



Mary B. Pantazis

JUL 11, 1920 - FEB 5, 2015



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Mary B. Pantazis

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Mary Birbelis Pantazis and cherished Yiayia, of Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, passed away peacefully in her home on the evening of February 5, 2015 at the age of 94.

She was born in Lowell, Massachusetts on July 11, 1920, daughter of the late Peter Birbelis and Antonina Koliass. Mary grew up in Albany, New York and later moved to Silver Spring, Maryland. She retired to Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. She juggled two careers as a federal government worker and a restaurateur.

As a thrifty fashionista, Mary always took pride in finding the best deals in town. She walked tall in her high heels until the last day of her life and was a well-known, friendly face around town. She was a savvy businesswoman and gifted baker who was thrilled to pass on her knowledge of yummy Greek recipes to her grandchildren. Yiayia made the best baklava EVER; she filled our hearts and our stomachs.

Mary supported her family in their many endeavors and made an impact on all those she met. She had an impressive life-her friends called her “the butterfly” and described her as elegant and giving. Mary loved fiercely and gave unto others until her last day. She was an active member of the St. George Greek Orthodox Church, St. Andrew Orthodox Church, and The Ladies Philoptochos Society. All will miss her sparkling personality, infectious laughter, beautiful smile and unending generosity.

In addition to her parents, Mary was preceded in death by her beloved husband, James Pantazis and adored grandson, James “Jimmy” Poston. She is survived by her two daughters: Joy Smith and husband Steven of Lewes, DE; and Donna Moore and husband Timothy of Frederick, MD as well as her sister Polly Chakmakas of Schenectady, NY. Her precious grandchildren: Tia Dimopoulos and husband Nikos; Kim Dow and husband Jimmy; Chrissy Moore; Peter Pantazis; and Jonathan Troop and wife Sachie will miss her dearly. Mary treasured her great-grandchildren, Dimos, Zoe and Alexandra Dimopoulos.



Obituary

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Funeral Services will be held on Tuesday, February 10, 2015, at 10:00 AM, at Saint Andrew The Apostle Orthodox Church, 33384 Mackenzie Way, Lewes, DE 19958, where friends may call beginning at 9:00 AM. Friends may also call on Monday, February 9, 2015 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the church. Interment will be held on Tuesday, February 10, 2015, at 1:00 PM, at Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Millsboro, DE.

Memorial contributions may be made in Mary's memory to Saint Andrew the Apostle Orthodox Church, 33384 Mackenzie Way, Lewes, DE 19958 or St. Georges Greek Orthodox Church, 8805 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD 21842.

Please sign Mary's guestbook located on this site.

[PDF Printable Version](#)




Events


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Interment

 **Tuesday**, February 10, 2015

 1:00 PM ET

 **Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery**
26669 Patriots Way, Millsboro DE





Tribute Wall

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BR

Betty Ruhe posted:

Mary will be missed by all. She always brought warmth and happiness to our office. Our thoughts and prayers are with her and her family. The Lewes Office of International Hearing Systems.

February 22 at 8:00 PM

KK

Kat And Christopher Kouts posted:

Dearest Family, we heard from Nickie Pappas that your dear mother passed. We all are so sorry and pray for all those left behind. She is without a doubt with the Lord and her beloved husband and family gone before her. We just lost 5 of our own in the last 15 months including Carlton, Kitty and Stephanie and so we can well feel your pain. Your darling Mother was always a "joy" to see and talk to. She will be sorely missed by everyone. Again, we are so sorry for your loss. Please pass on our condolences to all. LOVE, Kat and Chris (Joy Ewing in case you don't remember our married names).

February 14 at 8:00 PM

MS

Mary Stephanos posted:

God bless our Mary -- our dear friend from Washington. She will be missed by so many. Everlasting be her memory. //w

February 12 at 8:00 PM

GK

George & Ellen Kaloroumakis posted:

Our deepest sympathy on Ms. Mary's passing, the Lord has called her sweet soul home. May her memory be eternal. + George & Ellen

February 10 at 8:00 PM

JD

Jim Heckman And Angela Devito posted:

Pete and Family. We send our sympathy and have happy memories of meeting Miss Mary. She has been called home & is happy, healthy, peaceful and will always be watching over all her loved ones.

February 8 at 8:00 PM



Tribute Wall

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KR

Kathy Rhoades posted:

Donna and Joy,,I am so sorry to learn of the passing of your Mother. It is never easy. Donna, I will always remember celebrations at your house and your Mother's fabulous cooking.

February 8 at 8:00 PM

TL

Ted & Clea Lizas posted:

I wish we could be there're with all of you but, it is impossible to be there in person. No matter what we will be there in spirit. She was the best Nouna ever. She. Is a light that will never leave us. God Bless you Mary. Love, Ted & Clea

February 8 at 8:00 PM

RA

Rhonda Anderson posted:

My condolences and prayers are with Joy Smith and her family on the death of her mother.

February 8 at 8:00 PM

DC

Dimitra Cookson posted:

Our Deepest Sympathy to the Pantazis family for the loss of their beloved Mother /Yiayia.She was a wonderful person whohad so much to offer to society."May her Memory be Eternal."Dimitra & Arnold CooksonDover,DE

February 6 at 8:00 PM

LS

Linda Stillwell posted:

My condolences to the family Yiayia was an amazing lady with such style and sas who also told the best stories May you rest in peace Yiayia it was an honor to have been a part of your life! know Jim was waiting for you with open arms.

February 6 at 8:00 PM

MF

Mark Fabich posted:

I am deeply saddened by your loss. Please accept my condolences.

February 6 at 8:00 PM



Tribute Wall

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Kristin Martin posted:

Tia and Family, I am so sorry to hear about the passing of your Yiayia, she was an amazing example to everyone about loving life to the fullest and telling it how it is. I have fond memories of stories and advice from your Yiayia. She will be greatly missed, hugs to you Tia and prayers for your family.

February 6 at 8:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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