mary Lou could be seen

tooling around downtown Grosse Pointe in her tiny but distinct Fiat 500 Gucci Edition,

and took no small delight in a good CVS coupon or a bargain find at her favorite, TJ

Maxx.

While Mary Lou will be deeply missed, hers was a life well and fully lived. She leaves a

legacy of love, thoughtfulness, kindness, and unwavering support. Until her very last

day, she remained steadfast in her commitment to glorify God; and, it was her

prayer

that we do likewise, and to love one another, and keep family close. Mary Lou passed

peacefully and fearlessly, in the full confidence and joy of the promise of everlasting life

in Jesus Christ our Lord.

The family welcomes donations to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or other

favorite charities in lieu of flowers. Finally, we wish to express sincere gratitude to the

caregiving team of Temrowski Eldercare, and to the exceptional doctors, nurses, and

staff at Henry Ford St. John Hospital.

Instate Friday 9:30am until 10am Mass at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lake Shore Rd., Grosse Pointe Farms. Private entombment, Resurrection Cemetery, Clinton Township. Please share memories with the family at their online guestbook at WujekCalcaterra.com

Previous Events

Instate / Funeral Mass

AUG **22**. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul on the Lake
157 Lake Shore Rd
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

Tribute Wall

SA

“ Sunil and Bina Amin purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mary Lou Conti.



Sunil and Bina Amin - August 21, 2025 at 08:59 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mary Lou Conti.



August 21, 2025 at 07:51 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mary Lou Conti.

August 21, 2025 at 07:51 AM



“ A grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mary Lou Conti.

August 21, 2025 at 02:48 AM

FS

“ From your TNP family at Wayne State purchased the Heavenly Light for the family of Mary Lou Conti.



From your TNP family at Wayne State - August 20, 2025 at 01:59 PM

FS

“ From your TNP family at Wayne State planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Lou Conti.

From your TNP family at Wayne State - August 20, 2025 at 01:59 PM

GI

“ *Cara zia Mary Lou ci mancherai.
In questi ultimi anni sei stata anche il nostro capofamiglia, per nipoti e pronipoti.
Sono felice di averti potuto abbracciare per l'ultima volta. Porterò con me il ricordo dei nostri giorni più belli, trascorsi assieme.
Sei stata la “Zia”, una amica, una consigliera anche nei momenti più tristi e complicati, grazie per esserci sempre stata e spero anche io per te.
Ricorderò i tuoi aneddoti, i tuoi suggerimenti ed il tuo essere razionale e sorridente. Tutti ti ricorderemo per la tua eleganza e il tuo allure, anche la comunità di Arezzo ti ricorda con affetto e stima.
Grazie per aver tenuto unita questa grande famiglia (Conti - Artiano) lontani ma sempre vicini.
Cara Zia, spero che tu possa ritrovare i tuoi affetti più cari, il tuo amato Jhon (per noi Zio Amedeo) e la mamma che hai ricordato fino a qualche giorno fa.
Fai buon viaggio, ci mancherai molto un abbraccio forte.
Se troverai ciò che più hai desiderato, abbracciali anche per noi.
Resterai sempre la nostra “Zia”.
Tua nipote Giorgia*

Giorgia - August 20, 2025 at 11:15 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mary Lou Conti.*



August 19, 2025 at 06:13 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mary Lou Conti.

August 19, 2025 at 06:13 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Lou Conti.

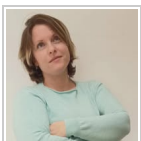


August 19, 2025 at 04:30 PM



“ I had the privilege of working for Mrs Conti, and she was truly a wonderful lady. Her Kindness and warmth touched me deeply, and I will always carry those memories with me. We spoke at length about life and the loss of a loved one. My heartfelt condolences to her family-she will be dearly missed.

Jerry Nemeth - August 19, 2025 at 09:55 AM



“ Sentite condoglianze ...cara Giorgia a te e famiglia Cinzia e Magda

Magda Strada - August 18, 2025 at 08:14 AM

DL

“ Mrs Conti, I didn't see you often or spend much time with you yet I understand and feel this loss so deeply because you were the best friend of MY best friend....my sister Chrissy. In many ways you were to her what she is to me...a buddy, a confidant, a source for sound advice and a loving mother. A friendship like that is so rare, so special and irreplaceable. Even though you are no longer here in the physical sense I know first-hand that that kind of connection never dies. I am confident that you will always be near and pray that you'll find a special way to make that known.

Rest in peace with your beloved John and all the special angels who you have joined. ❤️🕊️

Diana Leone

Diana Leone - August 17, 2025 at 10:47 PM



“ Mrs Conti was an amazing person. She had so much wisdom and such a calming presence about her. I'll never forget the wonderful times of her watching me as a kid or playing in the backyard together. She was the most special person to my Mother. They would get together weekly and find simple enjoyment wondering different stores before dinner. I never missed the opportunity to meet Mrs Conti and my Mom for dinner, it was always something I looked forward to doing. She had so much love to give and her guidance she gave to me will stay with me forever. Love you Mrs Conti❤️

Michael Kassab - August 17, 2025 at 09:57 PM

NK

“ When I think back to my childhood, I can't separate it from Mary Lou. Her home sat just down the hill behind ours. And every now and again, we would get to run (or more accurately, roll) down and crash into her as she smiled and laughed and welcomed us in to visit. Where I found much of my peace as a child was sat beside her in the living room - her, my mom and her husband John - seated and laughing together, enjoying a neighborly bond few could boast.

Mary Lou was much more than a neighbor though. She was family in every way that mattered. To my family - especially my mother - she was a companion throughout our lives. She had the kind of steady presence that carries you through the years without you even realizing how much you leaned on it. I'll never forget the feeling of ease I had when I would go to visit her, whether it was in crisis or on any given weekday. Her love and friendship was precious. I never felt alone, or afraid of the world around me so long as I could see a light on at their house. Simply knowing she was there brought me a peace I can't articulate.

As I sit over the keyboard attempting to memorialize someone who's life was much too big to sum up here, I recall a quote - "People will forget what you said and did, but they will never forget how you made them feel." I may not remember every conversation or every laugh shared, but I will never forget the warmth I felt in my heart every time I went to see her. It was a highlight of each season of my life to be able to go to her and tell her what I'd been up to. No matter how long it had been in between these visits, it always felt like I had seen her just the day before. If the measure of a person's life is how they've been able to touch the lives of others, Mary Lou's was the most substantial one this world has ever seen.

Mrs. Conti, I will never forget you. I know if there is a better place waiting for us after this life, that is where you are. I hope I see you there again one day, with a smile, at the bottom of the hill.

Nicky Kassab - August 17, 2025 at 08:57 PM

EK

“ *Something inside told me to come visit you last week, and to whatever voice that was telling me to go, I’m eternally grateful. Walking into your beautiful home on Lakeshore always gave me an overwhelming sense of warmth and nostalgia. A feeling that can’t be bought or replicated. A feeling that I’m lucky to have felt one last time.*

Holding your hand beside you on the couch, talking about everything for those few hours was more precious than I can write. Even though I hadn’t seen you in a while and it was just us, there was never a silent moment. The words we shared and the advice you gave were more than meaningful—they were irreplaceable. The kind of guidance that can’t be taught, only lived. I’ll carry it with me always, just like I carry the love you and my mom shared.

Thank you for being such an unforgettable part of my childhood. I love you very much, Mrs. Conti.

Elisabeth

Elisabeth Kassab - August 17, 2025 at 06:44 PM

RR

“ *We didn’t see each other often, but whenever we did, you brightened the room with your smile. Your love and affection for your friends was so clear, and I feel honored to have known you and John. Thank you for the love you showed to my family, and especially to my sister Chris. We will remember you and miss you, always...*

Raymond Rahi - August 17, 2025 at 04:33 PM

CK

“ Who would have ever thought that a fallen tree nearly three decades ago would lead to a friendship for the ages.

Mary Lou ... from the moment I first heard your voice 30 years ago, I knew that I was going to love you forever. You had a way about you that made me feel instantly comfortable, and I think that was one of your greatest gifts. You could talk to anyone. I can't count how many times we would go on one of our jaunts to TJ Maxx. We each had our own pattern of shopping the store, but when I would ultimately catch up with you, you would be deep in conversation with a perfect stranger, often exchanging contact information. I marveled at the way you put people at ease (no one ever stopped me to talk), and you always made it seem like it wasn't a big deal. But it was. People gravitated toward you because you were such a warm and welcoming soul.

Talking to you was better than seeing a therapist. You understood me so well, and you had an intuition like no other. You always knew the right thing to say, and if you told me everything was going to be okay, I knew that it would be. Another one of your many precious gifts.

I can't imagine my life without you, my dear friend. You were the Lucy to my Ethel. We shared so many of life's escapades together—both the good and the bad—but no matter what else was going on in the world, I always knew that you were there. My partner in crime and my shelter from every storm.

To your children — Andrew, Alana, and Amanda—and your grandchildren ... thank you for sharing this remarkable woman with me. Your loss is immeasurable, and you will have my love forever.

Mary Lou ... rest now with John and the angels until we meet again. In the meantime, you will live on in my heart forever.

Chrissy

Chris Kassab - August 16, 2025 at 11:04 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mary Lou Conti.*



August 16, 2025 at 03:55 PM