



## Caroline Ferri Abate

December 2, 1926 - January 3, 2017

Caroline Ferri Abate died at home January 3, 2017 surrounded by her family. Born in Warren, RI to Mary and Thomas Ferri, she was one of fourteen children. Four brothers and four sisters survive her.

Caroline attended Warren High School in Warren, RI, leaving school before graduating to help support her family during WWII. At the age of 66, once her five children graduated from college, Caroline completed her studies and received her high school diploma from the Pittsfield Schools June, 1992.

Caroline was employed by the City of Pittsfield in 1970 working as a cafeteria aide and cashier at Taconic High School and later at Pittsfield High School retiring in 1990.

Caroline was an active volunteer at Richmond Elementary School.

Caroline was married to her husband Anthony for 62 years who pre-deceased her in July, 2014. Theirs was a long and loving marriage. The couple enjoyed trips to Italy, the simple pleasures of their country home, many enjoyable evenings at Tanglewood and summers with her children and grandchildren on Martha's Vineyard.

Caroline was the reason her husband was able to have a distinguished career as an engineer. She relocated her young family from Milwaukee, WI to Charlottesville, VA to Pittsfield, MA to Huntsville, AL to Coco Beach, FL and finally to Richmond, MA as her husband's career advanced.

Caroline leaves a daughter, Stephanie Abate and her spouse, Suzanne Coffey of Amherst, MA and their children, Luke Rioux and his wife, Cary

Phoenix and their children, Charlotte and Axel, daughter Mikaela Rioux, son Bradford Coffey and his wife Leslie and their daughters, Sadie, Aria and Kylie, and son Mark Coffey and his wife Jamie; daughter Paula Abate and her husband Frank Virzi of Holden, MA and their children, Margaret and her husband, Lowell Day; and son Samuel Virzi and his fiancée Sarah Levine; a son Anthony P. Abate II and his wife Deborah Oakes of Cromwell, CT and son, Nicholas Abate and his fiancée Brittany Wells and son Patrick Abate; a daughter, Joanne Abate and her husband Thomas Moffatt of Yarmouth, ME and their children, Hannah, Thomas William and Emma Moffatt; and son Thomas Abate and his wife Helen Wong of Newton, MA and their son Christian Abate-Wong. Caroline also leaves the daughter of her heart Beth Butrymowicz Horgan and her husband Dr. William Horgan and their son Ben. The Abate family would like to thank Dawn Huttoe who was Caroline and the family's devoted caregiver since 2016. She was Caroline's advocate and showed great compassion and poise during these last difficult months. Caroline was a devoted mother, grandmother and great grandmother. She would tell her children they were her diamonds. Caroline made sure all her children could swim and ski, teaching them to ride a bike, drive a stick, write a thank you note, tip well and never pass a salvation kettle without dropping a coin and most importantly help others in need.

#### Funeral Notice:

Funeral services for Caroline Ferri Abate will be Saturday, January 7, 2017, at 10:30 a.m. from the Dwyer Funeral Home, 776 North St., Pittsfield MA with a Liturgy of Christian Burial at 11 a.m. at St. Mark's Church, celebrated by the Rev. David Aufiero, Administrator and concelebrated by Msgr. Michael Shershanovich, pastor of St. Joseph Church. Burial will follow in Richmond Cemetery. There will be an hour of visitation prior to the service from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Make-A-Wish of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, care of the Dwyer Funeral Home, in her memory. DONATIONS CANNOT BE MADE ONLINE, but may be made through the Dwyer Funeral Home.



# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 7. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Dwyer Family Funeral Home  
776 North Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
(413) 442-5094  
info@dwyerfuneral.com  
<https://www.dwyerfuneral.com/>

## Service

JAN 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mark's Church  
400 West St.  
Pittsfield, MA 01201

# Tribute Wall

CP

“ Stephanie- your mom was beautiful.  
I send you a hug. -Cathy

Cathy Pelletier - December 14, 2018 at 11:09 PM

KG

“ I am so sorry for your loss, my heartfelt thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this difficult time. May your Mom Rest in Peace. With deepest sympathy, Kelli Gulla



Kelli Gulla - January 07, 2017 at 07:01 AM



“ 45 files added to the album Life Tributes



Dwyer Funeral Home Inc. - January 06, 2017 at 10:07 PM

DH

“ *My Aunt Carol was also my Godmother. She was a lovely, kind and selfless person. I remember her ironing my wedding gown the night before the wedding that she had traveled many miles to attend. Aunt Carol also often remembered me at Christmas and I regret not keeping in touch.*

*Love and peace to all her family,*

*Donna Howell (her sister Mary's younger daughter)*

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**Donna Howell** - January 06, 2017 at 03:36 PM

PA

*Donna, thank you  
We remember you and are comforted by your remembrance  
Cousins Paula, Stephanie , Anthony, Joanne and Tommy*

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**Paula Abate** - January 08, 2017 at 10:34 AM

DM

“ *Tony, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this time. Take solace in knowing that your mother is reunited with your father in a much better place. I wish you peace and comfort in family and memories over the coming days and weeks.*

*Sincerely,  
Dave McCullough*

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**David McCullough** - January 06, 2017 at 02:48 PM

SA

“ *Tony*

*My deepest condolences on loss of your beloved mother.*

*Sanjiv Awasthi*

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**Sanjiv** - January 06, 2017 at 12:23 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Caroline Ferri Abate.*



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January 06, 2017 at 10:41 AM



“ *Jeanie Barnard et al from We're Not Martha in Maine purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Caroline Ferri Abate.*



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**Jeanie Barnard et al from We're Not Martha in Maine -**  
January 06, 2017 at 09:21 AM



“ *John Ferri & Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Caroline Ferri Abate.*



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**John Ferri & Family -** January 05, 2017 at 08:31 PM



“ *And of course her husband Tony will be standing at the gates of heaven for her arrival!*

*xoxo  
April*

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**april -** January 05, 2017 at 06:09 PM

AP

“ Aunt Carol was so sweet. She was very caring and my heart aches for my 5 cousins and their children. When I lived in New York, far from my parents in California, one year Aunt Carol invited me over for a few days to enjoy Thanksgiving with her, Uncle Tony and my cousins. She was so good to me and I remember her taking me shopping. I don't know how I remember the green sweater I bought when we were out, but I do. I also remember a gift she sent one year that I loved! It was a from Eddie Bauer and was a waffle mix with syrup in a cute mini tote. She sent it b/c she remembered how I loved to cook. I also have fond memories of her California visits and the wonderful stories my Father would tell of the times he spent staying with the family in his youth.

*She will be sadly missed and I wish I could be there to celebrate her life. Lucky for her she has so many wonderful family members and pets awaiting her arrival in heaven including her Mother, Father, brothers Angelo, Louie & Tony and sisters Vera and her infant sister.*

*Rest in Peace.  
Lovingly,  
Your Niece April S. Ferri*

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**April** - January 05, 2017 at 06:06 PM

PA

*Thank-you April  
My sisters and brothers are very grateful for all our Aunts and Uncles we felt so welcomed when we visited in California. Your thoughts bring us peace  
Cousins Paula, Stephanie, Anthony , Joanne and Tommy*

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**Paula Abate** - January 08, 2017 at 10:42 AM

BK

“ *Joanne, Tom and family- I loved your mom. What a lady! She was so much fun to talk to at Richmond School. She sure has left a wonderful legacy- her family.😭*

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**Bill Kerwood** - January 05, 2017 at 03:18 PM

MB

“ *Tony -  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your entire family.  
Your mother was clearly a special and dear person.  
We were very sorry to hear of her passing.  
With deepest condolences,  
Mark and Michelle Boxer*

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**Mark Boxer** - January 05, 2017 at 03:13 PM

MP

“ *Tony,  
  
I am so very sorry to hear about you mom. I have you and you family in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Marc Palmer*

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**Marc Palmer** - January 05, 2017 at 01:15 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Caroline Ferri Abate.*



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January 05, 2017 at 12:34 PM

JL

“ Tony - my thoughts are with you and your family at this difficult time. My heartfelt condolences.

Jeff Lennox - January 05, 2017 at 12:31 PM

GI

“ Praying for comfort for the entire Abate family during your time of loss. Sincere regards, Ginger

Ginger - January 05, 2017 at 09:22 AM

JB

“ Tony - My heart goes out to you and your family. Your mother is at peace and all of the life lessons she taught you and your siblings were priceless. When you look up in the sky and see a star shining brighter than the others - know that is your mother being the brightest diamond of them all!. With sincerest condolences - Janna Beames (Cigna).

Janna Beames - January 05, 2017 at 09:02 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Caroline Ferri Abate.



January 05, 2017 at 07:10 AM

CH

“ *Sending all our love to your family.*



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**christy** - January 04, 2017 at 05:55 PM

PA

*Christy  
Thank you  
Paula*

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**Paula Abate** - January 08, 2017 at 10:45 AM

LG

*Tony,  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this  
difficult time.  
Lauren Griswold and family*

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**lauren griswold** - January 11, 2017 at 09:07 AM