

# Mary Hauprich Reilly

## A Sister Act is born . . . again!

*Meet the webmaster behind a new heritage-driven  
Internet resource that is devoted to preserving  
the past & present for future generations*

When I knelt down to say my bedtime prayers as a child, I almost always ended them with this petition: “Please send me a baby sister.”

Although I (Hauprich Baby #4) loved and doted upon the five little brothers my parents brought home from the maternity ward leading up to my 10th birthday, I wanted a sister I could play with like a doll.

Alas! By the time my prayers were finally answered, I was a tweenager whose rare spare time was spent giggling with gal pals who shared my passions for the performing arts and fashions that being heavily influenced by Beatlemania.

Please don’t get me wrong. Baby Sis Mary was absolutely adorable, and I enjoyed dressing her up in frilly outfits before taking her out for strolls around the neighborhood in a vintage pram.

Gently pushing Mary on a backyard swing and watching her drift off to sleep when I sang lullabies at night are among my other fond memories of this now long ago time. But the notion that we’d ever have much of anything in common outside of our family circle was about as likely as me marrying Paul McCartney!

Fast forward half a century and you’ll find me seeking my baby sister’s priceless advice and guidance on all things involving electronic and digital publishing. Because Mary now resides in a different state, most of our communications transpire via emails and text messages.

How she finds the time to cheerfully respond to my many inquiries in between her part-part college courses and assisting with the daily care of granddaughter Aubrianna (who celebrated her first birthday in December 2016) boggles the mind.

But as the decades have passed, Mary has consistently made the grade in everything she has put her mind to -- both at home and at work.

That she and husband Dave will celebrate their 35th wedding anniversary in 2017 and that now adult children Nathan, Matthew, Andrew and Caitlin still enjoy gathering for holiday feasts featuring their Mom’s home cooking speaks volumes.



The ties that  
**BOND**



The half century of picture-perfect images on this page include toddler Mary in 1965; a carefree moment with mother Audrey and sister Ann in 1991; line-dancing with husband Dave and parents (Dad's name is Don) in 1989; the couple's three sons (Matt, Nate and Andy) in 2015; snuggling with daughter Caitlin and granddaughter Aubrianna in 2016; at a picnic with parents in 2015; and around Thanksgiving 2016.



Sharing memories that might otherwise be forever lost is the mission of an Internet resource that is being developed by our recently reborn Sister Act.

The long and winding road that led Mary and yours truly to develop a long distance Sister Act will be further documented in a 2017 book designed to commemorate and celebrate Ballston Spa's 210th anniversary as a village.

That title will also include many samples of Mary's whimsical artwork depicting landmarks in the historic settlement where she grew up. (In addition to the images showcased in this section, Mary's enchanting rendition of a snow-covered St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church complex that also includes the rectory, school and convent can be previewed in an earlier chapter about parents.)

Prior to creating the card collection, Mary had assisted me in laying the foundation for *Saratoga Living* (originally *Saratoga County Living*) magazine between 1998 and 2004. Generous technical support was subsequently contributed to my first three books: *Deadlines, Headings & Porcupines -- The Laugh Lines Behind the Bylines* (2006), *Ballston Spa: The Way We Were, The Way We Are* (2007), and *Ballston Spa: Legacies Unlimited* (2009).

But it is what Mary, who has since gained additional electronic publishing experience, has accomplished since our Sister Act was recently reborn that holds the promise of a lasting legacy. Sharing memories that might otherwise be forever lost is the mission of a free Internet resource that is coming to life, thanks to Mary's phenomenal web design talents.

Committed to preserving the past and present for future generations, the expansive web site additionally documents history in the making by celebrating contemporary lives that add strong and vibrant threads to the rich tapestry of our nation's heritage.

An ever-evolving Site Map helps visitors easily navigate to and from content linked to such diverse headings as Magazine Memories, Bonus Features and Sample Chapters. Many of the presentations showcase Then & Now images designed to bring history to life for visitors.

A special attraction within the *Mornings with Morley* section includes a pair of videos Mary produced that captured now late Village History Consultant Maurice "Christopher" Morley demonstrating some of the wooden toys he crafted. Included is footage of Morley, who also served as a school crossing guard until shortly before his passing at age 89 in 2011, reminiscing about how students of a bygone era commuted to high school on the Kayaderosseras Railroad, which they dubbed the PP & J – short for the Push, Pull & Jerk.

Tributes to the World War II veteran's beloved VFW Post 358 in Ballston Spa are slated to be incorporated into the site commencing in 2017.

Is it any wonder Chris Morley used to light up like a Christmas tree on the hottest day in July when Mary's smiling face appeared at his door?

To learn more, please visit [www.LegaciesUnlimited.com](http://www.LegaciesUnlimited.com).



A landmark collection of greeting cards by Mary Hauprich Reilly

Among the enchanting winter scenes created by Mary are (clockwise from top) the historic Old Iron Spring, Village Hall, Wiswall Park and Brookside. Additional images will be showcased on [www.LegaciesUnlimited.com](http://www.LegaciesUnlimited.com) starting in January 2017.

