



## Samaline Joyce (Cervi) Fark

July 25, 1934 - February 24, 2016

Samaline Joyce Cervi-Fark, 81, of Carbondale, passed away at 5:10 a.m. Wednesday, February 24, 2016, at Herrin Hospital in Herrin, Illinois.

Samaline was born on July 25, 1934, at home, in Sandoval, Illinois, where she lived through her teen's years. Born, during the Great Depression, she was the daughter of first generation immigrant parents from Italy Domenico Cervi and Louisa (Contri) Cervi. In lieu of payment for delivery the Doctor asked that the baby be named after him and his wife. Their names were Sam and Aline. So they named the baby Samaline (Sammye). She was the seventh of eight children, two boys and six girls.

During World War II, Sammye grew up with some of her nieces and nephews almost like siblings when her sisters moved home with their children as their husbands were called into military service.

Like most families during the Depression, her family grew almost everything they needed. They had no indoor plumbing and her father finished the indoor bathroom, just prior to his death in the Centralia # 5 Coal Mine explosion in 1947.

In the 1950's, she was the station manager and disc jockey for WCNT in Centralia.

Sammye made lots of friends growing up and has enjoyed reconnecting with those friends through Facebook. It was in college where she met her husband Roger Martin Fark, who was from Centralia. They were married on February 26, 1960, in Centralia, but he preceded her in death on September 15, 1992.

They were blessed with two wonderful daughters, Kelly and Chris. Sammye was a stay at home mom, but was very passionate about her family and participating in their activities. After her retirement, she was also very involved in her grandchildren's school activities.

She was especially active in local politics and community affairs. Her involvement in politics would lead her to be a Legislative Aide for the former State Senator Ralph Dunn. She then worked for the Department of Transportation as an Equal Employment Opportunity Officer, later as a Community Liaison for the Secretary of State, and ultimately she would serve as the DuQuoin State Fair Manager from 1998 until her retirement in 2002. One of the highlights of her career was being able to serve as an Illinois Delegate for the Republican National Convention.

Survivors include two children who survive Kelly Barger and her husband David Barger of Murphysboro and Christina Fark of Carbondale;

Two grandchildren, Alexandra Barger and Nicholas Barger, both of Murphysboro;

One brother Bob Cervi of Tuscon, AZ; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by one brother, five sisters, and her parents.

Her body has been cremated and a Funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m.

Saturday, March 5, 2016, at St. Andrew Catholic Church, Murphysboro, with burial at Oakland Cemetery in Carbondale. Friends may call from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday until 9:45 a.m. at Pettett Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in Samaline "Sammye" Fark's memory to This Able Veteran, 1714 S. Wolf Creek Road, Carbondale, IL 62902 or donations may be made at [www.thisableveteran.org](http://www.thisableveteran.org). For more information, please visit [www.pettettfuneralhome.com](http://www.pettettfuneralhome.com).

Sammye authored the following poem and asked that be included in her obituary.

Infinity by Sammye Cervi Fark

In a forest green and tall;  
And in the tumbling torrent  
Of a mountain waterfall.

In the tinted clouds of sunset,  
At some remote and distant place,  
A playful group of children  
Will pause and see my face.

And, with the flowers of Spring-time.  
A thousand years from now,  
Before each soft, caressing breeze,  
I'll nod my head and bow.

As long as there's a river,  
Crawling to the sea;  
As long as there's an ocean,  
There'll be me.

Sift the sands of burning deserts  
Gently through your hands,  
For you will find a grain of me  
In burning desert sands.

Beneath the endless heavens,  
Under countless stars,  
Listen for my melody  
From shepherd's soft guitars.

And, in the crowded cities,  
Behind all shades of skin,  
Find a tiny bit of me  
In all my fellow men.

As long as there are dreamers,  
And there will always be,  
As long as God makes poets  
There'll be me.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Crain Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Samaline Joyce (Cervi) Fark*



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**Crain Funeral Home** - February 24, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *Samaline Joyce (Cervi) Fark*

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October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ *During the night of visitation a pair of ladies black suede gloves were left at the funeral home. I thought that maybe someone would read the condolences and perhaps know who left the gloves. Thank you. Teresa Basinger from Pettett Funeral Home.*

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**Pettett Funeral Home** - March 06, 2016 at 01:51 PM

LS

“ Kelly - it's Lynn from Shawnee Christian - my mother was Pat that loved Fritzie SO much with the French fries... I am SO sorry to hear this. I actually saw it on my friend Bill Harper's Facebook page - he was to do the music at the funeral. I don't know if you were aware but we lost mom on February 9th... God Bless you. I would really like if we could keep in touch on e-mail or something and maybe even have lunch or something sometime. They are in heaven now and out of pain and suffering.. Hugs and prayers to you all!

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**Lynn Steh** - March 05, 2016 at 02:30 PM

KS

“ Kelly and Chris I was so sorry to hear of Sammye's passing. I always had a great deal of respect for her. She was smart and funny, but most importantly she was a woman of integrity.

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**Kelly Stewart** - March 04, 2016 at 09:29 PM

MC

“*“Best Friend Forever” Sammye and I became best friends in grade school, 7th and 8th grades, in Sandoval, IL. Through the years we did not see each other often, but when we did, time melted away. Thank you, Chris, for keeping me up date on what was going on with your mother and to you, Kelly, and David, Alexandra and Nick, also Bob, I know this is a great loss for you and I am so pleased to know that your mother/sister was at peace and that we all know where she is today. What a loving and gracious God we have! I could tell stories for hours, but just one for now. When we were in the 8th grade our class had a Minstrel show. Sammye and I were friends but during that show she took it to a new level. Sammye was, as always, in the leading role. The group I thought I should be with had gotten angry with me and I was sitting on a bale of hay (props), alone and crying. Sammye, on the highest bale of hay motioned to me to come and sit by her. I excitedly did so, and as stories go, the rest is history. In Heaven, my dearest friend, save a bale of hay for me, right beside you. We will meet again.*”

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**Marilynn M. Cunningham** - March 03, 2016 at 08:31 PM

CG

“*Sammye was a wonderful person! So honored to have known her as a friend for many years. Rest in peace dear friend.*”



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**Carol & Randy George** - March 03, 2016 at 05:07 PM

NJ

“ Dear Kelly, Chris, and family,  
We knew your mom and dad many years ago thru mutual friends, Ruth and Loren Monroe. We had many good times with all of you; camping and boating 'expeditions' on the Ohio River and Kentucky Lake. So many good times (except the trip where we were on the river all night long and all the kids were in your parents' boat - remember that?). We will always remember your mom's great spirit, humor, and wonderful caring interest she had for all those who knew her. Our most deepest and heartfelt sympathy goes out to you Kelly and Chris and family.

Sincerely,  
Neal and Carol Jacobson

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**Neal and Carol Jacobson** - March 03, 2016 at 12:34 PM

BM

“ Sammye was my great "teen-friend"! She was fun-loving, courageous and talented. Our life journeys took different paths, but she will always be most fondly remembered as her spirit soars on.

Betty Mason a.k.a Sister Marilyn

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**Betty Mason** - March 03, 2016 at 09:53 AM

RB

“ My love and sympathy to all of Sammye's family and friends at this sad time. I have such fond childhood memories of her! My grandpa, Ralph Dunn, relied heavily on her and she was more than up to the task. She definitely was a shining light then, and I'm sure she is shining her light still on all of you. Peace, Robin Bost

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**Robin Bost** - March 03, 2016 at 09:14 AM

DL

“ Sammye, being my neighbor 1970-1975 in Carbondale, had a fall block party. Gathering around her fire under which she had buried large Idaho potatoes, we would tell stories. The potatoes , like Sammie, were great.

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**David Lee** - March 02, 2016 at 09:07 AM

MH

“ Girls: So sorry to hear of your Mother's passing. She was a great person. Always enjoyed talking and being around her. She was certainly supportive of CCHS, both of you-- her daughters and all she considered her friends. She will always be in my memory as a wonderful person.

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**Margaret Hollis Handy** - February 29, 2016 at 10:49 AM

BB

“ We are so sorry to hear about your mother passing. You have taken such great care of her and given her extra time here on earth. You are going to miss her always. Sammye was a wonderful lady! Loved her!

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**Bill and Marla Boyer** - February 28, 2016 at 09:10 PM

MH

“ So very sorry for your loss. Thoughts and prayers for your family. Virginia and Martha K.

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**Martha K Hopkins** - February 28, 2016 at 12:59 PM

KM

“ Sending my condolences to the Fark family. Remembering her as a spunky Mother who loved her family and community. Picturing her walking the school halls at grade school functions as well at the high school at times. Remembered her to be outdoorsy and adventurous at times. Keep her legacy alive in your hearts, souls, and minds. She is resting in heaven now with more smiles and enthusiasm as always seen by many here in our communities.

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**Karen McNeely McMinn** - February 28, 2016 at 12:39 PM

DS

“ tchris and kelly.. so sorry for the loss of your mother. after the fire at the school i made one call and that was to sammye. i told her we were having school the next day and i needed her to take care of lunch. not only did we have lunch but our attendance was 98% and im sure she had a hand in that also! what a great person. what a great friewnd.. we had many great times together.. she will be sorely missed!

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**dale smith principal brush school** - February 28, 2016 at 08:58 AM

JM

“ My sincere sympathy to the family. May you all find peace that she is in the loving arms of God. So sorry for your loss.

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**Jody Moore** - February 28, 2016 at 07:37 AM