

Sisters in Stewardship



Catherine Lynch

Neither Katie nor Mary had children of their own, but they took a great interest in their many nieces and nephews. They attended baptisms, graduations, weddings, and other major events in the life of the family.

Late in life, the sisters lived in St. Thomas More Parish, in south Kansas City. In 2001, health issues led them to assisted living homes. Their niece, Kathleen, arranged for and supervised their care in Houston where she lived. Katie's and Mary's care was financed from the savings that they had accumulated. Katie and Mary passed away in Houston, but came home to Kansas City for their final resting place.

Catherine ("Katie") and Mary Lynch were born in Kansas City. Katie in 1911, and Mary in 1921. With their brothers, they grew up in St. Stephen Parish, in northeast Kansas City.

All the Lynches attended Catholic schools-- the girls at St. Aloysius and the boys at DeLaSalle. The Lynch sisters are great examples of stewardship. We have received permission to share their stories.

Katie and Mary used their talents to earn a good living and to support themselves. Mary was a long-time medical technician at St. Joseph Hospital. Katie worked for over 25 years at Linda Hall Library near UMKC. Katie was a very faithful volunteer at St. Joseph Hospital, driving there well into her 80's.



Mary Lynch

Before leaving Kansas City, Katie and Mary wrote trusts that "interfaced" so that the trust assets of the first to die would be available, if needed, for the survivor. Katie passed away in 2003 and Mary in 2006. Under the trusts, the Lynches provided for their nieces and nephews, but also remembered their roots in Kansas City with generous gifts totaling over \$225,000 to the Diocesan Priests' Retirement Fund, St. Thomas More Parish and to the Central City School Fund.

Kathleen takes pride in her Aunts' lives and the model that they provide. She knows that they lived frugally and depended on each other and God, especially in their later years. The Church was very important to the "Lynch Sisters." Kathleen joked that "God must have been in the car with Katie when she was still driving at the age of 89."

Indeed, Katie and Mary Lynch model the stewardship message: *"receive God's gifts gratefully, tend those gifts responsibly, share them justly, and return them with increase to the Lord."*