



Ms. Maria Connors

September 4, 1950 - March 19, 2018

Maria Angela Gasbarrone Connors, 67 of Pittsfield, MA passed peacefully at home on March 19, 2018.

Maria was born on September 4, 1950, the daughter of Marco A. Gasbarrone and Mary T. Morsello. She attended Pittsfield High School until her family moved to Augusta, Maine in 1967. She graduated from Cony High School in Augusta in 1969.

Maria was a lifelong Catholic and frequently participated in church activities and services throughout her life.

Maria was a talented artist, writer, photographer, and storyteller. She always displayed her creativity in her work, writing the newsletter for the Augusta General hospital, working for a newspaper in Pittsfield, Maine and editing for her friend, comedian Tim Sample. Later, she used her skills in communication, marketing, and fundraising as Alumni Director for Maine Central Institute, and Communications Director for United Way of Kennebec Valley. Maria continued her career with non-profits when she returned to Pittsfield, MA to work for the Boys and Girls Club of Pittsfield, Elder Services of Berkshire County, and most recently at Wingate Residences at Melbourne. In her latest roles, she was deeply dedicated to serving the elderly, planning fun activities and advocating healthy aging programs.

Soon after graduating high school, Maria married her friend Laurier Dostie of Augusta, Maine. Although their young marriage was brief, the two remained friends and kept in touch over the years.

In her early thirties, Maria met her husband of 9 years, John Connors, in Pittsfield, Maine, while performing theater with the Pittsfield Players. Acting was another creative outlet she enjoyed. She had a soothing singing voice and a bubbly presence on stage. The two shared a passion for art, music, and theater. Together, they had two children, Angela and Michael. Maria was a gentle, kind, caring, and loving mother who would do anything to provide for her children.

Maria was outgoing and had a charming, warm, and witty personality with an unforgettable smile. She enjoyed long conversations over coffee, attending dinner parties, plays, craft fairs, and musical performances at Tanglewood with her friends and cousins. She was very social and always managed to bring people together for a great time.

Maria was highly intelligent, passionate, creative, and had an incredible imagination. She expressed herself through poetry, singing, acting, drawing, and painting. Although she wouldn't admit it, she was an incredibly talented painter and enjoyed painting with oil and watercolor.

She also loved learning new things and teaching others. She loved taking her children and grandchildren on trips to explore new places, and exposing them to culture, art, and music. Maria enjoyed her visits to Maine, time well spent with her family. She spent a majority of her evenings, reaching out to her children and grandchildren to simply ask them how their day was. She was incredibly proud of her children and grandchildren and loved to share stories and photos of them with her friends, relatives, and coworkers.

Maria is predeceased by her parents, Marco and Mary Gasbarrone and her beloved brother, Marco Gasbarrone.

Maria is survived by daughter Angela Connors and her significant other Aaron Glidden; son Michael Connors and his significant other Ellie Burnham; grandchildren Mallary, Benjamin, her newest grandchild Nash, and Aaron's daughters Kaylene and Adalyn; brother Joe Gasbarrone and his wife Denise; sister Lisa Gasbarrone and husband Joe Jucewicz; nieces Megan and Marya; nephew Marco; and her dear aunts and cousins.

Service: A celebration of life for Maria Gasbarrone Connors will be held Saturday, April 14, 2018 from 1-4pm at the Italian American Club at 203 Newell Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201. Burial will be at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Barbara Bush Children's Hospital, care of the Funeral Home, in her memory. Please feel free to share your memories of Maria on this page.

Tribute Wall



“ 35 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Dwyer Funeral Home Inc. - April 12, 2018 at 11:41 AM

KL

“ *I came to know Maria when my eldest son became friends with Michael! I always enjoyed my conversations with her at cub scouts, st Mary's church and school events! It was clear she loved her children and made sure they had what they needed! I'm so sorry to hear of her passing and pray her children find comfort in their happy memories! Hugs Angela and Michael.*

Kerrie Lall - April 11, 2018 at 12:47 AM

NB

“ So very, very sad to hear that Maria has left this world. My sincerest sympathy—a truly shocking and huge loss for her close friends and family. I went to junior high and high school with Maria. She was always a smiling, energetic light. When we reunited some years ago at a reunion, we both thought we should get together. For whatever reason we never did, although here and there I would think, "I will call her when I have more time." Lesson: Don't put connecting with people off. None of us know how much time we have. Wishing you comfort in all of your memories. Rest in peace, sweet Maria.

Nan Bookless - April 09, 2018 at 05:35 PM

MT

“ I'm so very sorry to hear of Maria's passing. I have been Maria's neighbor for the past few years and I always enjoyed our conversations and her warming demeanor. I will truly miss her.

*Thoughts and prayers to all her family and friends during this time.
Rest in peace, Maria.*

*Sincerely,
Michael Taylor*

Michael Taylor - April 09, 2018 at 12:07 PM

MP

“ Dear Angela and Michael, What immediately comes to mind when I think of your mom is her warm, compassionate, loving and smiley personality. She was so proud of the people you both became and your accomplishments. She was equally interested in the lives of those around her and she was very kind to our grandma, Frances Healy. May she rest in peace and may you both and your families find peace knowing that she will always be close by. With love,
Margot (Joyce) Popowycz

Margot (Joyce) Popowycz - April 09, 2018 at 11:40 AM

 Linda
Kay

“ One of my favorite memories of Maria is her spontaneous way of breaking in to song along with another co-worker JA Miller (and of course a little dance).

Linda Kay

Linda Kay - April 09, 2018 at 10:21 AM

NB

“ Maria was always smiling! She was Kind to everyone! She will be sorely missed by her family and friends! May she Rest In Peace.

Noreen Bordeau - April 08, 2018 at 12:25 PM

SK

“ RIP Maria..I remember the times we played as children..you, me and Marco <3 and holidays spent at your house with Uncle Mark and Aunt Mary.. Your cousin, Sharon

Sharon Rufo Koperek - April 06, 2018 at 08:42 PM

SK

“ Sharon Rufo Koperek sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Maria Connors



Sharon Rufo Koperek - April 06, 2018 at 08:38 PM



Casie Nickerson - April 06, 2018 at 04:03 PM



“ Trina Wicks-Patnaude lit a candle in memory of Ms. Maria Connors



Trina Wicks-Patnaude - April 06, 2018 at 03:53 PM



Great memories of Maria and her. Family. We were classmates for n the Cony class of 69. A great personality and infectious smile. She will be missed by the Finnegan clan.

michael finnegan - April 10, 2018 at 02:22 PM



Maria will be missed by me and so many others including the residents & staff at Melbourne. I met her there and worked with her. She was a joyful, warm-hearted, giving person & a good friend to me too. My sympathies to the family & friends of Maria, she is gone too soon!!

J. mcnu - April 12, 2018 at 01:34 PM