



Mrs. Margaret M. Polidoro

May 6, 1920 - January 6, 2021

Margaret Mary Ricci Polidoro, 100, the most recent matriarch of the Ricci family, passed away peacefully on Wednesday morning January 6, 2021, three days after the passing of her last surviving sibling, Alfred Ricci.

Born in Pittsfield, May 6, 1920, the eighth of ten children of Italian Immigrants, Thomas and Concetta Colella Ricci, she attended Pittsfield schools.

As a young woman, she worked at the former Pittsfield Novelty Company in their pocketbook factory assembling women's change purses. Later she worked at the former Elmvale Worsted Co. as a winder from 1941 until the birth of her first child. After her children became older, she returned to the workforce and was employed in the stockroom at the former Shaeffer Eaton Company from 1967 until her retirement in 1980.

She loved the beach, especially the family's vacations in Wildwood, NJ and sitting out in the sun. She also looked forward to the Ricci Family Reunion each summer and loved playing in the annual bocce tournament. She was on the winning team several times and was proud to have her name engraved on the winners' trophy.

Margaret also enjoyed walking. She never had a driver's license so she would walk everywhere. In her neighborhood, she was affectionately known as "the walking lady." Every day she could be seen walking from her home on Huron St. down Newell St. and up and down Elm St. When she was 83, she went to Italy with her daughter and walked all over Rome, impressing all of the people in the travel group. She was very proud of having reached the age of 100.

When asked to what she attributed her longevity, she would immediately respond by saying, "I've walked a lot of miles in my lifetime!" Devoted to her family, she was an excellent cook. Pasta, sauce and meatballs and ham and egg pizza at Easter were her specialties. In her most recent years, she loved to do word puzzles.

She and her husband, Lucien J. Polidoro, were married on May 4, 1946, in Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church. Following his death on July 5, 1995, she maintained their family home until she was 92 when she moved to make her home with her daughter and son-in-law. Margaret was a longtime communicant of the former All Souls Church and upon its closing, Sacred Heart Church.

She leaves her children and their spouses, Pittsfield School Committee Chair Katherine L. Yon (David), Joseph L. Polidoro (Anne), both of Pittsfield and Deborah Bessette (John) of Raleigh, NC, six grandchildren, Lucas Polidoro (Abigail), Christopher Polidoro (Megan), Kelly-Anne Recore (Kenneth), Andrew Polidoro (Madeline), Mallory Bessette (Timothy Keith), and Matthew Bessette, three great grandchildren, Henry and Oliver Polidoro, and Mason Keith. She was expecting her fourth great grandchild this spring. She is also survived by her sister-in-law, Frances Ricci, and numerous nieces and nephews in both the Polidoro and Ricci families.

In addition to her husband, she was predeceased by her five brothers, Joseph, Patrick, Harry, Alfred, and Albert Ricci; her four sisters, twins, Helen Rossi and Rose Sarocco, Susan Parise, and Mary Rizzo; and her beloved grandson Wesley Bessette.

Margaret is being remembered for being a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and aunt, beloved by all who met her. Her sweet smile, her warm spirit, and her infectious laughter told the story of a life well-lived and a job well done. There is an Italian belief that there are two things in life that will never leave you. One is the eye of God and the other is the love of a mother. Even though Margaret as we have known her is no longer with us, her love will remain forever in our hearts, guiding us to live with the same love,

kindness, and warmth that pervaded her spirit.

The family would like to extend their deep and sincere gratitude to the staff at Kimball Farms Nursing Care Center, who took extra special care of her and treated her as if she were a part of their own family. Also, a special thank you to Elder Services for the services and caregivers they provided to help us keep her at home for as long as we did.

FUNERAL NOTICE

Private calling hours will be held on Wednesday at Dwyer Funeral Home, 776 North St., Pittsfield, MA 01201 followed by a funeral service at 12:00 PM which will be live streamed. To view the service, please visit <http://www.dwyerfuneral.com/obituaries/permalink/9798984/LTWebcast>

Burial will follow in St. Joseph Cemetery. A public Liturgy of Christian Burial will be held at Sacred Heart Church at a later date when COVID restrictions are lifted and all are able to safely gather together. A celebration of life will follow for her and her brother Alfred at the annual Ricci Family Reunion. In lieu of flowers, if friends desire, donations in her memory may be made to the Kimball Farms Nursing Care Center or Elder Services in care of the funeral home. Donations CANNOT be made online, but may be made through the Dwyer Funeral Home.

Tribute Wall



“ *Dwyer Funeral Home Inc. created a Webcast in memory of Mrs. Margaret M. Polidoro*



Dwyer Funeral Home Inc. - January 19, 2021 at 03:42 PM

RR

Rest in Peace, Aunt Margaret.

Ron Ricci - January 20, 2021 at 11:42 AM

GP

What a lovely service and such beautiful words for a lovely lady!

GAIL PETERSON - January 20, 2021 at 04:36 PM

KW

“ *Kathy, David, Joe/Annie, Debbie/John, and families,*

Aunt Margaret was such a special lady. For as long as I can remember I would see her walking all over Pittsfield and get excited as a child to look for her. A lady with always a kind word and a smile. She will surely be missed. My love and prayers for you all. She is with Uncle Guido and her siblings.
Kathy Winters

Kathy Winters - January 19, 2021 at 12:58 PM

JL

“ Dear Katherine and David You both did a great job of giving Margaret dignity and comfort in the remaining years of her life. Remembering "the walking lady" and Wednesday fingernail polishing a little shaky but she liked having her nails done. Wishing you both comfort in the days ahead. I will always have fond memories of the time I spent with her. Sincerely Julie LeClair Molari care giver

Julia LeClair - January 17, 2021 at 10:48 AM

SP

“ Kathy, Joey, Debbie and Family,
So many beautiful memories of your Mom, She has a very special place in my heart along with you and your family. We are blessed to have have our Mom's so long in our lives. May you find peace with all the beautiful memories that you hold close to your heart.

Love,
Sharon Polidoro

Sharon Polidoro - January 16, 2021 at 06:48 PM

RM

“ I will cherish how kind you and Uncle Lou were. I remember the great family picnics in the state forest and going to your house on Christmas Eve. Rest In Peace Aunt Margaret. Your nephew Richard.

Richard Maffuccio - January 16, 2021 at 06:18 PM

MB

“ So many wonderful memories of baking and cooking together.



mallory bessette - January 16, 2021 at 04:29 PM

MB

“ So many memories but if I had to pick one that stands out it would be the many times we cooked and baked together.



mallory bessette - January 16, 2021 at 02:08 PM

JB

“ Kathy, Joe & Debbie , Our heartfelt sympathy to you and your families 💖.Heaven has gained a very special angel . Will always remember her smile and gentleness . You would see her walking no matter what the weather 💖
Love The Bernardo's , Mike , Judy & family



Judy Bernardo - January 16, 2021 at 11:43 AM

GP

“ Kathy, Joe and Debbie,

It is with great sadness that I write to send my condolences on the passing of your mother. I hope that the pain of her loss will lessen in time and you can focus on all of the beautiful memories of her life. We have all been so blessed to have had our mothers with us for such a long time. Now they are all together, in peace. May her love forever remain in your hearts.

*With love,
Gail Peterson*

Gail M Peterson - January 16, 2021 at 10:55 AM

PF

“ Dear, dear Kathy, I am so sorry for your loss. Please know you and David, Joe and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

Pam Farron - January 16, 2021 at 08:47 AM

TP

“ *Cathy, Joey, Debbie and Family:*

I know there are no words that I can say to ease the pain of your Mom's passing and the sorrow my wife Connie, myself and all our Polidoro family feel. We send our most deepest sympathy to each of you. As cousins, we share a special bond in life and your Mom and each of you. Your Mom (our Aunt) was a very special lady we all loved. Her smile, energy and loving ways were contagious and always present and will be forever remembered.

We pray and ask God to wrap his arms around you and all of your family, to give you the comfort and peace that only he can. We ask the lord to give each of you and yours the strength to be able to celebrate and honor the life of your mother (our loving Aunt Margaret) and for the memories to sustain you thru these trying times. May he shine his grace down on all of you.

*With our love and fondest memories
Tom and Connie Polidoro
St. Augustine, FL*

Thomas & Constance Polidoro - January 15, 2021 at 05:36 PM