



# Donna M. Pagano

FEB 15, 1952 - APR 9, 2025



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# Donna M. Pagano

FEB 15, 1952 - APR 9, 2025

## **D**onna Pagano Loved the Lord

Donna (Muscatello) Pagano went home to be the Lord on Wednesday, April 9, 2025, at Excelcare at Lewes with her husband (Frank Pagano) at her side.

Donna was born in Elizabeth, NJ in 1952 to Gloria (nee Gibilisco) and Richard Muscatello. She grew up in Elizabeth attending Benedictine Academy and graduating from Battin High School. She then went to secretarial school at Berkeley College in New Jersey graduating in 1970.

In November of 1969, she met her future husband, Frank Pagano, on a blind date arranged by a mutual friend. They were married on May 27, 1972, at St Genevieve's Church in Elizabeth, NJ, honeymooned in Jamaica, and then took up residence in Columbia University married student housing while Frank finished his studies for his PhD in chemistry. While Frank was studying, Donna worked at St. Luke's Hospital and then Columbia University Library. Their joke was, "Frank got the PhD, and I got the PhT – Put Him Through!"

They moved back to New Jersey in 1974, living in Avenel, NJ for 22 years, Monroe Township for four years, Old Bridge, NJ for eight years before retiring to Milton, DE in 2013.

During this time Frank worked, and Donna started her own calligraphy business, "Creative Calligraphy." Besides doing work for brides, Donna did work for the US Marines, Tommy Hilfiger, and other businesses both large and small. Her work was also featured in an advertisement for Bertolli olive oil that appeared in the NY Times Sunday magazine section.

After becoming born again Christians in 1983, Donna used her talents, which included singing, in service for the Lord, singing in choirs, trios, duets and solos. She ministered to women through her prayers, calligraphy, and her gift of encouragement.



## Obituary

**Donna M. Pagano**

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Donna was predeceased in death by her father, Richard, her mother, Gloria, and her brother, Mark. She is survived by her husband, Frank, Milton, DE, her son, Brian, Cherry Hill, NJ, her sister Lisa and her husband, Mickey, Clark, NJ. She is also survived by two nephews, Michael and Jill, Westfield, NJ, and Matthew and Caroline, Clark, NJ, and a niece Julianne and Jason Cumbers, Berkeley Heights, NJ. Through them she is survived by ten great nieces and great nephews. Donna is also survived by her cat, Molly.

A Funeral Service will be held on Friday, April 25, 2025, at 3:00 PM at Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium, 16961 Kings Hwy, Lewes, DE 19958, where family and friends may visit beginning at 2:00 PM.

All those unable to attend the services are invited to join the service via livestreaming by visiting the following link:

<http://www.parsellfuneralhomes.com/obituaries/permalink/11753067/LTWebcast> .

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Gideons International. "The grass withers, the flower fades. But the word of our God stands forever." Isaiah 40:8 NKJV.

Please sign the virtual guestbook located on the tribute page.

FLORIST NOTE: PLEASE DELIVER ALL ARRANGEMENTS BY 9:00 AM ON FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025, TO OUR LEWES LOCATION.

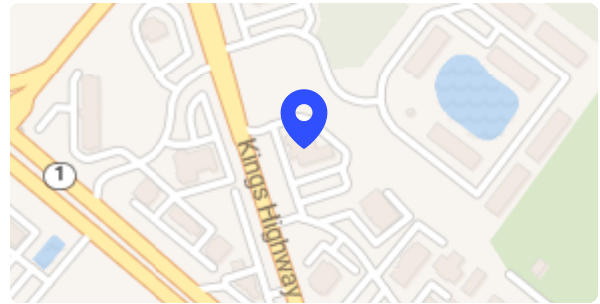


# Events

**Donna M. Pagano**  
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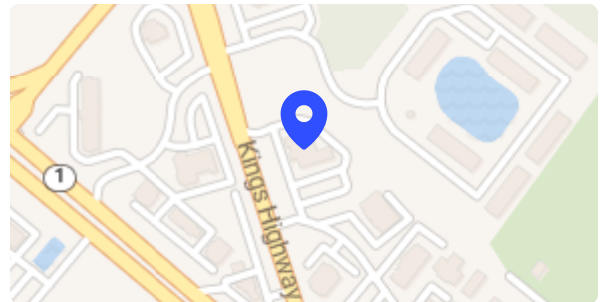
## Viewing

- Friday, April 25, 2025**
- 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM ET
- Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-Atkins-Lodge Chapel**  
16961 Kings Highway, Lewes DE 19958



## Funeral Service

- Friday, April 25, 2025**
- 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM ET
- Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-Atkins-Lodge Chapel**  
16961 Kings Highway, Lewes DE 19958





# Tribute Wall

**Donna M. Pagano**

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**Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium** shared a **Webcast Video**.



April 17 at 12:26 PM



**Jeanne Sprinkle** lit a candle in honor of Donna.

I was very sorry to hear about her passing. She and I were good friends. I will always remember her.



August 13 at 7:01 PM



**Cherie Greshko** posted:

Wonderful service celebrating our sweet Donna. Thank you for providing livestream. I've known the Paganos for about 40 years from our UCBC days. You all captured her so well. Very loving, giving and kind. Faithful to her dear Frank, Brian and especially Jesus who she served so well with all her heart soul mind and strength. May the Lord comfort you all as only He can. Donna. You'll be sorely missed until we see you again. Thank you for being so loving and kind to me in my shy teenage years at church. I came up with a calligraphy style based on your talents in that area. That gift you had will always give me fond memories. You truly had a gift for that and for making others feel encouraged and blessed in the Lord . 📺😊💜 Hugs and Prayers ... if I were there today in person I would've shared What A Day that will be...when my Jesus I shall see... Amen and Amen. Donna's faith has become sight and she eternally dwells in the place Jesus has been preparing for her. Though it took us all by surprise He was ready to bring her Home. Love to all of you. My mom is praying too. She's 89 now. Another faithful servant of our Saviour always ready to give an answer of the hope that lies within her as well as Donna so beautifully did. 💜 Soon we will all be together in that beautiful place... worshipping our Savior. Thank You Jesus for the blood applied...

April 25 at 12:37 PM



**Debra Mcgraw** posted:

She was a special friend in my life. We shared life's ups and downs and prayed together, I will miss her so much and her faithfulness remembering me with e-cards every holiday, I so wanted to call her this last month but knew she had so much pain so I wasn't able to . Will be praying for you Frank and Brian with this transition without Donna here. You were such a servant helping Donna through all her difficulties, God Bless you , I will call and see how your doing, at times, Blessings 🙏🙏🙏🙏

April 25 at 12:36 PM



# Tribute Wall

**Donna M. Pagano**

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**Linda & Peter Dytrych** lit a candle in honor of Donna.



April 25 at 12:22 PM



**Linda Dytrych** April 25 at 12:31 PM

Dear Frank, Brian, Lisa and grandchildren, it was a shock of Donna's death for everyone. I reflect back to the 1970's when we met and spent time with Donna & Frank. Honestly, I don't recall how we met, but we both worked at Schering in the steno pool. We did do our work efficiently; but we always found a way to laugh just about everything. I carry your wallet size wedding picture in my wallet. We were very close back then; and as things happen, we lost contact for quite some time as our lives moved into other directions, as the saying goes. My memories will always be the laughter with Donna, and you, also, Frank. In closing, take care of each other, and being cat lovers, take care of them, too. God Bless you all. Love Linda (and Peter also viewed the memorial).



**Linda Dytrych** April 25 at 12:25 PM

We will write a memorial and tribute. We viewed the entire service and it was beautifully done. Very sad to say goodbye to my dear friend from past years.



**Joanie Scaduto Pizzonia** lit a candle in honor of Donna.

Even though we just connected thru our DNA and only knew you for a short period of time I was saddened to hear of your passing I so enjoyed your FB posts and got a glimpse of your life I knew your love for the Lord and never missed an opportunity to tell someone about him. Rest in the arms of Jesus now and be at peace. My condolences to Brian who seems like such a great and honorable man and to your son Brian and the rest of your family Joanie Scadutos Pizzonia ❤️🙏🌹



April 25 at 10:03 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Beautiful Heart Bouquet to the Pagano family.



April 24 at 5:25 AM



## Tribute Wall

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WS

**With Heartfelt Condolences, Liz Shirk** sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Pagano family.



April 21 at 8:26 PM

WS

**With Heartfelt Condolences, Liz Shirk** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Donna.



April 21 at 8:26 PM

VZ

**Valerie Zigre** posted:

My thoughts and prayers are with you and Brian for the loss of Donna. I was completely shocked and saddened when I heard of Donna's passing. I can't imagine the pain and grief you and Brian are feeling. I have known both you and Donna since July of 1984 and Donna will always be remembered by me of being such a loving and caring person who loved the Lord and her family very much. I know Donna will be extremely missed by you, Brian and all of her family, as well as her many friends. My loving husband, Andy, who sadly passed away on 8/12/2023, loved both you and Donna very much and because of you both, Andy and I accepted Jesus as our Lord and Savior on 7/8/1984. I'll always remember all our fellowship gatherings at your home in Avenel throughout the many years. At this time, Glenn and I want to offer both you and Brian our heartfelt condolences and pray that you'll both find peace and comfort knowing that Donna is no longer in any pain and is in Heaven with Lord Jesus Christ.

April 18 at 8:03 PM

RM

**Rosemarie Roe Maruzzella** posted:

Dear Frank and Bryan, I am so sorry for your loss. Donna was such a wonderful person and great friend. I know she will be greatly missed and is with the Lord. My sincere condolences to you both as well as your family. I am sitting here in tears. Cannot believe this has happened. Love Roe Maruzzella

April 18 at 6:26 PM



# Tribute Wall

**Donna M. Pagano**

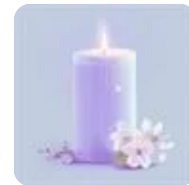
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**Jessie Edwards (Yuen)** lit a candle in honor of Donna.

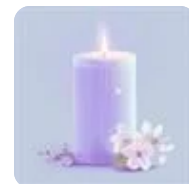
My thoughts are with my friend Brian and his father right now. I have known Mrs Pagano since I was 14 years old from church and all the memories I have are her being one of the kindest and caring woman I've ever met. Her love for God and her family shown through her at all times. She will be missed by many and remembered fondly. With Love... Jessie Edwards (Yuen) and family.

April 18 at 4:43 PM



**Janet A Muscatello** lit a candle in honor of Donna.

April 18 at 6:32 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Pagano family.

April 13 at 5:35 AM



**Rose M Rispoli** posted:

First I want to extend my heartfelt sympathy to Frank and Brian. There are simply no words to express the grief I feel. Donna was a once in a lifetime friend. I will never forget the fun times we shared. I can't imagine the grief you are feeling. My heart and prayers are with you both. Jesus said "blessed are those that mourn for they will be comforted." May the comfort and peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you now and forever. ❤️❤️❤️🙏🙏🙏

April 11 at 8:01 AM



**Judi (& David) O'brien** April 16 at 3:52 PM

She is with her Savior! She will be greatly missed. We send love and prayers to you Frank and to Brian and the family. She and I had a special bond that began teaching her Calligraphy and leading her to Jesus! I know she is rejoicing! May her investments in so many people continue to bear fruit! Love you always Donna ❤️



# Media

**Donna M. Pagano**  
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Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium shared a **Webcast Video**.

April 17 at 12:26 PM





# Memories only last if you share them

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



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