



## Irene Gordon

August 21, 1932 - July 29, 2021

GORDON, Irene (nee Banko), age 88, passed away Thursday, July 29, 2021. Irene grew up in Richeyville, Pennsylvania and graduated from Centerville High School in Brownsville. In the 1950s, she attended California University of Pennsylvania, received her BA, and moved to Detroit, Michigan. In the 60s, Irene started teaching at Roseville High School, got married, and attended night school to get her MA at Wayne State University. During those years, Irene was an active member of the community and dedicated time and effort building and developing the Roseville Arts Festival. During the 70s and 80s, she continued teaching and was involved in multiple choral and theatrical productions with various chamber choirs and choruses with the Michigan Opera Theatre. Her passion for teaching, music, and the arts was ever-present and generously shared with family, friends, and all that she met throughout her life.

To all whose lives were touched by Irene, she is remembered fondly for her intelligence, wit, and caring nature – cards dutifully sent for birthdays, holidays, and special occasions; calls made regularly to keep in touch; and every effort made to meet in person for celebrations and activities as lives unfolded. Irene's family, especially, were blessed to have her as an example when approaching life and all its challenges. Her independence inspired strength, her faithfulness encouraged purpose, and her values instilled the importance of family. Irene's dedication to family and lifelong passions for education, music, and the arts continues in the lives of her children,

grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

Irene is the loving mother of Richard (Loan) Gordon, John (Lisa) Gordon, and Leslie (Dan) Shingleton. Beloved grandmother of Gretchen, Nicholas, Emily, Sabrina, Kathryn, Scott, and Leanna. Proud great grandmother of Aidyn, Mackenzie, Grayson, Ashton, Raegan, Adrianna, Charlotte, SariaYah, and Thaddeus. Dear sister of Andrew (Betty) Banko. Predeceased by her siblings Helen (the late Frank) Wrublesky and Steve (the late Suzanne) Banko.

Visitation is Thursday, August 5th from 5-8pm and Friday, August 6th from 3-8pm. Funeral is Saturday, August 7th, instate 9:30am at St Nicolas Byzantine Catholic Church 23300 King Dr (between Gratiot and Harper) until time of Mass at 10am. Internment is at Resurrection Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family prefers donations be made in her name to American Foundation for the Blind. AFB.org. Share memories with the family at their "On-Line Guest Book" @ [WujekCalcaterra.com](http://WujekCalcaterra.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Resurrection Cemetery

18201 Clinton River Road  
Clinton Township, MI 48038

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 5. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wujek - Calcaterra & Sons Inc - Sterling  
36900 SCHOENHERR RD  
Sterling Heights, MI 48312

## Visitation

AUG 6. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wujek - Calcaterra & Sons Inc - Sterling  
36900 SCHOENHERR RD  
Sterling Heights, MI 48312

## Instate / Funeral Mass

AUG 7. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Nicholas Byzantine Church  
23300 King Dr  
Clinton Twp, MI 48035



# Tribute Wall



“ Irene was a very lovely lady; my condolences to her family. My mother, Esther Underwood Debsky, fondly spoke of Irene often. They mailed and called each other often throughout their lives. Esther and Irene went to school together, Irene singing, Esther accompanying on piano or organ.

Diane - August 31, 2025 at 10:47 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Irene Gordon.



August 05, 2021 at 08:08 PM



“ Mom (Mrs. Gordon) has a very special place in my heart. Her kindness and compassion are etched in my memory and thoughts of her always make me smile.... 😍

Kathy Porter - August 05, 2021 at 05:06 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Irene Gordon.



August 05, 2021 at 02:56 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Irene Gordon.*



---

August 04, 2021 at 03:10 PM



“ *My dear godmother Aunt Irene , I will miss you . I will miss our conversations about everything 🙏🙏🙏❤️❤️❤️*

---

**Frank wrublesky** - August 03, 2021 at 09:33 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Irene Gordon.*



---

August 03, 2021 at 05:37 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Irene Gordon.*



---

August 02, 2021 at 09:07 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Irene Gordon.*



---

August 02, 2021 at 11:02 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Irene Gordon.*



---

August 01, 2021 at 06:23 PM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with all of Irene's family, of whom she was so proud. May you all be assured that she lived her life fully and in accordance with her personal beliefs. Blessings to all!*  
*Dick and Talitha Pennington*

---

**Talitha Pennington** - August 01, 2021 at 04:17 PM



“ *Rest in peace, my wonderful friend. My condolences and prayers to her family whom she loved so deeply*

---

**Jeanne Collins** - August 01, 2021 at 07:19 AM



“ *Lavender Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Irene Gordon.*



---

July 31, 2021 at 03:22 PM



“ *My deepest prayers to the Gordon family. Mrs Gordon always made me feel welcome anytime I was over*

---

**Scott Randall** - July 31, 2021 at 10:18 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Irene Gordon.*



---

July 30, 2021 at 05:34 PM