



Maria De Santis

February 25, 2026

Maria DeSantis, 84, of Closter, passed away on February 25, 2026.

Maria was raised in Italy, the cherished daughter of Giacomina and Umberto. Growing up alongside her four brothers Giuseppe, Mimi, Saverio, and Silvio. She was surrounded by a foundation of love that she carried with her throughout her life. As a young woman, Maria made the courageous journey from Italy to seek a brighter future alongside her beloved husband, Vito. While Maria found professional success as a talented beautician, her truest vocation was her family. She was a devoted mother and a caring grandmother who found her greatest joys in the simple pleasures of life: traveling, playing cards, and the warmth of a kitchen filled with family and food. Maria is lovingly survived by her son, Gaetano, daughter-in-law Melody, son-in-law Bill and her six cherished grandchildren: Vito, Valentina, Gaetano, Anthony, Mina and Gaetano. She has now found peace, lovingly embraced at the gates of heaven by her husband Vito and her daughter Giulia.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 2. 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

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

Funeral Mass

MAR 3. 10:00 AM (ET)

St Marys Church
20 Legion Place
Closter, NJ 07624

Entombment

MAR 3 (ET)

Garden of Memories
300 Soldier Hill Rd
Township of Washington, NJ 07676

Tribute Wall

JW

“*Mrs. De Santis welcomed me into her home as if I was one of her own, reigniting a feeling I hadn't felt in nearly 20 years; I once again had a Nonna that was forcing me to sit down so she could make a beautiful and impromptu spread of food. I was again invited over by Vito for a Sunday dinner, in which I was able to once again enjoy her hospitality and amazing cooking. I'll never forget or regret asking for seconds, delaying dinner for everyone else, because at that moment I saw a loving matriarch looking across the table as I devoured a second bowl of her homemade pasta. This moment brought me an immense amount of joy and comfort as I felt like I was sitting down to a Sunday meal with my own family, and for that I will always be grateful.*

Joe Wash - March 02 at 12:56 PM