



Mary Wilson Kirkwood Micallef

March 28, 2026

Mary Wilson Kirkwood Micallef, a beloved matriarch, remarkable woman, and cherished mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend, passed away peacefully in the early hours of March 28, 2026. Her family mourns the loss of a woman whose strength, wit, and unwavering love shaped generations.

Born on April 6, 1937, in Glasgow, Scotland, Mary grew up during the difficult years of World War II. She often shared vivid stories of her childhood during that time memories of air raid sirens, bomb shelters, and walking to school with a gas mask in her bag. At times she and her classmates would crawl beneath their desks as bombs fell nearby. Those early experiences shaped the resilience and courage that defined her life.

Some of Mary's fondest memories were spent in the home of her grandparents, where she learned the value of hard work and responsibility at a young age. Her childhood home was also

filled with birds, as her father raised and showed prize breeds, often winning awards for his birds. From these early days a lifelong love of nature and birds grew that would remain one of her greatest joys.

Mary often joked that growing up with four brothers made her both tough and street-smart.

Independent and determined from a young age, she began working early, holding jobs at a department store in Scotland and collecting fares on double-decker buses as she saved money for a new life abroad.

At just 18 years old, Mary set out on a bold adventure, leaving Scotland by ship to begin a new life in Canada. In her youth she even rode the hills of Scotland on a Norton motorcycle, an early glimpse of the adventurous spirit that carried her through life.

After arriving in Canada, Mary works at Anchor Company, where she met the love of her life, Joseph Micallef. The two were married in Toronto in 1960 and shared a devoted marriage for 41 years until Joseph's passing in 2001 at the age of 65. Mary also worked as a switchboard operator for the Bell Telephone Company and also contributed her time and service with the Red Cross.

Mary and Joseph had five children, John David Micallef, Linda Micallef

Medina (Ismael), Mark

Spyros Micallef (Pamela), Deborah Ann Micallef Ramirez (Juan), and Tina Marie Micallef

McIntyre (John), along with her beloved grandchildren and great grandchildren, as well as many nieces, nephews and cousins, that Mary adored.

In the early 1980s, Mary and Joe moved to the Rio Grande Valley of Texas when Joseph was transferred for automotive manufacturing management work helping establish maquiladora operations along the U.S., Mexico border. Mary embraced life in Texas and later worked at Zey's of Texas Gift Fruit & Nut Company and volunteered with the McAllen Chamber of Commerce.

Mary often said her most meaningful role was being a wife and mother. Her home was always a place of warmth, food, laughter, and open arms.

In retirement, Mary and Joe returned to Canada and purchased a small cottage on Georgian Bay, where they enjoyed the peace and beauty of nature. Throughout her life Mary found joy outdoors, and in her later years she delighted in watching birds through the large windows of her home.

Mary had a deep love for reading, especially murder mysteries and romance

novels. She enjoyed crossword puzzles, jigsaw puzzles, cooking, baking, tending to plants, and long conversations on the phone with those she loved. She was also a wine enthusiast and a devoted bird lover. Bird feeders filled her yard, and ducks often wandered up her driveway knowing they would be greeted with food and kindness.

She was hardworking, resilient, and strong, yet carried a sweetness that touched everyone she met. Mary had legendary energy and was always on the go, though she often joked that she longed for “peace and quiet.”

In her later years, Mary spent many joyful times at Adobe Wells surrounded by dear friends who became like family.

Mary was known for putting the needs of others before her own. She cared deeply for those around her, always making sure others were fed, cared for, and comforted. No matter the circumstance, her response was always the same: “I’m fine, just fine.” She never wanted anyone to worry about her.

In her final days, her family was honored to care for her in their home, surrounding her with the same love and devotion she had given them throughout her life.

The family is deeply grateful for the compassionate care provided by Amara Hospice during Mary's final days. They also extend heartfelt thanks to Silvana, whom Mary lovingly referred to as "her little friend." Silvana's care, kindness, and companionship during the past two years brought great comfort to Mary and her family, and she will forever remain part of their extended family.

In her final moments, Mary was surrounded by love as family members called out to her beloved cousin Mae, who had passed many years before and whom Mary dearly loved like a sister. The two shared countless joyful memories of dancing and living life to the fullest.

Mary now rests peacefully, reunited with her beloved husband Joseph and the many cherished family members and friends who went before her.

Her family takes comfort in knowing she is at peace, free from pain, illness, hospitals, and doctors and restored in eternal life.

Mary leaves behind a legacy of love carried on by her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, cousins, nieces, nephews, and countless others whose lives she touched with her generosity, humor, and fierce devotion.

Those who knew Mary were better for it. Her love left an imprint on countless

hearts that will
never fade.

Visitation and gathering of friends will be held on Friday April 24, 2026 from 5pm to 7pm with a 5:30pm Service at Kreidler Funeral Home in McAllen. Celebration of Life Service will immediately follow at The Old Church Winery 700 N Main St. in McAllen TX.

The family will forever cherish her memory.

Rest in peace, dear Soul.

In Mary's memory and honor you may make donations to the Friends of the Wildlife Corridor. Your kind donation intended will be used for seed, feeders, bird-friendly habitat and other bird related projects.

Please include her name. Membership link: Become a Member | FWC Nature Store <https://share.google/OUbOqJx8vFtnbgmtR>

Donation link: Donate Here | FWC Nature Store <https://share.google/lSdTcg3o vLLg47Rft>

Or

Mail a check to the Friends of the Wildlife Corridor to 3325 Green Jay Road, Alamo, TX 78516. In the postscript, you would write "donation"- Mary Micallef

You may also

plant a living tribute tree

<https://shop.alivingtribute.org/products/plant-a-tree-texas>

Previous Events

Gathering of friends and family

APR **24.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Kreidler Funeral Home, Inc.
314 N 10th St.
McAllen, TX 78501
(956) 686-0234
kreidler@sbcglobal.net
<http://www.kreidlerfuneralhome.com/index.html>

Immediately following the gathering a Celebration of Life will be held at The Old Church Winery, 700 N. Main St. McAllen

Service

APR **24.** 5:30 PM (CT)

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Celebration of Life

APR **24.** 7:00 PM (CT)

The Old Church Winery
700 N. Main St
McAllen
McAllen, TX 78501

Tribute Wall

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“ *Dearest Cousins and Families, it is with love and remembrance that we share in your sorrow at the loss of your beloved Mother.*

Our hearts are broken but we are grateful for the many, many fond memories of family get-togethers where Aunt Mary's caring, loving ways and quick wit always brought a smile to those around her. We take comfort in knowing that she and our beloved Uncle Joe will be together for eternity.

*Ever in our hearts,
Anna, Joe and Eri*

Anna Giacobbe - April 06 at 09:17 AM

LD

To my beautiful Aunt Mary. Such lovely memories you have given me over the years. ALWAYS in my thoughts. Love to all her family I will be thinking of everyone today. Love Linda x

Linda Deeks - April 24 at 05:54 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Kreidler Funeral Home, Inc. - April 02 at 01:15 PM