



Donna Joyce Sly

August 5, 1938 - February 17, 2010

Donna (Jero) Sly, 71 passed away February 17, 2010 at home surrounded by family after a long battle with cancer. She was born on August 5, 1938 to Clifford and Esther (Peterson) Jero. She lived in the Beloit, WI and South Beloit area all of her life. Donna married Roy Sly Jr. on September 4, 1956 in Beloit, WI. She was employed by Admiral Corp, Colt Ind., Stateline Printing and Landstar Express America. Donna is survived by her husband; daughter Shelie Sly, sons, Lonnie (Lorie) Sly, Gerald Sly; grandsons, Joshua (Natasha) Sly, Gerald Sly Jr., Jaymes Bock, Jesse Sly; granddaughters, Mary (Thad) Krohn, Sarah (Matthew) Buroker, Ashley, Kimberly and Jaime Sly; 8 great-grandsons, 1 great-granddaughter, several step-grandchildren; several step great grandchildren; brothers, Lloyd (Shirley) Jero of South Beloit, Earl (Kay) Jero, Brownsburg, IN; numerous nieces and nephews; loving nephew Terry (Mary) Borgwardt; special friends, Sue Westness, Mary Lou Brock and Nora St. Germain. Preceded in death by her parents, son, Roy Sly III; granddaughter, Jessica Sly; five sisters and four brothers. Special thank you to Dr. Richard Nora and all the nurses and staff of OSF CancerCare and OSF Hospice.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, February 20, 2010 at 1:00 pm at Grace Funeral & Cremation Services, 1340 South Alpine Rd. Rockford. Chaplain Ed Greenfield, of OSF Hospice will officiate. Private family interment at Rockton Cemetery. To leave a condolence online, please visit graceFH.com.

Cemetery

Events

Private Interment

FEB
20

Service

01:00PM

Grace Funeral & Cremation Services

4301 N. Main Street, Rockford, IL, US, 61103

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Grace Funeral & Cremation Services - November 04, 2014 at 11:11 AM



“ A webcast video has been added.



Grace Funeral & Cremation Services - November 04, 2014 at 11:11 AM



“ I love you grandma I wish I could come visit you for a weekend. I love you



Sarah Buroker - November 11, 2012 at 09:19 PM



“ Shelie Sly sent a virtual gift in memory of Donna Joyce Sly



shelie sly - August 04, 2012 at 11:50 PM



“ Shelie Sly lit a candle in memory of Donna Joyce Sly



shelie sly - August 04, 2012 at 11:50 PM



“ Shelie Sly sent a virtual gift in memory of Donna Joyce Sly



shelie sly - August 04, 2012 at 11:49 PM



“ Mom, tomorrow will be 2 years since I last held you close... we all miss you so much... AJ asks about you every once in awhile. It's never going to be the same again. Ashland was too young to remember you but we will never let him forget you. It will be so hard to concentrate on work tomorrow, as always you will be on my mind and in my heart. I miss you soooooo much. Shelie

shelie sly - February 16, 2012 at 02:58 PM



“ Sarah Buroker lit a candle in memory of Donna Joyce Sly



Sarah Buroker - October 05, 2011 at 10:18 PM



“ shelie sly is following this tribute.

shelie sly - March 16, 2011 at 03:20 PM



“ missing you mom.... so many things on my mind and you aren't here to talk to... i miss that so much.. i'm self destructing inside and don't know what to do... i bet i've gained 50 pounds since you left and i just can't stop... what do i do mom, i need you here so much.... i feel like my soul left with yours. i just want to go somewhere for a week and just cry by myself and maybe that will help... but that will never happen because everyone needs something from me all the time... i just don't get to rest.... i want you back just to anchor me down for a while....how do i explain this to anyone and everyone so that i don't hurt them or let them down... everyone expects soooooooo much from me and it's really weighing me down... hugs and kisses to you, roy and jessica... love you all

Shelie Sly - March 10, 2011 at 10:42 PM



“ THIS IS TO MY HUSBANDS MOM AND MY MOTHER IN LAW DONNA J SLY IT'S BEEN A YEAR TODAY AND YOU ARE GREATLY MISSED IF ROSES GROW IN HEAVEN LORD, PLEASE PICK A BUNCH FOR ME. PLACE THEM IN MY MOTHER'S ARM AND TELL HER THEY'RE FROM ME .TELL HER I LOVE AND MISS HER. AND WHEN SHE TURN TO SMILE' PLACE A KISS UPON HER CHECK AND HOLD HER A WHILE FOR ME.BECAUSE REMEMEBERING HER IS EASY' I DO IT EVERYDAY,BUT THERE IS AN ACHE WITHIN MY HEART THAT WILL NEVER GO AWAY. LOVE AND MISS YOU VERY MUCHHHHHH.

Shelie Sly - March 01, 2011 at 12:21 AM



“ this was sent from lorie

shelie sly - April 09, 2011 at 07:37 AM



“ They took your body from us a year ago, but your soul and spirit is with us forever. I want you back so much, I know only your body is gone, but my best friend left with it.

Shelie Sly - February 17, 2011 at 08:21 AM



“ wow mom, it's so hard to believe it has almost been a year since you left us. I still miss you so much. My heart still hurts as much as it did a year ago. Your "babies" are all growing so fast. Ethan and Ashland are both walking. Your last minutes on earth are etched into my mind so deep that it will never be gone from there. I MISS YOU !!! The holidays were just days without you. The boys enjoyed their birthdays, which is good, but I know some of us were thinking about you and Roy not being here. It's going to be hard helping JJ celebrate his 25th birthday since it marks the 1 year anniversary of your passing. I am going to try really hard though to help him enjoy his day and help dad get through the day as well with happy memories of our family. WE ALL MISS YOU AND ROY SO MUCH. I have to end this now... it's hard to go on... I LOVE YOU MOM and I WANT YOU BACK... ALWAYS AND FOREVER.... SHELIE

Shelie Sly - February 02, 2011 at 09:14 PM



“ 2 files added to the album New Album Name



Shelie Sly - November 27, 2010 at 11:21 PM



“ Mom, yesterday was VERY hard. none of our traditions were there. When I woke up before I even sat up, my first thought was that you weren't here. It just seemed like another day because we didn't have you. We had all the usual dishes we always have at Thanksgiving except for cranberries and yams because you and Roy always ate those. Inside I'm really not looking forward to Christmas, I know it's going to be even harder than yesterday was. I know it's for the kids but I'll miss not going shopping with you for everyone else's gifts and cards. I still have your bottle of Charlie you got last Christmas. I will really miss not getting my card from you and dad (you know dad doesn't buy cards ..lol) but I will make sure he sends one to everyone else. Everyone is still saying it will get better, I have my doubts. It's getting harder and harder for me to keep it all together. I make it look like everything is ok but inside i'm really hurting. It's hard to talk to anyone because they are hurting too and they want me to make it better for them. You were always there for everyone to come to with their problems and even if you didn't have a solution you were there to listen. All your "babies" are doing well and growing fast. We all know that you are watching over each of us. It's hard to believe that it has been 2 years since Roy left us and 10 months since you went to be with him... I'm really tired of people saying you are in a better place and not in pain... I know that, but you're not here and I am in alot of pain. I just function here day by day but I think my soul left with you... I know I'm not the first person to lose their mother, but my heart hurts so much. I love you mom, forever and always... Shelie

Shelie Sly - November 26, 2010 at 11:17 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Nickie Johnson - November 19, 2010 at 06:52 PM



“ Donna everyone wishes you were here..You were a wonderful person and you had a great and loving spirit I know you are not in pain no more you are Healthy like when you came into this world..You are up in heaven taking care of your granddaughter, let Jessica know that her daddy misses her and her brother too i always wonder what it would be like if she was here i didnt get to know her but i wish i could of i bet she had a beautiful soul just like you..And also let Roy now that his brother and Nephew misses him like crazy they are going through some hard times and they really need a sign from their 3 angels they have in heaven..As alot of others do..Even though I am not apart of the Sly family I am grateful for just knowing you..I see you guys as my family as well and I myself feel a hole in my heart that you left as well..Jordin misses his great grandma he asked me a couple of days ago if we were going to great grandmas for turkey? It broke my heart to tell him that you will be having turkey in heaven this year with uncle roy and jessie..I dont know what more to say i just wanted to let you know i was thinking about you i am sooo sorry that a horrible disease had to take you from your family..That horrible disease took my parents away as well so i know the hurt it causes..Soon enough (not to soon) everyone well be reunited again and i know you will be standing at the gates giving hugs and welcoming them home..May you rest in peace till we meet again.

I wanted to share something that a friend gave me when my mom passed

I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free I'm following the path God has laid you see. I took His hand when I heard him call I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day To laugh, to love, to work, to play. Tasks left undone must stay that way I found that peace at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void Then fill it with remembered joy. A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss Oh yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow. My life's been full, I savored much Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief Don't lengthen it now with undue grief. Lift up your hearts and peace to thee God wanted me now; He set me free.

Nickie Johnson - November 19, 2010 at 12:50 AM



“ Shelie Sly sent a virtual gift in memory of Donna Joyce Sly



Shelie Sly - November 16, 2010 at 04:43 PM



“ sent in loving memory from her husband roy sly

Shelie - November 16, 2010 at 04:44 PM



“ miss you mom



Shelie Sly - November 11, 2010 at 05:36 PM



“ mom ive been thinking about you quite alot lately, so many things going through my mind. i really do miss having you around to help me sort things out. there are so many things that i want to talk to someone about, but the people that i need to talk to are not here anymore and that hurts me so much, my heart is filled with anger right now and i blame that damn disease that has taken three of the most important people in my life. im sorry for my language mom but it pisses me off when someone tells me that god had a reason for taking jessica, roy, and you. well i had a reason for all of you to be here with me. it seems that everything i love in mt life is just ripped away from me. i have so much that i want to say, but i just keep it all bottled up inside me. i cant express myself yhe way that i want to on here because everyone would hate me. i love and miss you mom, please tell my bro that i am holding in there and that i miss him everyday. we used to talk alot and help each other out with our problems, but he is not here anymore either for me to vent on. please give jessica a great big hug and kiss for me and tell her that i miss her more and more everyday. i love and miss you mom and i wish you were here. im the one that should have been taken not you, or roy i should be with jessica,and you should be here with dad. your greatgrand children deserve to have you in there lives, as your grandchildren and all of us did. i am going to spend the holidays with dad, i think that will help me heal and deal with things a little bit. you and dad meant alot to me over the years, i just never expressed it enough,and then when rosemary left i just didnt care about anything. i really did love her mom, my whole world fell apart. if it wasnt for family i probably wouldnt have made it through those times. you always have been and always will be a part of my life mom and i thank you and dad for everything you have donr for me and for always being there when i needed a shoukder to lean on. i love and miss you mom.....your son jerry

jerry sly - November 08, 2010 at 07:39 PM



“ well i dont know what to say let alone where to start. i guess i can start by saying i love and miss u alot grandma , i am so sorry it took me this long . i always sit around and think of the great times all the grandkids had at your house with family events . everything has been going threw my mind so much lately since i am not working right now . it has also been hard since i have always had my dad around and now he is arizona and now i am back in florida i just miss being able to jump in the car and take the kids to see him, abd hanging out with him even if it seemed like we would fight alot i really miss him alot and everyone back home. let my sis and uncle roy know i love them alot and miss them so much. sometimes i sit back and wounder if jessica would have never got sick where her life would be now . the hole time growing up i just wanted a brother or sister to me it didnt matter. sorry i went on about myself and this is for grandma, i just want to tell grandma and granpa i love u guys so much and thanks for everything u did for me my mom and my dad when they went threw the hardest time in there life me loseing my sis and my parents loseing there daughter. I LOVE U GRANDMA ANDMISS U LOT

jerry jr - November 03, 2010 at 08:09 PM



“ Mom we really miss ya and love you. We wish we had more time with ya "If tears could build a stairway, and memories a lane, I'd walk right up to heaven and bring you home again. There are a lot of hearts broken, but I know you're in a better place. I'm really hungry for your macaroni salad. It would be really refreshing today love you mom.

Lorie Sly - November 03, 2010 at 05:34 PM



“ If tears could build a stairway, And memories a lane, I'd walk right up to heaven and bring you home again love and miss u .

Lorie Sly - November 03, 2010 at 12:50 PM



“ So here I am, another night of not sleeping... today is Jaime's 17th birthday and I know Roy is watching over his girls.. she misses him a lot. Mom, your babies are all getting bigger and are generally healthy.. I wish you were here.. you would love to see what new things AJ has learned and he is a lot like you in his stubbornness..lol. but that is what makes both of you special and part of the close bond the 2 of you shared. Ashland is about to start walking, he is as attached to dad as AJ was to you and I think that has helped dad a lot. I miss you more than anyone really knows. JJ is still having some difficulty with your passing as is Sarah but he won't talk about it to anyone.... at least Sarah does.. not a day goes by that I don't look for you and wish for one more hug.. my best friend is gone forever. Somedays I just want to join you but I don't want to cause more pain to all the people we love. I am so lost without you. What am I going to do? It's getting harder and harder not to be sad and move on... I don't want to move on.. I want you to be here... I go through the motions of work and stuff around here but I'm not really here, a lot of my soul left with you.

Shelie Sly - October 30, 2010 at 01:59 AM



“ I miss you so much but please stay out of my dreams... I'm afraid to go to sleep anymore because I know you're going to be there and it just makes me mad and angry anymore... I love you grandma say hi to Uncle Roy for me please and Jessica... I still keep thinking you're still here with us but you're really not. Only so many things I can do to stay busy anymore.

Sarah Buroker - September 16, 2010 at 10:04 AM



“ Happy Birthday Grandma... We miss you so much... Still not easier. just keeps getting worse. I love you grandma

Sarah Buroker - August 05, 2010 at 10:10 PM



“ Happy Birthday Mom, we all miss you so much... I know you didn't want any celebrations for your birthdays, but we always did "something". Last night we had a small family dinner and although it was just spaghetti we were all thinking of you. I made your favorite cake (pineapple upside down cake). I hope you liked the flowers we brought to your gravesite today. Dad has been thinking about you ALL day and this is the first birthday in a long time that he hasn't gotten to share with you. He said to tell you "he loves you" and misses you not only today but every day. Lonnie and Jerry both called because that's what they always do on your birthday. I'm still having a hard time... I remember your last hug (that tuesday morning) and how Sarah and I were beside you when you took your last breath. It still feels like it was only yesterday. We all miss you and love. I'll love you Always and Forever.. your daughter Shelie

Shelie Sly - August 05, 2010 at 09:28 PM



“ Everything is going to wrong grandma... AJ has constantly been asking for u. It's starting to get harder for me to keep telling him that ur with uncle roy. I miss u guys so much u have no idea. Everything reminds me of u, every noise i hear outside at night i think its u coming home to us. I'm so stressed out. Ashland is crawling now. He's getting so big so fast. And thanks to u AJ is really really smart. He's almost potty trained, well he is other than at night. Matt keeps wanting it to storm really bad and i keep telling him that u won't let that happen because AJ is afraid of them. We went and watched the fireworks and AJ kept asking for u so i told him that the fireworks are kisses for u and uncle roy. Its so cute how he sits on ur lap and uncle roys motorcycle when we go and visit u. He always makes sure that he cleans u off and give u guys kisses... I miss u grandma I love you always and forever

Sarah Buroker - July 15, 2010 at 07:49 PM



“ Shelie Sly lit a candle in memory of Donna Joyce Sly



Shelie Sly - June 14, 2010 at 10:15 PM



“ Happy Birthday Roy !!!! I miss you alot.. I know mom is with you and helping you celebrate this milestone (50). wish we could all be together. I hope you got birthday prayers and thoughts from your girls... I know Jaime misses you. But I guess you actually will always be 48 from now on..lol.. I still want to hug you all the time and wish it would keep you here. Take care of mom for me... and give Jessica an extra kiss from Jerry... He never has gotten over her death and probably never will. I know he was still mourning you when mom passed. He has lost so many people he truly loved and I think it's eating away at him more than he lets anyone know.. there is so much sadness in his eyes and heart. I love you little brother and will never forget our memories together. forever and always, your sister Shelie

Shelie Sly - June 06, 2010 at 10:26 PM



“ It's Memorial Day and while others are remembering all the soldiers past and present, my thoughts are on you and Roy. I go to the cemetary all the time, but as Sarah said to me, you aren't there, physically neither of you are here. I feel you both in my heart and although it's a comforting feeling at times, it's a very empty feeling most of the time. I'm so lost. Mom, you were also the one I turned to thru all the difficuties in my life. I love Dad very much, but it's not the same. I'm having troubles being everything for so many people, mother, daughter, grandmother... so many responsibilities.. there is such a heavy weight I can't get rid of... everyone always asks if I need anything... I NEED YOU. I have so much pain.. I don't sleep, and eating way too much just to hide all the hurt... I'm trying to keep all the promises I made to you.. taking care of your "babies" and watching over dad, it's just all going crazy in my head and heart. I know you're up there trying to guide all of us and making sure we are safe. I know you are smiling as you watch AJ, Ashland, Ethan, Lena and all your other "babies". I hope I'm putting a smile on your face as well as I try to cope with all of this. Hug everyone for me and all of us here on Earth... I LOVE YOU and MISS YOU.. Forever and Always...Shelie

Shelie Sly - May 31, 2010 at 10:33 PM



“ Donna was in the family almost as long as I was. She knew my brother longer than I did. I remember the great meals and I remember how tough she could be, but mostly I remember how kind she was to a lonely teenager and her baby. I didn't know many people in town; didn't have a car, a phone or much money. Donna picked us up every weekend and took us to their house. She never once made me feel like I was being a pain. I don't know if she ever realized how much I appreciated that. I'm sure when she had her 'soul briefing', she received a lot of extra points for that. I believe that when a person dies or 'crosses over', they simply leave their bodies behind and their soul progresses on. I don't know about some far off place called Heaven. I believe they are simply on a different dimension (a different frequency). We are still very much a part of their lives. When you think of Donna, whether as wife, mother, sister, grandmother, aunt, friend, etc, don't be sad. She doesn't want that. She wants you to be happy. She still watches over you, she still sees you. I believe we are spiritual beings having a human experience and her purpose for being here was completed. If you find yourself being sad (or worrying if she is ok), know that she is with Roy and Jessica and her mother-n-law (who she loved like her own) and the family and friends that passed before her. Someday you will see her again. Don't feel bad because you think she is going to miss the birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, or the new baby. She will be there. She will hold that new baby before it is even born. So when you think of Donna (or Mom or Grandma) be happy, because she is.

Doris Couture - March 31, 2010 at 10:13 AM



“ I want you back !!! I miss you so much, every time I turn to tell you something, you're not there and I get so sad... I love you mom and I know you're in a better place with no pain and no cancer but I'm so sad without you... you have ALWAYS been my best friend... love you forever and always... your loving daughter

shelle sly - March 16, 2010 at 05:30 PM



“ Jj Bock sent a virtual gift in memory of Donna Joyce Sly



jj bock - March 08, 2010 at 07:00 PM



“ I will always miss you ! we had over 53 years of a good life. Your loving husband Roy.

*Thinking
of You*

shelie sly - March 04, 2010 at 02:50 PM



“ Donna's family would like to thank the anonymous donor... whoever you are... your generosity is much appreciated.

shelie sly - March 04, 2010 at 02:48 PM



“ Kim Sly sent a virtual gift in memory of Donna Joyce Sly



Kim Sly - March 03, 2010 at 04:16 PM



“ Kim Sly lit a candle in memory of Donna Joyce Sly



Kim Sly - March 03, 2010 at 04:15 PM



“ mom, i already miss you so much, but i know you aren't suffering any longer.. tell roy i miss him and wish you both were still here... my heart aches so much.. love you forever and always... yes, i'm taking care of dad and keeping him in line.. love you !!!!
your daughter shelie

shelie sly - March 01, 2010 at 06:37 PM



“ Shelie Sly sent a virtual gift in memory of Donna Joyce Sly

I Love You

shelie sly - March 01, 2010 at 06:34 PM



“ Jaime Sly sent a virtual gift in memory of Donna Joyce Sly



Jaime Sly - March 01, 2010 at 06:17 PM



“ Jaime Sly lit a candle in memory of Donna Joyce Sly



Jaime Sly - March 01, 2010 at 06:16 PM



“ Shelie Sly sent a virtual gift in memory of Donna Joyce Sly

*Hands in
Prayer*

shelie sly - February 26, 2010 at 07:36 AM



“ Shelie Sly lit a candle in memory of Donna Joyce Sly



shelie sly - February 26, 2010 at 07:35 AM



“ Jerry Sly sent a virtual gift in memory of Donna Joyce Sly

I Love You

jerry sly - February 24, 2010 at 10:41 AM



“ Jerry Sly lit a candle in memory of Donna Joyce Sly



jerry sly - February 24, 2010 at 10:39 AM



“ mom, i am sorry that i wasnt there to say goodbye. i love and miss you so very much. cancer has taken so much from our family, and i dont know why. i know you are up there right now with jessica and roy, please give jessica a hug and kiss from me, and tell roy that he is missed every day also. im sure it is nice weather up there, and roy is out riding his harley. please take care of them both mom, and dont let roy get into trouble.....lol.....we will always love and miss you mom, you were an inspiration to everyone, especially me, for i owe you and dad so much...all my love...your son jerry

jerry sly - February 24, 2010 at 10:38 AM



“ I miss u s0 much grandma. I h0pe ur d0ing better n0w. I'll see u s00n. I l0ve y0u

I Love You

Sarah Buroker - February 23, 2010 at 10:40 AM



“ Sarah Buroker lit a candle in memory of Donna Joyce Sly



Sarah Buroker - February 23, 2010 at 10:39 AM



“ Roy, Shellie, Jerry,
Ray and I were deeply saddened to here of Donnas Passing. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Just remember she is only a heart beat away; an Angel to carry you through your day.

Sonya(Sly) Brockman

Sonya (Sly)Brockman - February 21, 2010 at 07:03 AM



“



Jerry jr,jordin,and Ethan,nickie sly - February 20, 2010 at 10:10 AM



“ We miss you grandma



Jerry jr,jordin,and Ethan,nickie sly - February 19, 2010 at 12:16 PM



“ We are very sorry to hear about the passing of Donna. Roy and Donna lived across the street from my Grandparent's for many years. Our condolences.

Kate and Joe Sutherland - February 18, 2010 at 08:00 PM



“ Trisha Johnson is following this tribute.

Trisha Johnson - February 17, 2010 at 08:55 PM



“ Trisha Johnson lit a candle in memory of Donna Joyce Sly



Trisha Johnson - February 17, 2010 at 08:53 PM



“ Paula Peterson lit a candle in memory of Donna Joyce Sly



Paula Peterson - February 17, 2010 at 08:17 PM