



## Irene Philip

April 7, 2025

Irene Philip of Fort Lee, NJ. died peacefully in her sleep yesterday. She was 89 years old.

Born Irene Stavropoulos from the Bronx, N.Y. a former resident of Tenafly, NJ who devoted many years to philanthropy and to her Greek Orthodox faith. Serving 20 years on the boards of both St. Basil Academy and the National Philoptochos, Irene chaired numerous fundraisers and events for the St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church in New York, The Cathedral of St. John The Theologian in Tenafly, NJ and The Archdiocese of New York. She was appointed to the Archdiocesan Council by his eminence Archbishop Iakovos and received the Patriarchal Cross from his eminence Archbishop Spyridon. She was married to Dr. Chris Philip for 59 years.

She leaves behind a devoted family, son Chris Philip Jr., daughter Katherine Kojanis, son-in-law Dr. Chris Kojanis, a grandson, Dr. Lee Kojanis and his wife Dr. Daniele Orellana , twin granddaughters and their spouses, Dr. Renee Cuomo and Michael Cuomo and Ellyn Bannon and husband Michael Bannon. Also left behind are two great-grandchildren, Christian Elias Cuomo and Katerina Jules Bannon. She has many loving, devoted nieces, nephews and cousins.

Irene grew up in the Bronx with her loving parents Eugenia and Costas Stavropoulos, sister Helen and brother John. Irene sang in the church choir and became Miss Greek Independence in 1953, shortly after she met her husband at a Kastorian dance while he was serving as a Captain in the Air

Force Dental Corp. They married and built a family together in Tenafly, NJ where her busy philanthropic activities were always in parallel to her raising a family. Cooking, entertaining friends, giving back to the community and attending church were a priority for Irene. She is remembered for her kindness, patience and unique ability to nurture loyal friendships and was a great chef, her spanakopita recipe was award winning and was published. May her many accomplishments be remembered, and her kind soul continue to touch those she knew.

Family and friends are invited to visit Thursday 6-9PM at the Greek Orthodox Metropolitan Cathedral of St. John the Theologian, 353 E. Clinton Ave. Tenafly, NY 07670. Funeral services will begin on Friday at 11AM at the church. Interment to follow at Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, NY.

# Cemetery Details

## Woodlawn Cemetery

4199 Webster Ave  
Bronx, NY 10470

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR **10**. 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

St. John The Theologian Greek Orthodox Church  
353 E Clinton Ave  
Tenafly, NJ 07670

## Funeral Service

APR **11**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. John The Theologian Greek Orthodox Church  
353 E Clinton Ave  
Tenafly, NJ 07670

# Tribute Wall



“ Lunch in Wynwood Miami with Ed Arenas, Otmara Marrero, Jason Canela



Ed Arenas - April 08, 2025 at 09:03 PM



“ Irene was always the calming voice in the room...her sense of humor and ability to laugh made the room brighter. I will never forget the Mother's Day Chris and I were so lucky to have with Irene and my mother, Maria. Irene made my mom feel like she was a part of the family, which I will always cherish.



Eric Rovner - April 08, 2025 at 03:26 PM



“ My condolences to Chris and his family. I met Irene at lovely dinner at Chris home. She was impressionable and made you feel inspired. She told me about her award winning dish and she lit up when talking about cooking and her family. Lovely women. Rest in peace,

e Gavin - April 08, 2025 at 03:02 PM