



Marcella Cucolo

JUL 29, 1942 - JAN 24, 2021



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 5



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On Sunday, January 24, 2021, Marcella Cucolo of Fort Myers, Florida, loving mother and amazing Nonna, passed away peacefully at the age of 78.

Marcella was born in Pietrastornina, Italy, and immigrated to the United States when she was a teenager. She lived in Staten Island, NY, and eventually moved to Toms River, NJ, where she raised her 4 children. Marcella's door was always open, and there was always room at her table. She could make the most delicious meals with just a few ingredients, and showed her love through cooking. She loved chocolate ice cream with black cherries and wet walnuts, as well as banana splits at the Love Boat. She also had the "greenest" thumb. Her gardens were always spectacular and colorful.

Marcella was a dedicated mother first and foremost. She treasured her children and embraced every moment with them. She especially loved her role as Nonna to George, Sophia, Lorenzo, Isabella, Abigail, John Wyatt, and Noah. They were her greatest joy. She loved staying connected with them through daily text messages and GIFs. The grandchildren affectionately referred to Marcella as "Teenage Nonna" because her phone was always in her hand. She was incredibly proud of her grandchildren. They were her heart. She was a truly remarkable and strong woman, with a beautiful smile, sparkly green eyes, and a zest for life.

Marcella cared deeply about helping others, and was able to do so on a daily basis while working with the Ocean Country Human Services Department from 1983 until she retired in 2006. As Director, Marcella played an integral role in implementing programs that benefitted the residents of Ocean County. Her accountabilities included oversight of the REACH Program for Welfare Reform, Human Services Advisory Council, the Workforce Investment Board, the Office for the Disabled, the Commission on the Status of Women, and the Mental Health Board.

Marcella is survived by her devoted children: son Patrick DeRosa of Fort Myers, Florida, daughter Randilyn and husband George Williams of Belmar, New Jersey, daughter Stephanie DeRosa-Bedore of Howell, New Jersey, and daughter Alyssa and husband John Cuttrell of Middletown,



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New Jersey; by her cherished grandchildren: George, Sophia, Lorenzo, Isabella, Abigail, John Wyatt, and Noah; and by her sister Susan, brother-in-law Tony, brother Anthony, and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

A celebration of Marcella's life will be held during the summer of 2021.

A scholarship is being established in Marcella's honor at Ocean County College. Donations can be made online at <https://www.ocean.edu/donate> (please indicate that the gift is in memory of Marcella Cucolo), or via mail to Ocean County College, 1 College Drive, PO Box 2001, Toms River, NJ 08754-2001 (please indicate in the check memo line that the gift is in memory of Marcella Cucolo).

To share a story or photo, leave a tribute or to offer condolences to the family at this difficult time, please visit Marcella's memorial webpage located at www.fotmyersmemorial.com and sign her guestbook.



Tribute Wall

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LS

Lisa Defazio Sfraga lit a candle in honor of Marcella.

Marcella was my godmother. I always thought she was so beautiful. I admired her strength to take care of herself and her children. Her smile was contagious. I'm sorry I didn't spend time with her as an adult. Life takes you in different directions but luckily for Facebook we shared pieces of our life through photos and stories. Rest In Peace dear godmother Love Lisa and family



February 12 at 1:24 PM

AM

Antoinette Modrak posted:

Marcella was a strong and kind woman who truly believed in empowering others. Her raising of 4 beautiful children and work career are a testament to those traits. If you met her once, she cared about you always. May you all be surrounded with love and support during this difficult time. 🧑❤️

February 11 at 4:59 PM

MK

Melissa Diamond Kozloff posted:

Oh the memories! Marcella you will be missed. Much love and prayer for comfort to all. Love, Missy

February 11 at 4:30 PM

WD

Willow Damato lit a candle in honor of Marcella.

Marcella you were such a light in our lives. I will miss Our visits our talks on WhatsApp and special texts. You were such a special lady to me and my family. We loved you so much. You are a truly wonderful person. Life will not be the same without you. You will always have such a special place in our hearts.



February 11 at 4:04 PM

CZ

Connie Zappulla lit a candle in honor of Marcella.

Marcella will be greatly missed. She was a wonderful woman. Love and prayers to her children and grandchildren.



February 4 at 5:44 PM



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JJ

Jean Junker posted:

What a gift it has been to have known Marcella for such a short time. About two years ago, our dear friends Coy and Anita (Marcella's neighbors) introduced us to this beautiful woman. Marcella reminded me so much of my Grandmother who was born in Poland. (Tough on the exterior, but so soft on the inside) We fortunately were able to get to know her and celebrate several times with her at the Roadhouse and her amazing hosted dinners...enjoying many laughs during these past couple of years. We remained in communication often via text message, just checking in on each other and working on the next time we would visit Ft. Myers for another trip to the Roadhouse. In this short time of knowing Marcella, I know how she had a huge heart and what meant more to her than anything was her loving family. She talked about them so much and couldn't wait until the next time she was with them. This friend of ours was one strong woman. She was such a success in her professional life and personal life. She was chosen to be an angel to watch over us now... but oh how we will miss her amazing smile and zest for life. Our Roadhouse B & B toasts will always be in your honor Marcella! Enjoy Paradise and please give my Grandma a big hug... We Love and Miss You! Orbie and Jean, Indianapolis, Indiana

January 27 at 5:57 AM

VP

Vivian Pica February 12 at 6:25 AM

Marcella was such a personable and caring person. She was the epitome of strength. She never complained and was optimistic at all times. She will be so sorely missed Each morning I would wake and send her greetings with a comment and a lot of times she would beat me to the punch. You just have to mention something in passing and she would make a mental note and a day that was important she would send her positive good wishes She adored her children. She had a close rapport with Patrick here in Florida but so too adored her daughters and grandchildren She is greatly missed. Now each morning when I lift my phone to send my greetings I now say my prayers for her. Until we meet again, Rest In Peace my friend



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Marcella by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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