



Veronica P Smith

August 24, 1921 - April 22, 2020

Veronica Patricia Smith (nee Reilly) died of heart failure at Clove Lake Nursing Home on April 21, 2020. She was born in Brooklyn on August 24, 1921 to the late Vera (nee Flynn) and James Reilly Sr. She was married to her husband Luke Vincent Smith for 62 years until his death on their anniversary day in 2011. Following their wedding at St. Augustine's RC Church, they resided in the Park Slope section of Brooklyn until 1961, when they moved to Our Lady Help of Christians parish in Flatbush. In 1996, they purchased a home in Rockaway Point where they spent their summers, while spending winters in their condo at Lauderdale by the Sea, Florida. When her husband passed away, Veronica moved back to Rockaway Point, NY, near her son Thomas and his family and attended Blessed Trinity Catholic church. When her house was destroyed by Sandy, she moved in with her son Robert and her daughter-in-law Margaret and grandson Christopher in Arden Heights. As her Alzheimer's disease grew worse, she moved into Clove Lakes Nursing Home, where she received remarkable loving care for over three years.

As a teenager, she volunteered to live with a cousin to care for their grandmother out

in the Flatbush section of Brooklyn and graduated from Erasmus Hall High School.

Though she lived in Brooklyn during her working years, she traveled to Lake Success,

NY from 1939 to 1985 by public transportation or rides from co-workers to support the

war effort in World War II and beyond building gyroscopes for our military planes. She

met her husband Luke, while leaving their plant at Sperry Gyroscope (now Unisys)

during the great snow storm of 1947 as they competed for a car ride back to Brooklyn.

She encouraged Luke to go to college at night and he graduated with a BBA in

Accounting from St. John's University and an MBA from New York University leading to a career with the budget departments of the New York Fire Department and the

Mayor's Office working under Mayors Wagner and Lindsay. He later worked as the

Assistant Business Manager at Brooklyn College.

She is survived by her sons Robert (and Margaret Connelly) and Thomas (Elaine

Carroll), grandsons Thomas (Catherine), Christopher (Michelle) and Brendan, and

great-grandchildren Declan and Bridget and niece Veronica Carter. She was predeceased by her grandson Sean Patrick Smith and her older brothers Robert and

James Reilly and her younger sister Virginia Carter and her sisters-in-law Grace Reilly

(McGinnis) and Josephine Reilly (Migliore).

She will be laid to rest in Calvary Cemetery in Queens. A memorial mass will be offered late in the year at St. Joseph-St. Thomas St. John Neumann parish in Staten Island. In lieu of flowers, donations in Veronica's name can be given to the Rockaway Point Volunteer Ambulance Corp., 204-26 Rockaway Point Blvd., Breezy Point, NY 11697 or the Alzheimer's Association, New York City Chapter, PO BOX 96011, Washington, DC 20090-6011.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

49-02 Laurel Hill Blvd.
Woodside, NY 11377

Tribute Wall



“ *Veronica P Smith*

October 04, 2023 at 06:13 PM