



Lena N. (Ceccarelli) VanDyke

December 24, 1929 - September 19, 2024

Lena N. VanDyke, she was born December 24, 1929 and passed away September 19, 2024.

Lena moved to Punxsutawney from Aliquippa in 1984 with her husband, James M. VanDyke.

Following a long career as a banker at the former Melon Bank, now BNY Mellon, Lena quickly managed to fill her time with service, volunteerism and management (what she did best!). Lena was an active member of SS.C.D., volunteering as one of the first woman ushers, banker for collections and church festivals and celebrations. She was awarded the Bishops Service award from the Diocese of Erie for her accomplishments.

She was a volunteer for the American Red Cross, Catholic Daughters, the SS.C.D. cafeteria, the Punxsutawney Garden Club, Young Women's Club and others. She was the manager for Waltzing Matilda and worked alongside her daughter, Joan, at Van Dyke & Company. She was an active parent for her daughters, Katherine and Sharlene, and loved spending time with her grandchildren, Courtney and Tyler, and later her great-grandchildren, Ryan, Zachary and Abigail.

Lena was an active community member, providing transportation for her friends and family to medical appointments, shopping sprees and engagements. Lena was also known as "Mama Lena" to close friends and family whom she loved and adored.

She was named Punxsutawney's Woman of the Year in 2001.

She was preceded in death by her husband, James Van Dyke, and daughter Sharlene Loennig.

Lena is survived by daughters Katherine Rossi and Joan Van Dyke; son-in-law Joseph Ferrara; granddaughter Courtney Martin and grandson-in-law Timothy Martin and children; grandson Dr. Tyler Loennig and granddaughter-in-law Dr. Stephanie Loennig; and loads of nieces and nephews whom she loved dearly. A processional visitation followed by a Catholic Mass will take place on Monday, Sept. 23, at 10 a.m. at SS.C.D. Catholic Parrish with Monsignor Joseph Riccardo presiding. Her niece will be providing funeral services through Mastrofrancesco Funeral Home. Lena will be sorely missed by every person she touched.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

444 S Main Street
Punxsutawney, PA 15767

Previous Events

Mass of Christian Burial

SEP **23**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Ss. Cosmas & Damian Roman Catholic Church
616 W Mahoning Street
Punxsutawney, PA 15767

Tribute Wall

LC

“ Sincere condolences for the passing of Lena to Joan and Kate and families from Italian cousin Luigi (Gigi) and Lia and all the family (Claudia, Andrea and family, Lucia and family). Lena was a very special, strong and ironic Lady, we have unforgettable memories of our visit in her house in August 2018 and of her precedent visit in Italy years ago.

Lucia Ceccarelli - September 23, 2024 at 11:56 PM