



## Eileen Mary Rinaldi

September 7, 2020

Eileen, 85, passed away at home, in her sleep and at peace, September 7, 2020.

Born on August 6, 1935, she led a life filled with and defined by family. She now joins her husband of 54 years, Ralph, 7 years to the week after he died, in the house he built, and in the room they shared. They are together again.

Eileen was our gift as much as our mother, and we were blessed to have her guide us in the highest and hardest of times, as we tried to hold her hand and ease her heart through this last and hardest season of her life.

Married to a wonderful cook, but one who could never match her meatballs and never tried (they were greatest on earth), she rolled her eyes at any time and in front of everybody; believed no one threw a better party, and always wanted to “be with the young people” at any celebration; she sang a birthday song no one had ever heard before and never explained where it came from; she loved her trips, and her friends at the bank, her “CC and Ginger” and her lava cake for dessert after a meal out. She knew how to laugh, and when to cry.

She told us what she thought, when we weren’t always ready to hear it; and loved us through our mistakes, when we didn’t know we were making them. She raised us by always being there, tried to give us strength, and showed us how to endure.

She is survived by: her devoted son Robert; her loving daughter Doretta; her youngest son Tom and his wife Dianne; by her dear sister Loretta and her husband Manny; by her caring and wonderful grandchildren Bobby, Patrick, Jack and Tessa; also by her nephews and nieces who join us in sharing her memory, and in mourning her passing.

Visitation will be at the Barrett Funeral Home, 148 Dean Drive Tenafly, NJ on Thursday 3-7 PM. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated Friday, 10 AM, at St. Therese R.C. Church, in Cresskill, NJ. Interment immediately after, at Madonna Cemetery, in Ft. Lee.

In lieu of flowers, please make any memorial donations online to: Alzheimer's Association, tribute gifts in honor of Eileen Rinaldi.

Or by mail:

Alzheimer's Association Home Office

225 N. Michigan Ave., Fl. 17, Chicago, IL 60601

# Cemetery

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## Madonna Cemetery

2070 Hoefleys Lane  
Fort Lee, NJ, 07024

# Events

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**SEP 10** **Visitation** 03:00PM - 07:00PM

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Barrett Leber Funeral Home  
148 Dean Dr, Tenafly, NJ, US, 07670

**SEP 11** **Funeral Mass** 10:00AM

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Saint Therese of Liseux Church  
120 Monroe Avenue, Cresskill, NJ, US, 07626

# Comments

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“ I’ve known Eileen for many years and I will miss her. I worked with her at HCSB in Cresskill and we used to have such fun. She was a great friend that I laughed with (she had the most infectious laugh) and cried with (she was so kind and helpful). I will miss her with all my heart. My condolences to her family and her friends. She was one of a kind and I will reminder her always.

**Shannon** - September 11, 2020 at 08:15 AM



“ Thank you Shannon. So loving and real.

**Doretta Rinaldi** - September 11, 2020 at 08:25 PM

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“ Eileen was a kind and generous woman who would light up a room that she came into with her smile and personality. I am blessed to have known her and she is missed for sure. I am forever grateful and so touched by the gesture she and Aunt Peggy made when James and I shared our engagement news with family. They surprised us and treated us to celebrate at Tavern in the Green. It is a memory we will cherish forever. Our prayers of comfort go out to Doretta Robert and Thomas. God Bless

**Mary Sotell** - September 10, 2020 at 09:02 AM



“ Mary Lynne - So beautiful. Thank you for sharing. Glad you, James and family were able to see her one last time in Feb at Manny’s.

**Doretta** - September 10, 2020 at 09:47 PM

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“ Eileen was my mother's cousin. She was Aunt Eileen or Cousin Eileen to me. I can close my eyes and see her large smile, beautiful eyes and hear her voice (with quite a bit of Brooklyn in it). One thing I remember is that Aunt Eileen was the Aunt who wore high heels- all the time. I found it curious as a child when the other mothers had on casual shoes in the house as they worked in the kitchen or chased around little kids. But Aunt Eileen was fashionably dressed and had on her make-up and heels. She seemed to just glide around in those heels like she was wearing sneakers. Even as a little kid I remember Aunt Eileen would ask me a mundane question like how was school. But unlike other adults, she would look straight at me and hang on every word like she really cared about my answer. She was quick to give a compliment and make you feel a little better about yourself. She was the Aunt who laughed and smiled a lot. She was happy to share her beautiful home with a crowd. Uncle Ralph would cook a wonderful meal for us all and Aunt Eileen would keep the party flowing.

Eileen was devoted to her sisters and her parents. She brought much happiness to them. She was never at a loss for words or a story. She loved being around people. She was so proud of her children, Robert, Doretta and Thomas.

--May you be at peace- after a life well lived.

Love,

Francine Norz Tobin

**Francine Norz Tobin** - September 09, 2020 at 12:02 AM



“ Beautiful Francine and so true. Thank you for taking the time to write this. Angels fly high. She is with beloved family and friends in heaven ... Best to you and your family.

**Doretta Rinaldi** - September 09, 2020 at 12:14 PM



“ Eileen was a terrific wife, mother, grandmother, daughter, sister, cousin, aunt and friend. She truly was a one of a kind person. Her caring, kindness, truth and warmth are what I will always remember about her. I am grateful to have met Eileen and for the time I got to spend with her.

Eileen was an angel here on earth for all that were blessed to know her and now she is our angel in Heaven. May her wings be the symbol of the reward for living a life of example for all of us.

Rest in eternal peace Eileen. You will always be loved and missed...

I pray for Doretta, Robert and Tom and the family she has left behind.

Rose Finnegan

**Rose Finnegan** - September 09, 2020 at 06:27 PM



“ I remember going to her lovely home as a child. In recent years I remember her being with a group of us who went to the track. She was a lovely person. My thoughts are with her family during this difficult time.

Ann Norz "Kookie"

**Ann Norz** - September 09, 2020 at 10:28 PM