



Lena Colasurdo

January 23, 1929 - March 16, 2020

LENA COLASURDO, 91

Loving, devoted mother, retired nurse

Lena Colasurdo, 91, of Heartland Village, a retired nurse who devoted her life to her daughters, grandsons, and family, passed away Monday, March 16, 2020 at Seaview Rehab in Staten Island, NY.

Born Lena Soluri in Niagara Falls, NY. At 17 years old, she moved her mother and three brothers (Sam, Alfred, and Ray) to Manhattan, where she worked to support the family. She married Ralph Santulli, her first husband, and had two daughters, Barbara and Debra. Later, she moved to Brooklyn, NY where all her family lived. She devoted her life to her daughters, loved them unconditionally, and was always by their side. She fulfilled her childhood dream of becoming a nurse while in her 30s and worked at Maimonides Hospital. She brought comfort and joy to her patients with her gentle and loving ways.

During this time, she enjoyed taking her daughters on vacations to Niagara Falls and the Catskills. She prided herself when she purchased her first home, a summer beach house in Roxbury, Breezy Point. Her summers were of tranquility, especially when watching the sun go down while sitting on the beach, and entertaining at the house.

After her divorce, Lena married Michael Colasurdo, who was a loving and gentle husband, stepfather, and grandpa. Lena enjoyed dancing in the kitchen with Michael, going on vacations to places she never dreamed of seeing. They were married 32 beautiful years which were filled with love. She said she had missed him ever since he passed away in 2004, and knew someday they would be together again.

Lena's family will remember her great Sunday dinners eating her delicious meatballs, cakes, and Christmas butter cookies. According to her family, her daughters and grandsons were her life before anything else. Her love of her brothers Alfred and Ray brought her pleasure when she spoke to them. (her oldest brother, Sam was deceased)

Going to the movies to see a comedy and going to plays made her happy. She didn't like

suspense or sad movies. More importantly, was attending family parties where she had all her family with her, brothers, aunts, uncles, cousins, and extended family.

Lena was a strong woman who persevered in the face of obstacles that came her way. She never gave up, that was how she lived her life. She taught her daughters and grandsons, to work hard, love each other, have values and empathy for others. Being unselfish was a major trait, which they witnessed always. Being a grandmother, babysitting, and later on, bringing her family to Italy was a big accomplishment for her. On her last trip, two years ago, she brought her family on a Bermuda cruise. "Her love for her daughters and grandsons, kept her alive," said her daughters Barbara and Debra. "It's hard to envision life without her here by our side, she will always be in our heart and life," stated her grandsons.

Surviving are her daughters, Barbara Volpe and Debra Santulli-Barone, son in-law Peter Barone, granddaughter in-law Ana Aguirre, grandsons Stefan and Jordan Barone, and Shaun Volpe.

If you would like to make donations, her favorite organization was:

St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital

A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 9:30 AM on Friday at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church located at 5411 Amboy Road Staten Island, New York 10312. Interment will follow in St Johns Cemetery, Middle Village, NY.

The family will receive friends from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM on Wednesday, March 18, 2020, and 2:00 -5:00 PM & 7:00 -9:00 PM on Thursday March 19, 2020 at the John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals, Inc., 28 Eltingville Blvd, Staten Island, New York.

Cemetery

St Johns Cemetery

80-01 Metropolitan Ave
Middle Village, NY, 11379

Events

MAR **Visitation** 07:00PM - 09:00PM

18

John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals, Inc.
28 Eltingville Blvd, Staten Island, NY, US, 10312

MAR **Visitation** 02:00PM - 05:00PM

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John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals, Inc.
28 Eltingville Blvd, Staten Island, NY, US, 10312

MAR **Visitation** 07:00PM - 09:00AM

19

John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals, Inc.
28 Eltingville Blvd, Staten Island, NY, US, 10312

MAR **Service** 09:30AM

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Our Lady Star of the Sea Church
5411 Amboy Road, Staten Island, NY, US, 10312

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals Inc. - March 18 at 02:44 PM



“ So very sorry for your loss. During this pandemic, I'm sure it made it harder for your family. Praying for all

maria parente - March 29 at 11:22 PM



“ I, Josie, was Lena's neighbor at Donna Court. She was apt 8 and I was apt 5. She was great lady to be friends with. Very kind and nice person to have conversations with. I eventually moved upstate NY in Oct 2011 and missed her. We spoke on phone couple of times and I sent her couple of letters but then I heard she moved into Seaview. I called her there. Today I found out another friend died and was only looking for him in here, not thinking I was going to find Lena here in this website. I was very stunned that she passed. My sister Ramona and also my husband Frank (deaf guy) knows her too. Searching for one friend found me another friend in this website that died. I want to share my condolences with her daughters and family. I met her 2 daughters. I feel sadden that she passed. I pray for comfort to her whole family. My condolences. With Sympathy, Josephine Mirro.

Josephine Mirro - March 24 at 01:51 AM



“ Thank you I appreciate your kind words. We miss her every day . Debra Santulli Barone

Debra Santulli-Barone - March 29 at 09:06 AM



“ So very sorry for your loss. I grew up at 1158-44th and knew Lee practically all of my life. My family had the house from the 50's and in that day many generations grew up together and knew each other well. What I can personally say about lee is that her selflessness was very well known within the neighborhood and community. When my mom had brain surgery, Lee administered her injections. I bumped into lee about 7 years ago in a radiology office and recognized her right away. We had moved to Staten Island a few years prior and lee was so loving and welcoming. We exchanged numbers and within a few days she called me at home. What a beautiful

conversation, what a beautiful lady. What every woman should aspire to be like. I know for sure she will be missed by many, as we have lost a very good one. Had I known prior to seeing the Staten Island Advance article, I would have come to pay my respects

My deepest sympathies,
Angela Modica-Poveromo

Angela - March 20 at 08:00 PM



“ I had the honor of knowing Lena when she was a resident at the Brielle. When I first started working there Lena would always chat with me and help take away any jitters I was feeling. She would often tell me stories of her childhood and would always give me advice on raising my daughter. I always loved listening to her. I can still hear her sweet voice and I will never forget her. God Bless Lena, may she Rest In Peace.

Jessica DeRubbio - March 20 at 03:26 PM



“ Thank you. I'm so glad she touched your life too. So hard to have her gone. Debra Santulli-Barone

Debra Santulli-Barone - March 29 at 09:10 AM



“ 1180 50th Street, Brooklyn NY 11219 is where we lived. We were on the first floor. The Santullis on the second floor. Lee and my mom, Gilda, were good friends through the 60s and 70s. Even after life separated them physically they remained friends and in touch. For me, there were three mother figures in my life growing up. There was my mom, my aunt, and there was Lee. She may have been silent in the background, but she was always there. I am glad she was the friend she was to my mom. Lee will always be a part of my memory.

David Compito - March 19 at 11:04 AM



“ Dearest David, I'm grateful that mom moved my family to 50th Street and that we all became friends. My mom leaned on your mom during rough times in her life. She respected your mom's advice and strength. Mom had great memories with your mother, Gilda, and your Aunt Elma. Thanks to you and your mom, and the sacrifices my mom made, I took piano lessons on your piano. My mom loved listening to me play and bought me my own piano; which I still have. Now your mom and mine can enjoy some laughs in heaven.

debra Santulli-Barone - Yesterday at 06:18 AM



“ 177 files added to the album LifeTributes



John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals Inc. - March 18 at 02:42 PM