



Florence Kiwak Reilly

March 11, 1931 - January 12, 2017

Florence Kiwak Reilly, 85, died peacefully at her home in Wyoming on January 12, 2017, surrounded by her loving family. 'Flossie' grew up in Swoyersville, the 10th of 11 children born to the late Mary (Hahn) and Louis Kiwak.

In 1951, she married 'the boy with the curly hair' from down the street, Charles M. Reilly. She travelled by ship to Germany to be with 'Charlie' while he completed his military service; they lived briefly in Philadelphia before returning to their roots in the Wyoming Valley. A consummate wife and homemaker, Flossie supported Charlie throughout their life together, from when he attended college at Drexel, through to helping him open their own business in 1969, Reilly Plating Co., while raising five children and honing her fantastic cooking and baking skills. Well known for her cinnamon buns, pies, cakes, jams, canned goods and spaghetti sauce, Flossie was a generous spirit who cared for others through her creative and thoughtful homemade gifts.

An active member of the community, Flossie served as a Cub Scout den mother, as a "Pink Lady" at the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital and as a member of its Auxiliary board. She was also a religious instructor at her church and a Eucharistic Minister for the hospital, among other volunteer roles.

She and Charlie traveled extensively, visiting many countries on almost every continent. Most memorably, she rode a camel to the pyramids in Egypt, walked in the footsteps of Jesus in Israel, kissed the Blarney Stone in Ireland, flew on the Concorde and sailed on the QEII, united with family in Poland, and helped Charlie track down ancestors in Ireland.

Flossie is survived by her loving husband and the beautiful family they created: Ann and Michael Ferraro, Bud and Linda Reilly, Carol and Jack Gleason, Joe Reilly, and Susan and Jason Salgado; as well as nine grandchildren: Michael and Danielle (DiMaggio) Ferraro, Jeff and Lauren (Russo) Ferraro; Kelly Reilly, Charlie Reilly, Elizabeth Gleason, Caroline Gleason, Joey Reilly, Jimmy Reilly, and Grace Salgado; two great-grandchildren: Jackson and Ryan Ferraro, with a third on the way. Flossie also leaves behind her younger sister,

Rosalie Parsons and her sister-in-law Helen Kiwak, and many nieces and nephews.

The family offers special thanks to Dr. Michael Rupp, and Joyce, Sue and Angel from Erwine Hospice for the wonderful care they provided.

Flossie touched the lives of so many. For her children and husband of 65 years, she will be missed daily. In lieu of flowers, we ask that you support the charitable organization that means the most to you, through a monetary gift or through your own service, remembering Flossie's spirit of generosity to others in your gift.

Celebration of Flossie's Life will begin Friday with visitation from 4 to 8 PM in the Church of the Holy Family, 574 Bennett Street in Luzerne and continue there Saturday with visitation beginning at 9 AM followed by a Funeral Mass celebrated by Monsignor John Sempa at 10 AM. Interment will be in Saint Mary's Cemetery in Hanover Township.

Arrangements by McLaughlin's.

Memories and condolences may be shared with Flossie's family at www.lifecelebrations.com

Cemetery

Saint Mary's Cemetery

1460 South Main Street
Hanover Twp, PA, 18706

Events

JAN 13 **Visitation** 04:00PM - 08:00PM

Church of the Holy Family (Luzerne)
574 Bennett Street, Luzerne, PA, US, 18709

JAN 14 **Visitation** 09:00AM

Church of the Holy Family (Luzerne)
574 Bennett Street, Luzerne, PA, US, 18709

JAN 14 **Funeral Mass** 10:00AM

Church of the Holy Family (Luzerne)
574 Bennett Street, Luzerne, PA, US, 18709

Comments



“ To all our wonderful friends and family who have visited this site,

Thank you so much for sharing your thoughts, prayers, and memories. You will never know how much it has meant to us to read the wonderful stories of how our beloved Flossie touched your lives. Though our grief is great, we know that she is in a better place and free from all pain and illness. So rather than grieve, we celebrate her life and are grateful for the many years God granted her. We have no doubt that by now she has made good buddies with her role model, Mother Theresa. :)

With lots of love,
The Reilly Family -- all 22 of us!

CM Reilly - January 21, 2017 at 04:06 PM



“ My heart is heavy hearing of the loss of a wonderful woman who I grew up across the street from in Forty-Fort. She and I shared the same birthday and I loved this family since I was a toddler to now at 52yrs. She and Charles' handsome sons and beautiful daughters will forever be in my memories as positive personal guidance and inspiration I remembered as I raised my own son Alan Shiplett, Jr. My thoughts and prayers are and always have been of this family over the last 50 of my 52 years on earth.....we shall see each other again I will always miss you. Rest in Peace Mrs. Reilly.

Lisa Zelinsky Shiplett

Lisa Zelinsky Shiplett - January 21, 2017 at 01:42 PM



“ PS....say Hi to Pat Z. when you see her. You were a blessing to her and she loved you and your family.

Lisa Z - January 21, 2017 at 03:31 PM



“ Ed And Joyce Stevens lit a candle in memory of Florence Kiwak Reilly



Ed and Joyce Stevens - January 16, 2017 at 08:26 PM



“ To the entire Reilly Family,

We are so sad for your loss and wish you peace and comfort through this difficult time.

Dan and Kristi Weiss

Dan Weiss - January 15, 2017 at 07:53 AM



“ To Buddy and the Reilly Family,
Losing such an important, special person in a family is a heart breaking, sad event. Remembering all the great times will keep her forever with you. Please accept our most sincere condolences. God Bless!

Bob and Elaine Deluca

Bob and Elaine Deluca - January 15, 2017 at 04:47 AM



“ To the Reilly family, Our hearts ache for you in your loss of one of the most beautiful persons we have ever met. Surely God has gained another angel in Heaven. Our prayers for your comfort and strength to get through this valley. With deep sympathy,
Nancy and Rudy Riti

Nancy Riti - January 14, 2017 at 03:07 PM



“ Deepest sympathy to the Reilly family- Flossie was a woman every woman admired- beauty, grace, loving & fun! I knew Floss thru my husband Roy - a fellow Girardian '47 classmate of " Chuck." We enjoyed many meals & memories! Floss always baked and brought the " hum mud " cookies for the annual class reunions. She will be missed. Her spirit lives on in her beautiful family - deepest sympathy.



Sharon Britt Hoch - January 13, 2017 at 08:57 PM



“ I was shocked and grieved when I saw my wonderful friend's photo in today's paper. It was in 1974 that I met Florence. She agreed to pick up my second son, Nathan on her way to take Susie to Forty Fort Nursery School. She was so gracious and kind. From that day, I loved her and Charlie and the family. My husband taught Susie piano; we spent many hours talking and laughing in her home. I was a part of some of the weddings. Florence was such a humble woman who never "put on airs", but would give of herself to everyone. Charlie and Florence were filled with compassion for everyone. Yes, she was devoted to her family, but more than that, she will leave a legacy that will live on through her offspring and all people that she touched. I was unaware of her illness; I regret not telling her how much she meant to our whole family. REST EASY NOW IN GOD'S PEACE! Harriet Santos, Erik, Nathan, Jason-- and their families

Harriet Santos - January 13, 2017 at 05:47 PM



“ I feel the same

Lisa Zelinsky Shiplett - January 21, 2017 at 01:47 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to Charlie and the entire Reilly family.

Rich & Marcy Demski

Rich Demski - January 13, 2017 at 03:05 PM



“ She truly was one of a kind- she always had a smile on her face and a pleasant greeting. Always enjoyed chatting with her. Prayers for comfort to Florence's family and friends. May she rest in Peace.

Lara

Lara - January 13, 2017 at 12:14 PM



“ I was a young Jewish girl visiting my new friend Carol at Easter time and was showered with delicious ham and homemade candy and given my first Easter basket to take home. I was sure happy I had befriended Carol. Other delicious foods would follow over the many years! What a kind and generous woman! Keeper of family traditions for her beautiful family!

Beth Grossman - January 13, 2017 at 07:22 AM