



Mary-Louise Engels

April 14, 2025

On Monday, April 14th, Mary-Louise Engels died in Toronto. She leaves her children, Lorne (Carole), Nancy, Patricia (Bob), Stacey and Jenn (Andrew); grandchildren Claire, Léa, Sacha, Alexander, Chloe and Naomi and great-grandchildren, Sofia and Aenor. Mary-Louise is survived by her sister Lillian Upright and her dear cousins-in-law, the Lawson family. She is pre-deceased by her loving husband of 58 years, (William) Dennis Engels. Born in Shoal Lake, Manitoba in 1931 to Joan (Gibson) and Frederick Kester, Mary-Louise was a perennial student, acquiring five advanced degrees. After earning her PhD in her fifties, she worked as a psychologist at the Douglas Hospital in Montreal and in private practice. She was an active member of the Unitarian Church of Montreal and the author of *Rosalie Bertell: Scientist, Eco-Feminist, Visionary*. Mary-Louise was a passionate gardener, a keen traveler, and a gifted chef. Her family is grateful to the staff at Hazelton Place and to her many caregivers.

Tribute Wall

RH

“ I had the pleasure of working with Mary Louise as a colleague at the Behaviour Therapy Unit of the Douglas Hospital in Lasalle, Montreal. A caring, compassionate and talented psychologist who was dedicated to helping patients develop the skills needed to cope with and overcome serious challenges in their lives. I have many happy memories of Mary Louise and of the splendid team of professionals at the BTU.
Ron Harris

Ron Harris - May 13, 2025 at 10:01 PM

SE

Hi Ron, thank you for sharing your memories and appreciation of Mom. Warmly, Stacey

Stacey Engels - May 24, 2025 at 08:06 AM

AH

“ My sincere and deepest condolences. Mary-Louise was a tremendous contributor to so many endeavours at the Unitarian Church where we first met through the social justice committee (if I recall correctly). Her wisdom, great sense of humour and marvellous communication skills are just some of the qualities she brought to bear on projects and challenges. She was also the consummate hostess. So many wonderful memories... I know how deeply she will be missed by her cherished family. I know I will always be grateful to have know her.
Alison Hall, Alexandria ON, April 22, 2025

Alison Hall - April 22, 2025 at 02:54 PM

OS

“ *Very fond memories of our past neighbours of many years in Westmount. Mr & Mrs Engels were always tending to their lovely garden on the corner of Winchester/Claremont. They were the nicest couple you could ever have the pleasure of bumping into. May your old garden continue to grow with renewed glory and passion for everyone to admire. Oliver Sugden.*

Oliver Sugden - April 20, 2025 at 09:21 AM

SE

Oliver, thank you for your note! Their garden on Claremont was a gift to everyone who lived nearby or who passed by. Thank you for your remembrance.

~Stacey

Stacey Engels - April 20, 2025 at 05:59 PM

NE

“ *I was saddened to learn of Mary-Louise's death. I knew her when she and Dennis lived in Montreal from the Unitarian Church. When they lived on Claremont Avenue in Montreal Mary-Louise often had ladies luncheon gatherings. Dennis would greet us at the door and then disappear. I do know he enjoyed the delicious feasts we all had. I have happy memories of of times together. I send supportive thoughts to the family. Nancy Eddis Westmount Quebec April 19th 2025.*

Nancy Eddis - April 19, 2025 at 03:55 PM

SE

Thank you for your remembrance, Nancy. Warmly, Stacey

Stacey Engels - April 19, 2025 at 09:52 PM

PG

“ For many years when living in Montreal, Mary Louise made exquisite rumballs during the Christmas season. This resulted in a competition for the delicious treats between Fang, Mary Louise and Dennis's beloved dog, and Mary Louise's friends. I recall a few years getting scarcely any rumballs at all because Fang had eluded Mary Louise's vigilance and looted the supply....Holding all the family in love, Patricia Gordon

Patricia Gordon - April 19, 2025 at 12:02 PM

SE

Mom's were exquisite rumballs, Patricia, I have to agree! I did not know the sordid tale about Fang looting the supply, but have to admit it does not sound out of character. Thank you for all your beautiful messages through this time. xo Stacey

Stacey Engels - April 19, 2025 at 09:54 PM

DK

Lovingly remembering Marie-Louise during my time as an active member of the Unitarian Church of Montreal. Remembering Fang, her little terror of a dog who greeted us at their home on Cote-des-Neiges during a bidnite luncheon. Also remembering her smile to me when Dennis approved of my roast pork dinner complete with the traditional apple sauce side that I hosted at my home in the late 90's

I am a better person for having known her.

David Kersulis - April 22, 2025 at 11:18 AM

JH

Remembering her intelligent participation at UCM, and ultimate hospitality at home. A special person whose memory will be cherished by many.

Judith Henkewick - April 24, 2025 at 01:17 PM

KA

Condolences to the family of Mary Louise. I got to know Mary-Louise as part of a couple of book clubs. She was such a lovely person, offering great wit, charm and intelligence to whatever we were discussing. I can remember sharing some delicious lunches in her beautiful dining room on Claremont. I feel very blessed to have known her. Kathy Aitken

kathryn aitken - April 26, 2025 at 11:38 AM

SE

Thank you David, Judith and Kathryn - your remembrances mean a lot to us. ~Stacey

Stacey Engels - April 27, 2025 at 02:44 PM