

Mrs Delany Asks Permission To Mourn

Mrs Denis Delany,
358, Ballymun Rd
Dublin 7

30th June 1949

His Grace
The most reverend Dr John C. McQuaid,
Archbishop of Dublin, Archbishop's Palace
Drumcondra, Dublin 7.

Your Grace,

I write to ask your permission to attend my friend's funeral. She and I have been friends for over forty years and I love her dearly. Miriam Watson is a Dublin woman, a mother of ten children and a member of the Jewish congregation.

Miriam is to be buried after a service in Rathgar Synagogue. I have asked our local priest and he advises against going. But how can I not attend, after forty years of friendship – a woman who supported me as I supported her?

For many years we shared experiences both as young girls and as mothers. She was a treasured friend, a good mother and a devout believer in shared humanity. I ask for your permission, to be allowed to say farewell, to share mourning with her family.

Dearest Archbishop, I ask fervently for this exception, for your blessing, to mark my friend's life, to say goodbye.

Your faithfully
Emily Delany

Rona Fitzgerald

