



Phyllis Rutigliano

January 23, 2022

Phyllis Rutigliano, 85, of Englewood, NJ died on January 23, 2022, at home with her family. Born in Brooklyn NY the daughter of Frank and Bonita DeSena and sister of Ronald DeSena. She was married to John Rutigliano for nearly 65 years. Phyllis was a master artist teaching at venues like Silvermine and Old Church and has received many awards for her work.

She is survived by her husband, John, and their three children Lisa, John, and his wife Nicole, and Bonita. She is survived by six grandchildren Christina, Jacqueline, Michael, JC, Kate & Juliet, and one great-grandson, Anthony. She is also survived by her brother Ron and his wife Emelia, her nieces and nephews Ron and his fiance Michael, Kim, and Justine.

In lieu of flowers, please visit Phyllis's Alzheimer's Memorial Page.

https://act.alz.org/site/TR/Events/Tributes-AlzheimersChampions?pxfid=725526&fr_id=1060&pg=fund

Cemetery Details

Madonna Mausoleum

2070 Hoefleys Lane
Fort Lee, NJ 07024

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **26**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Barrett Leber Funeral Home
148 Dean Dr
Tenafly, NJ 07670
<https://www.barrettleberfuneralhome.com/>

Visitation

JAN **26**. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Barrett Leber Funeral Home
148 Dean Dr
Tenafly, NJ 07670
<https://www.barrettleberfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral Mass

JAN **27**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Mt. Carmel RC Church
10 County Rd
Tenafly, NJ 07670

Tribute Wall



“ *Yvonne Carallo lit a candle in memory of Phyllis Rutigliano*



Yvonne Carallo - June 23 at 10:33 AM



Over the years Phyllis and I lost touch. However, I have many fond memories of our close friendship in the 70s. She inspired me to do more with my own artwork. RIP Phyllis

Yvonne Carallo - June 23 at 10:35 AM



“ *I came to know Phyllis in the 80's as my mother, professional watercolorist, Judith Gambert's teacher in Brooklyn in Dyker Heights. My mother loved the way in which she painted and I came to one of her classes when I was about 18 and Phyllis described me as a "blonde Sophia Lauren" which was very kind of her. My mother and I, an Art History major at the time, loved her use of negative space and her kindness and my mother was very fond of her. I called Phyllis in the summer of 2011 to let her know that my mother had passed away. I'm uncertain of how my mother met Phyllis but like other artists here, my mother took classes with Ed Whitney. Phyllis' kindness and talent will be missed.*

Alicia Gambert Phillips

Alicia Phillips - June 06 at 08:01 PM

EM

“ *I met Phyllis in the 70s in Ed Whitney's class. She has been a kind, thoughtful friend, a helpful colleague over since. While her supportive family took priority we had many adventures, took classes in Kennebunkport, traveled to workshops and painted together.*

She was a fine draftsman and painter, fun, considerate and welcomed me into me into

her life. She is greatly missed by family, friends and fellow artists.

Elise Morenon

elise morenon - January 25 at 02:57 PM



“ *Phyllis shared her love and kindness when our daughter was going through chemotherapy at 12 years old, the niece of her brother in law and sister in-law, Phyllis came on several occasions to do watercolor with Elizabeth (Zibby) not only was it a new skill taught but a wonderful break from the difficult task of going through chemo. She was always a class act, and we are so indebted to her for her kindness and expertise. We still have several watercolors that she and Zibby did together. Rest In Peace Phyllis.*

Ena Scrivani - January 24 at 06:55 PM

LF

“ *Phyllis was my mentor and teacher for more than 20 years. Besides being a wonderful artist herself, she shared her incredible knowledge about art and artists and I learned so much from her. I have wonderful memories of workshops in Fleishmanns, NY and at Silvermine in Connecticut. It was like being at sleepaway camp and Phyllis was the very best counselor! She was loved by her students and her classes were a joy. My heart goes out to Phyllis' wonderful husband John and all her family. I will always think of her as a friend as well as a teacher and I will miss her.*
Leslee Fetner

Leslee Fetner - January 24 at 06:03 PM

DH

“ *I once sat in on a watercolor class she was substitute teaching for a fellow artist. When we came in, they all seemed discouraged and somewhat defensive-- until Phyllis started her demo. I almost laughed out loud at the excitement she brought out from everyone. It was really something to see. I could only imagine how many aspiring artists she nourished-- including myself.*

Phyllis, you were a great artist and an even better friend.

With love and much appreciation,

Donna Harkins

Donna Harkins - January 24 at 04:36 PM