



Frances M Corbett

June 15, 2025

Frances “Fran” Corbett

May 22, 1940 – June 15, 2025

Frances “Fran” Corbett, beloved wife, mother, sister, and friend, passed away peacefully in her longtime home in Cresskill, New Jersey. Born on May 22, 1940, in Virginia, Fran was the oldest of five children—three sisters and one brother—and the heart of a close-knit family that moved often due to their father’s job, with each sibling born in a different state. The place that always felt most like home to Fran was Rocky River, Ohio, a charming lakeside town just across the street from Lake Erie.

Growing up in Rocky River, Fran was a spirited and athletic child who loved to swim in the lake, skate on the Rocky River pond, and play street baseball with neighborhood kids during long summer days. Her independence and boldness showed early—when she decided she wanted to attend the local public high school instead of the Catholic girls’ school her parents had chosen, she took matters into her own hands and registered herself. Though her parents ultimately sent her to the Catholic school, she came to love it and the sense of purpose and faith it helped cultivate in her.

After graduating, Fran and her family moved to New Jersey, a transition that was difficult at first but led to new opportunities and lasting friendships. She

attended St. Mary's College in Notre Dame, Indiana, where she majored in Botany. But her adventurous spirit led her down a different path—toward the skies. She pursued a career in the aviation industry, first as a stewardess and later as a passenger service agent for Mohawk Airlines. Her career took her to exciting places like Hawaii and Thailand, and she thought nothing of a spontaneous trip to California. During this time, she lived in Newark with her Irish roommate, Peggy, and embraced the joys of travel and independence.

In search of greater stability, Fran eventually accepted a position at Continental Can, where she worked regular hours and joined a local softball team in New York. It was during this season of life that she met Tom Corbett. The two married and settled in Cresskill, N.J., where they spent more than 50 years building a warm, welcoming home together.

Fran helped Tom with raising his daughters from a previous marriage and, after facing difficulties having children of their own, she and Tom adopted two brothers, John and Danny, bringing even more love into their lives. Later, when Danny married Kelly, Fran and Tom remained close with her, sharing a deep and lasting friendship beyond the marriage.

Faith played a guiding role in Fran's life. A devout Catholic, she was an active and loyal member of St. Theresa's Church in Cresskill, where she formed strong bonds and supported her parish community with compassion and dedication. Fran also had a special love for her Bouvier des Flandres dogs—Dusty, and later Cammie—who were her constant companions and walking partners through the years.

Fran was deeply devoted to her family and always showed up for those in need. Her strength, resilience, and selflessness touched countless lives. After Tom's passing in January 2024, Fran continued to live in their family home, cared for Cammie, and remained deeply rooted in the neighborhood and

church she loved.

She will be deeply missed by her son Danny, her extended family, friends, her church community, and all those who had the privilege of knowing her enduring warmth, quiet strength, and generous spirit.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

JUN **23**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Barrett Leber Funeral Home
148 Dean Dr
Tenafly, NJ 07670
(201) 568-8043
<https://www.barrettleberfuneralhome.com/>

Memorial Funeral Mass

JUN **24**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Therese of Lisieux Church
120 Monroe Ave
Cresskill, NJ 07626-1405
(201) 567-2528

Tribute Wall



“ I never realized how cool My Aunt Fran was until I grew up and realized she could be counted on to bring a pitcher of Manhattan's (not even requested! we eventually started calling them 'Franhattans' and to this day, that's how I introduce them to my friends when I make them) to any gathering I was a part of. Aunt Fran was a good person, a fun person, a grounded person, and a person I am very fortunate to have had in my life.

Carl Wasielewski - June 18, 2025 at 02:55 PM