



Maria Rita Dias

June 11, 2025

Maria Rita Dias, 92, of Tenafly NJ passed away peacefully on June 11, 2025. She was a devoted and loving mother and grandmother who cared deeply for her family.

Rita was born on January 22, 1933 in Funchal, Madeira Portugal and was one of nine children. She graduated from nursing school in Lisbon, Portugal where she met her future husband Alfredo Dias who was studying to be a doctor.

Rita worked as a nurse in Madeira Island for two years before emigrating to the United States in December 1960. Soon after arriving, she married her husband Alfredo Dias and worked as a nurse at Sibley Hospital in Washington DC. She then became a mother and raised two children with Alfredo in Bethesda, Maryland, where they lived for many years. After her husband's passing in 2002, Rita eventually settled in Tenafly, New Jersey in 2011 where she lived close to her daughter.

Rita loved spending time with her family. She was a devoted mother of two children, Michael Dias and Christine Dias-Singh, and grandmother of five grandchildren Lee, Conor, Caroline, Daniel and Emma, whom she deeply cherished. She also loved her son-in-law, David Singh (married to Christine) and daughter-in-law, Marie Dias (married to Michael).

Rita appreciated beauty, loved reading mysteries, and learning history. She enjoyed the simple things in life—good food, time with family, beautiful surroundings, church, and faith. She will be remembered as a devoted and selfless mother and grandmother who instilled honesty, determination, faith, strength, and love in her children.

Rita will be deeply missed.

Family and friends are invited to visit on Friday, June 13, 2025 from 7-9PM at the Barrett Leber Funeral Home, 148 Dean Dr., Tenafly, NJ. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday at 10AM at Mount Carmel Church, Tenafly. Interment will be held privately by the family. In lieu of flowers donations in Rita's name to the Villa Marie Claire Hospice Center or to Mount Carmel RC Church, Tenafly are appreciated by the family.

Cemetery Details

Interment Private

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 13. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

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

Mass of Christian Burial

JUN 14. 10:00 AM (ET)

Mount Carmel
10 County Rd
Tenafly, NJ 07670-2105
(201) 568-0545

Tribute Wall

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“ *When I was baking Michael's favourit cake with aunt Rita, she had a pair of spoons that she usually used, and when I pick a regular spoon, she said that if use it the cake wouldn't be good . Rita was a great and super Aunt. Beijinhos*

Luisa - June 12, 2025 at 01:49 PM