



## Iren Gubacs

January 27, 2022

Iren “Nagyi” Gubacs devoted mother, grandmother and consummate teacher passed away peacefully on January 27th, 2022.

Iren “Nagyi” Gubacs was born on August 16th, 1931, to her parents Janos Palhazi and Iren Erdody in Budapest, Hungary. From an early age, Iren was in love with swimming and won many championships at a wide range of levels. Her passion later transformed into an outstanding career teaching and coaching swimmers of all ages, on two continents. Her legacy includes being the first coach to bring synchronized swimming to the competition platforms in Europe, including Hungary.

Iren continued giving her incredible gift of swimming when settling in the United States in 1991. From that point on, if you tried to go for a leisurely swim at the JCC at the Palisades or the Glenpointe Spa, a surprise lesson would always be waiting for you... whether you signed up for it or not. These lessons kept people coming back for years and decades, not just to learn, but also to spend time with the most organized, fun and extraordinary lifeguard, coach and friend.

Iren was also well known and respected for her terrific bridge playing ability. The athlete brought her best to each competition whether in the swimming pool or at the card table. Staying true to the educator within, she also taught

countless bridge lovers to bring their best when it counted the most. No matter where she was, Iren just wanted to teach and it was no surprise that she brought the love of teaching into her life with her children and grandchildren.

Nagyi, as she was called by her beloved family, taught some of the most fundamental life lessons to her family. Most importantly, she was instrumental in teaching her grandchildren their ancestors' language, Hungarian. Among the countless lessons she gave in her long and fruitful life, there is one that no one will ever forget, the unconditional and devoted love she gave to her children and family. Nagyi will be missed dearly by all of us, but we will forever celebrate her life with the same elegance and enthusiasm that she brought to every endeavor.

She is survived by her daughters Christina, Rita and Klara, Son-in-Laws Dominick, Dennis and Ronald, and Grandchildren Deirdre and Andrea.

Visitation will be held on Thursday from 4-6pm at Barrett-Leber Funeral Home in Tenafly, NJ. A Funeral Mass will also be held at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Tenafly, NJ on Friday, February 11th at 10:00 am honoring our beloved Nagyi. May she rest in peace.

In lieu of flowers, we ask that friends and family donate to either PetResQ Tenafly: <https://petresqinc.org> or Ramapo-Bergen Animal Refuge: <https://rbari.org>

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

FEB **10**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

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

## Memorial Funeral Mass

FEB **11**. 10:00 AM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *She was the one who gave me swimming instruction very close at the time I needed it the most. I respect and love you.*

*Dan Oh*

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**Dan Oh** - February 10, 2022 at 06:41 PM

KL

*Thank you for taking the time to write on Mom's tribute wall. Yes she was always ready to teach.*

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**Klara** - February 16, 2022 at 10:46 AM

AJ

“ *The best swim coach ever! Every stroke I take is thanks to her*

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**Andrea Jackson** - February 06, 2022 at 07:01 PM

KG

*Thank you! She loved to teach and made her so very proud when her pupils of all ages learned!*

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**Klara Gubacs** - February 07, 2022 at 12:13 AM

KG

“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



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**Klara Gubacs** - February 04, 2022 at 07:59 PM

KG

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



**Klara Gubacs** - February 04, 2022 at 07:58 PM

SS

*Iren's strong roots gave us three extraordinary ladies to continue to love, enjoy, and be blessed with ✨*

**Sandy Schonhoff** - February 06, 2022 at 07:03 AM



*Thanks so much! and yes indeed! Mom's strength is in all of us.*

**Klara Gubacs** - March 08, 2022 at 11:57 AM

KG

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



**Klara Gubacs** - February 04, 2022 at 07:47 PM

KG

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



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**Klara Gubacs** - February 04, 2022 at 07:45 PM

KG

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



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**Klara Gubacs** - February 04, 2022 at 07:44 PM

KG

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Klara Gubacs** - February 04, 2022 at 07:42 PM

BH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Barrett Leber Funeral Home** - February 04, 2022 at 07:06 AM