



## Mrs. Frances Kelly

March 24, 1927 - September 14, 2018

Frances M. Kelly Nee Burianek, 91, Retired CPD crossing guard for 47 years. Beloved wife of the late Edward R. Kelly. Loving mother of Steven (Terri), Edward (Laura), the late Patrick (Kimellen), Michael (Cathy), Gerlyn (Jim) Delaney, and Tim (Carrie). Cherished grandmother of Brian, Eric, Shannon, Eddie, Jack, Anne Marie, Sean, Meaghan, Michael, Heather, Kate, and Emily. Cherished step grandmother of John, Sharon, and Vicki. Loving great grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend of many.

Visitation Tuesday 9am at St. Cornelius Church, 5430 W. foster Ave Chicago, Il. until time of mass 11am. Interment Private. In Lieu of flowers donations to Norwood Crossing Foundation would be greatly appreciated. Please visit Frances's tribute at [Carbonarafuneralhome.net](http://Carbonarafuneralhome.net) 708-343-6161

Frances Kelly, aka Fran, Grandma, Grandma CooCoo, and Tootie, died peacefully in her sleep in the arms of one of her children and accompanied by another on September 14 at 4:10 am, following an evening befit for a queen with her entire family at her bedside. She, along with her husband, Ed Kelly, of 40 years, raised a family of six children in an environment that stressed three critical values that they held dear as parents: a strong faith in God and being kind to everyone you meet; a focus on discipline accompanied by unending amounts of love and support; and, an emphasis on building a bond of love among their children that will never fail. Fran met each of life's challenges with incredible strength and fortitude, founded strongly on faith, and never lost her ability to laugh in the face of such challenges. She was a role model to her many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, never hesitating to babysit them when the opportunity or need arose, and always giving them her full attention, love, and laughter. She made everyone, whether a family member or a stranger on the street, feel important. She remembered the smallest of details about people she met, always turning the conversation from how she was doing to how they were doing with their particular problems or challenges. She was known to say more Novenas, to pray more prayers, and seek God's intervention on behalf of others in need than probably any person that has ever graced this fine earth. Her favorite saints were St. Theresa ("The Little Flower") and St. Gerard (Patron Saint of Mothers), the latter of which she called upon frequently whenever she heard of a couple wanting to get pregnant. It was commonly believed she had the ear of God and would seek out his

assistance not for her needs but for the needs of others. Her Mission in life, aside from being the best mother, grand/ great-grand mother, and mother-in-law to her family, was in praying for the children of the world. She touched thousands of children's lives in her 45 years as a Crossing Guard, and performed her duties in that role beyond comparison. She had energy like none other, often kissing her grand children good night only to then head off to the local VFW Hall to dance with her husband or be with her many friends. She was a champion at Rummikub, and dare you slow the game by too much talking for fear of receiving her mischievously fun scolding. Beginning in her 50s, she became a valiant member of the Blue Army, where she prayed more Rosaries than the Pope himself; at 70, she bought her dream car, a little red Beetle and became the driver of choice for her many friends; at 80, she learned how to use an iPad to stay in touch with her family and friends; and, at 90, she excelled at wheelchair bowling, playing Pokeno, and enjoying horse racing with her friends at the Norwood Crossing retirement home. Her fear in life was to ever be a burden on anyone, most of all her family, and would meet anyone doing a nice deed for her in her frail state with a big smile and heartfelt "thank you." Walt Whitman once said: "Success is to laugh often and much, to win the respect of intelligent peers, and to leave the world a little bit better off because you were here." She was, quite frankly, a success by that and any greater measure. She will be sadly missed by her family and friends, but her smile, warmth, and simple "God Bless", will eternally guide us all on the right path in her physical absence.

# Comments

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“ Mrs. Kelly was one of those people you grew up knowing as part of your neighborhood community. Everyone knew her! She always had a ready smile and a twinkle in her eyes. She left the world a better place for being part of it! Chuck and I loved her! Chuck and Tina Pusateri

**Christine M. Pusateri** - September 18, 2018 at 10:33 AM

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“ To the Kelly family! I remember when your mother was the crossing guard at Grand and Sayre ave in front of Bonini Bakery. Not many people will understand that one. It was a long time ago. God bless the Kelly crew!! Joseph S Gilleran

**Joseph Gilleran** - September 17, 2018 at 08:15 PM

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“ Mrs. Kelly was our Dirksen School closing guard. As the Dirksen Principal, I spoke frequently with her. She joined our school celebrations as an honored guest. I will never forget her friendliness and that beautiful smile. When I heard of her meeting with The Lord, I was sadden, but I know she looks to see that the Dirksen children cross the street in safety. God Bless this marvelous woman!  
This is a great lost for all of us!  
Dr. Patrick Keating

**pmkeating** - September 17, 2018 at 03:36 PM



“ Francis you were a true lady, alwAys coifed perfectly and a wonderful crossingguard.  
Condolences to the Kelly family.

**patricia millet** - September 23, 2018 at 10:47 AM



“ Patricia miller

**patricia miller** - September 23, 2018 at 10:50 AM

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“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



**Tanja Ancrum** - September 17, 2018 at 12:02 PM



“ Stephanie asked me to take this picture with Frances at the last Norwood Crossing Halloween party! She adored Frances as we all did. Rest In Peace cutie pie

**Tanja Ancrum** - September 17, 2018 at 04:30 PM

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“ Kelly,  
may the almighty God bless you and your family during this difficult time. Any mother lost is difficult on a family, but there is comfort knowing that her love will never be lost on her 6 beautiful children. I will continue to pray for the repose of her soul.

My sincere condolences,

Brian Donahue

**Brian Donahue** - September 17, 2018 at 10:07 AM

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“ Isaiah 41:10: fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Our deepest sympathies to Kelly and her family. May the soul of your mother be at peace with our Heavenly Father.

Yolanda Camacho and the Medical Education Department.

**yolanda camacho** - September 17, 2018 at 08:41 AM

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“ Heartfelt condolences to the family of Frances Kelly, especially her daughter Kelly Delaney. Your ER family is here for you in this difficult time.  
all the best,  
Michaela

**Michaela Wood** - September 17, 2018 at 08:22 AM

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“ May the simple gesture of a hug, a kiss, a smile or a tap on your shoulder from a family member, friend or a complete stranger comfort you during this difficult time. Keep your mom's memories deep in your heart where no one can take them away from you. Remember tears are ways of healing and if did not cry for her do not be upset with yourself because someone else is crying for you.  
May the Blessed Mother watch over you.



**Mary and Michael Walker (Jalove)** - September 16, 2018 at 07:58 PM

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“ May GOD grant Frances eternal love, happiness, and peace in his kingdom, and may GOD rest her soul.

David Schmidt  
Shift Supervisor  
Aviation Security, O'Hare Airport

**David P Schmidt** - September 15, 2018 at 09:18 AM

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“ 2 files added to the album New Album Name



Michael Kelly - September 15, 2018 at 06:22 AM

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“ What a lovely woman, what a glorious soul, what a kind and generous person! Fran Kelly made friends everywhere she went. Her warmth and sincerity, her genuine caring, her honest faith, made her so lovable! She looked out for others; she adored her family; she had so many friends! She was one of those people you never forget. So special! Her sweetness lingers on. I will always cherish her memory and feel blessed to have known her and called her my friend.

Pat Lenius

Note: I met Fran Kelly when I lived in an apartment just steps from the corner where she worked as a crossing guard. That was the beginning of a beautiful, heartfelt friendship that lasted for many years.



Patricia Lenius - September 14, 2018 at 11:35 PM



“ The picture above shows Fran Kelly with my daughter Jennifer in 2013. Fran came to see her perform in a number of different plays. She was always so supportive!

Patricia Lenius - September 14, 2018 at 11:38 PM

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“ This wonderful women raised amazing, loving children. So very sorry for your loss. Our thoughts & prayers are with you. I know her faith of being sent home will help you all through the tough days ahead. Let your memories fill your hearts.  
Love, Ron & Tina Marie DeGeorge

**Tina Marie DeGeorge** - September 14, 2018 at 03:06 PM



“ Fran was a lovely person. She was always willing to share words of faith, concern and support. I will always remember how kind she was to me. "May the angels lead you into paradise. May the martyrs come to welcome you and lead you to the holy city, the new and eternal Jerusalem."

Barbara Hecker

**Barbara Hecker** - September 17, 2018 at 02:52 PM