



Mary Roberta "MaryRob" Clodfelter

MAR 27, 2026



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Mary Roberta "MaryRob" Clodfelter

MAR 27, 2026

Mary Roberta “MaryRob” Harris Clodfelter, deeply loved as a mother, grandmother and community activist in Galena, Ohio, passed away on March 27, 2026, at the age of 85, after a brief illness.

MaryRob is survived by children Scott Clodfelter (Kristen), Julia Kay Coughlin (Chuck), Amy Clodfelter and Marc Clodfelter; beloved grandchildren Rusty, Ellie, Ben, Liam and Sam; and brother, Bill Harris (Lynda) and their family. She is predeceased by Harve, who was the great love of her life and husband of 50 years; and her parents Bill and Marie.

MaryRob was a fierce advocate for transparency in government and public service at all levels. She was admired by those advocating for fairness and respected by public officials, who often underestimated her abilities and quickly learned they could not hide anything from her. As an investigative journalist, one of her proudest achievements was participating in a “sting” to reveal Sunshine Law infractions in Ohio. She was also one of the few who actually enjoyed attending and reporting on school board meetings.

MaryRob had a succession of careers focused on her keen interest in people and building educated communities: middle school biology teacher in Virginia and Ohio, supervisor of circulation services at the Worthington Public Library, and newspaper editor and principal reporter of The Johnstown Independent and ThisWeek Delaware. During her tenure as editor, her papers won multiple statewide and national awards for her editorial roles, and she was a past chair of the Ohio Newspaper Association Weekly Newspaper Group. As a volunteer, she coordinated a food co-op and worked tirelessly for two decades to pass multiple school funding issues for the Olentangy Local School District.

Memorial services will be private. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to Royal Family Kids in Willoughby Hills, Ohio, <https://www.rfkwilloughbyhills.org/>, an organization run by dear family friends to support children in the foster care system. The family also requests that those who knew her take cookies to their local emergency services department to thank them for



Obituary

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their service, as MaryRob did countless times; her grandchildren suggest using MaryRob's favorite cookie recipe, which she baked hundreds of times to support her community. See her recipe at <https://bit.ly/MammaCookies>.



Tribute Wall

Mary Roberta "MaryRob" Clodfelter

n

Nick Risolio posted:

My fondest memory of Mary Rob and Ted Bergman feel the same I know it was when Ted and I started going to alpha at Royal chapel Mary Rob came up with open arms and gave us a hug made us feel like we belong there and she never missed a beat every week she gives us a hug and I liked it. if she didn't hug us ,we would think that there was something wrong., but Ted will tell Mary Rob herself what his favorite memory was of her . Mary Rob is special in her own way I will never forget her and I know I will miss herA friend Nick

April 4 at 9:32 PM

EA

Elaine Alicea posted:

I don't have just one memory of MaryRob, but just an overall welcoming and loving feeling I got every time I was in her home. There were times when my home life felt rather empty, and always going there would make me feel like I was a part of a family that had fun and full of love. It was wonderful to feel like I had a home away from my home when I really needed more than what I had. I am grateful not only to MaryRob but the entire family for welcoming me as one of their own.

April 3 at 9:47 PM

PS

Phelan Sykes shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

At the amazing 65th Reunion of the Hampton High School 'Legendary' Class of 1958.

April 2 at 10:42 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Mary.

April 2 at 8:35 AM



LR

Liz Robertson posted:

It was long ago and far away that MaryRob and I worked for competing newspapers. We would both cover the same meetings often (like the school board), and I both valued her friendship and insight.She was a force to be reckoned with and will be missed.Liz Robertson

March 31 at 7:49 PM



Tribute Wall

MaryRoberta "MaryRob" Clodfelter



Elizabeth Rose shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

My favorite picture of me, Mammaw, and Poppop.

March 31 at 7:08 PM



Lori Wince posted:

What can I say about my favorite memory of MaryRob? My favorite memory of MaryRob is of every day I had working alongside her. She was a mentor, a friend a d&^ good reporter! She was willing to share her thoughts, her feelings and her life with me, while we worked together in a small office, away from the hustle and bustle of the corporate office. Our small office was less like an office somedays and more like a gathering space; where we could share our concerns over our work and everything else that was happening in our lives at the time. We grew close and we never stopped communicating. I will miss her laugh, the occasional cuss word she let slip and the soft, southern speaking voice that often reminded me how important the work we were doing was. The world is a little less bright for me today, without MaryRob in it. But all of us who know her can agree, we are better people for having known her. Lori Wince

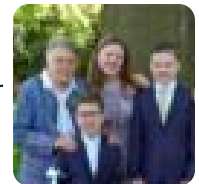
March 31 at 12:37 PM



Scott Clodfelter shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

One of my favorite pictures of Mom with our kids from several years ago. To all her grandkids she was "Mammaw".

March 31 at 11:27 AM



Hbinkley57 posted:

So very sorry to hear of Mary Rob's passing. I loved the sugar cookies that she brought to Rural Chapel. My prayers to her wonderful family. - Holly Binkley

March 30 at 7:26 PM



Dottie Haggard posted:

So sorry to learn of her passing. She was strong willed and passionate in what she was doing but fun loving at the same time. That's a wonderful picture you have of her.

March 30 at 6:31 PM



Tribute Wall

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Dottie Haggard lit a candle in honor of Mary.

March 30 at 6:28 PM



Marc Clodfelter shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Took Mom to a high school reunion and stopped by to see her friend Anne

March 30 at 1:54 PM





Media

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April 2 at 10:42 AM





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Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Mary by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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