



Millie Ferrante

September 15, 1922 - January 9, 2022

Ferrante, Carmela “Millie” (nee Costello) Age 99+, January 9, 2022

Beloved mother of Joseph (Becky), Gary (Patty), Toni (David) DeCamp and Cris (Mary Ellen). Preceded in death by husband Joseph of nearly 73 years of devoted marriage and brother Sam (Bev) Costello. Sister to Nick (Edith~deceased) Costello, and Anthony (Rita~deceased) Costello. Loving grandmother of 14, great-grandmother of 18, and great-great-grandmother of 2. The matriarch of a large extended family leaves behind a legacy of love to generations of nieces, nephews and a great number of friends who considered her a second mom, aunt or bonus grandma. We will all sorely miss her smiling face, soft hands, warm heart, quick wit, home cooked meals, crocheted afghans, coupons, cartoon messages, cannoli, Buckeyes, and cookies.

Millie was born in Cleveland, OH and spent most of her young life there. She quit high school in 10th grade to care for her 3 younger brothers when her mother fell ill. She spent all 99+ years of her life in Ohio and Michigan, except for 5 years in California where sons Joe and Gary were born. After having 4 kids, she was proud to finish school and obtain her GED at age 45. During WWII she made bomb chutes to aid the war effort. She held various jobs throughout her life including hostess, pattern maker, seamstress, and cook. In the late 60's, Millie and her husband Joe founded Ferrante's Restaurant Bar & Lounge in Delphos, OH. There they served Italian and American dishes with the family's secret sauce recipe. Millie lived in the Toledo area for many years where she was active in Welcome Wagon and delivered Meals on Wheels (mostly to folks younger than her). After Joe's retirement, they moved one final time to Michigan to be nearer to daughter Toni; Millie lived with Toni and husband Dave her last 7 years. Millie made many friends through the Washington Twp Senior Center. She volunteered in several Senior's Programs including making hats and scarves for homeless shelters and hats for cancer patients and newborns. So many people have commented on her youthful appearance throughout the years. Millie was a beautiful young woman and never lost her luster as she barely seemed to age. She attributed her soft wrinkle-free skin to only using Dove soap and in her early nineties was actually featured as one of the Faces of Dove.

Millie lived a full and active life which included singing (she was known to have secretly snuck out of the house at age 18 to sing with Peter Piper & his Orchestra in downtown Cleveland), laughing, famously playing April Fools' pranks, cooking the best meals, watching her "stories", bowling, crafting, gardening, couponing, baking cookies, crocheting and gifting afghans, making doll clothes, playing cards, babysitting grandkids, word games, and even connecting with friends and family on Facebook. Make no mistake though, her #1 priority was always family. She made a life of being a living example of God's Love for others and taught lessons that will hopefully be carried on through generations to come. Rarely do you meet someone who is so universally loved. We are all better people for just knowing her. Godspeed Mama Millie, you are home.

Visitation Sunday 3-9pm with 7:00pm Scripture Service at Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons 54880 Van Dyke at 25 Mile (Shelby Township). Funeral Monday Instate 9:30am at St. Kieran Church 53600 Van Dyke (btw. 24 & 25 Mile Rds.) until time of Mass at 10:00am. Entombment Guardian Angel Cemetery. Share memories with the family at their "On Line Guest Book" @ WujekCalcaterra.com

Cemetery

Guardian Angel Cemetery

4701 Rochester Road
Oakland Township, MI,
48306

Events

JAN **Visitation** 03:00PM - 09:00PM

16

Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons, Inc. Shelby Township
54880 VanDyke Ave, Shelby Township, MI, US,
48316

JAN **Scripture Service** 07:00PM

16

Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons Inc, Shelby Township
54880 Van Dyke, Shelby Township, MI, US, 48316

JAN **Instate / Funeral Mass** 09:30AM - 10:00AM

17

St. Kieran
53600 Mound, Shelby Twp., MI, US, 48316

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Wujek ~ Calcaterra & Sons, Inc. - January 16 at 08:57 AM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Millie Ferrante.



January 20 at 12:26 PM



“ Lighting a purple candle for you, Grandma Millie. I love you.



Paula (Ferrante) Murray - January 17 at 10:53 AM



“ A few more photos of grandma Millie to share. My thoughts are with my family. I wish I could have been there with you but Mother Nature had other ideas.



Paula (Ferrante) Murray - January 17 at 10:38 AM



“ A few pictures of my grandma Millie with me, her oldest grandchild. Love you grandma and thank you for all the wonderful memories and life lessons. I will miss your smile, soft hands, sense of humor, and great food. I still think regularly of times spent at the house on Coder Rd. with you. And I will always use the beautiful afghans you made for me and think of you every time they warm me up like you did. 😊



Paula (Ferrante) Murray - January 17 at 10:35 AM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Kimberly Ferrante-Pitluk - January 16 at 05:53 PM



“ Love and hugs to all our family who are there today. I am so sorry we could not come. It breaks my heart not being there. Love to all, Kimberly Ferrante-Pitluk, Adam, Madeline and Lillian



Kimberly Ferrante-Pitluk - January 16 at 01:14 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Toni DeCamp - January 15 at 01:23 PM



“ Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Millie Ferrante.



January 15 at 11:42 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Millie Ferrante.



January 14 at 06:27 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Millie Ferrante.



January 13 at 08:32 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Millie Ferrante.



January 12 at 05:27 PM



“ My Deepest Heartfelt Sympathy to the Decamp, Pepper, Donadio, Ferrante and extended families with the passing of your beloved Mother, Grandmother, and Great-Grandmother. Dear Millie certainly filled all categories with Love, Kindness, and Compassion. She touched many many lives with her grace in her blessed 99 plus years.

Her entry into Heavenly Glory was a profound celebration so rightly deserved as our Lord's Loving Arms embraced and welcomed her home after blessing her with a LONG LIFE so well LIVED and LOVED.

Once again to all her beloved families may our Lord Jesus grant each of you Peace and Comfort with each new day knowing she now lives in eternal peace and happiness with HIM. My Love to each of you, Christine Donadio



Christine Donadio - January 12 at 02:58 PM



“ Joe, What a beautiful Lady! So sorry for your loss. Your classmate . Larry and Karen (Lucke) Heitmeyer

Karen Heitmeyer - January 12 at 02:35 PM



“ Karen, thank you for your kind words. Good to hear from you.

Joe - January 13 at 10:50 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Millie Ferrante.



January 12 at 12:30 PM



“ Sending much Love, Gary and Bren Miller purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Millie Ferrante.



Sending much Love, Gary and Bren Miller - January 12 at 11:36 AM



“ I was fortunate enough to be one of those people who had Millie as a second Mom. She and I bowled together and belonged to a needlework group in Toledo while we were in Welcome Wagon. I left the area some 30 years ago and haven't been back but I have always kept Millie and her friendship in my heart. I have thought of her every time I have made the secret Lasagna recipe over the years and always will (she shared it with a select group of us in the needlework group). She was a great friend and example for me and many others.



Debbie Baird - January 12 at 10:59 AM



“ She always told me you were her "adopted" daughter and I was glad to share!!!

Toni - January 12 at 12:48 PM



“ With sincere sympathy, Debbie Baird purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Millie Ferrante.



With sincere sympathy, Debbie Baird - January 12 at 10:27 AM