



Mary Agnes Perez

DEC 16, 1933 - APR 21, 2025



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Mary Agnes Perez

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Mary Agnes Perez, affectionately known as “Toots” and “Sis,” passed away peacefully at the age of 91 on April 21, 2025, in Lewes, Delaware.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, on December 16, 1933, to Irish immigrants Owen and Delia Agnes (Gavin) Travers, Mary was the eldest daughter of five children. Raised in the Fort Greene neighborhood, she was a devoted member of Queen of All Saints Church and began helping her father sell tea and eggs in the community at a young age.

In 1950, she married Richard J. Perez I, and together they built a loving family, first in Brooklyn and later in New Jersey, where they welcomed three more children. In 1976, they moved to Dover, Delaware, before settling permanently in Lewes the following year.

A proud small business owner, Mary operated the beloved Dockside Gift Shop in Lewes from 1977 until her retirement in 2005. The shop became a cherished local fixture, and many still fondly recall shopping with her. At the same time, she worked as a waitress at the Lamp Post Restaurant in Rehoboth, where she created lasting friendships with locals and visitors alike.

Mary was deeply involved in her community. She served on the Lewes Parks and Recreation Commission, where her work on the 1812 Memorial Park earned recognition from former Mayor Jim Ford. She also served as treasurer of the Lewes Chamber of Commerce and volunteered for programs including the Little Disciples Program at St. Jude’s Catholic Church, where she was a devoted parishioner.

She had a deep love for her family and faith, and delighted in gardening, dancing, and enjoying fine dining.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Richard J. Perez I and her brother, Eugene Travers.



Obituary

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She is survived by her five loving children: Richard J. Perez II (Corina) of Lewes, DE; Delia G. Perez of National Park, NJ; Alison C. Sage of Asheville, NC; Helen P. Naylor (Robert) of Lewes, DE; and Rita J. Perez of Newark, DE.

She is also survived by her siblings: Barbara Mascia of Queens, NY; Thomas Travers (Geraldine) of Phoenix, AZ; and Teresa Barberi of Staten Island, NY; six grandchildren: Michael A. Perez, Jake Hagerman, Jessica Naylor, Harta Naylor, Carie Cagle; and three great-grandchildren: Jackson Hagerman, Tallianna Perez, and Alaric Cagle.

Mary leaves behind a legacy of love, service, and community spirit. She will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 AM on May 2 2025 at St. Jude The Apostle Catholic Church, 152 Tulip Drive, Lewes DE, where friends and family are invited to visit from 10:00 - 11:00 AM. Interment will follow at St. Peter's Cemetery, 660 Pilottown Road, Lewes, DE.

Donations in Mary's memory are suggested to: Meals on Wheels, www.cheerde.com/meals-wheels or the CHEER Center, 546 S. Bedford Street, Georgetown, DE 19947.

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

<https://www.youtube.com/@StJudeTheApostleChurchLewesDE>

Please sign the virtual guestbook on the tribute wall.

Florist Note- any floral tributes should be delivered to the Lewes Funeral Home by 3 PM on May 1, 2025.



Events

Mary Agnes Perez
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Visitation

- 📅 **Friday, May 2, 2025**
- 🕒 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET
- 📍 **St. Jude The Apostle Catholic Church**
152 Tulip Drive, Lewes DE



Mass of Christian Burial

- 📅 **Friday, May 2, 2025**
- 🕒 11:00 AM ET
- 📍 **St. Jude The Apostle Catholic Church**
152 Tulip Drive, Lewes DE





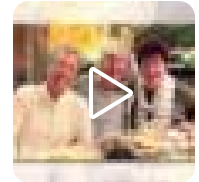
Tribute Wall

Mary Agnes Perez

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Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium shared an album called **Memories Album**.



May 5 at 6:18 AM



Michele Buckler shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.



I was deeply saddened to hear of Mary's passing, and I want to extend my heartfelt sympathy to all of you. I can only imagine the grief you're feeling, and I hope it brings some comfort to know how deeply she was loved and cherished—by so many, myself especially. For the past twenty years, Mary was much more than my landlord. She was a mentor, a dear friend, and truly felt like a second mother to me. Her compassion, quiet strength, and unwavering support helped shape my life in profound ways. She offered wisdom without judgment, love without condition, and friendship that never wavered. Mary spoke of her family with such love and pride—there was always a special light in her eyes when she mentioned your names. Please know she loved you all deeply, and you were an integral part of the love-filled life she lived. Her passing on Easter week—such a sacred and symbolic time—feels like a final blessing. It's a time of renewal and everlasting life, and somehow it feels fitting that she was called home in that kind of grace. April 20th and now April 21st hold a unique place in my heart, as both my biological mother and my "Lewes mother" passed on those dates. Those days I will always hold close, filled with love, remembrance, and deep gratitude. Thank you for allowing me to be part of the beautiful send-off you gave her—it was truly touching. During the graveside service, as the deacon was speaking, a European Starling flew through the tent. In that moment, it felt like a quiet sign from Mary herself—a gentle reminder that she is still with us. I hope you keep looking for the signs and blessings that she is always near. She will be deeply missed, but her love and light remain. With heartfelt sympathy,

April 22 at 12:00 PM



Love Helen sent a Fiery Lily and Rose to the Perez family.



May 1 at 4:17 PM



Marci Clifton lit a candle in honor of Mary Agnes.

My deepest condolences to the Perez family ..



April 30 at 12:40 PM



Tribute Wall

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Jeff And Cheryl Poulin sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Perez family.

April 30 at 10:53 AM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful Heart Bouquet to the Perez family.

April 29 at 6:08 PM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Mary Agnes.

April 29 at 6:08 PM



CB

Charlotte A Bastian posted:

Richard & Helen, you have a beautiful mother and I remember her so well when she had the shop. Always smiling and helpful. You have been so faithful to her and I know you will miss her so much. I hope your memories will give you strength and peace. Your family is so special to our community. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Love, Charlotte

April 29 at 1:46 PM



BC

Bernadette Cajina posted:

It was a joy to know Mary. Her beauty, wit, and sincerity touched so many lives. I had the privilege to bring her Communion and witnessed her faith-filled spirit. "May the road rise up to meet you... until we meet again" The joyous encounters and your beautiful smile will remain forever in our hearts 💖

April 29 at 9:26 AM



VN

Viki Nitsch sent an Arrive in Style to the Perez family.

April 29 at 7:14 AM





Tribute Wall

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Viki Nitsch planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Mary Agnes.



April 29 at 7:14 AM



Anonymous sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Perez family.



April 28 at 3:40 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Mary Agnes.



April 28 at 3:40 AM



Pat Sullivan posted:

Mary and I did 2pm adoration at St Jude's the Apostle Church every Friday. She was 88 years old when I started adoration. I learned many things from her experiences living for 88 years. After adoration we would go to Duncan Donuts for coffee and a donut. Good memories. RIP Mary 🙏 Pat Sullivan

April 25 at 1:01 PM



Viki Nitsch April 29 at 7:07 AM

Mary guided me through RCIA at St Jude The Apostle Church. I am so thankful for her guidance, wisdom, and love. May she have eternal rest with our Lord!



Sheila Smith lit a candle in honor of Mary Agnes.



April 25 at 10:52 AM



Tribute Wall

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AF

April & Matich Family sent a Divine Light to the Perez family.

April 25 at 10:46 AM



AF

April & Matich Family planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Mary Agnes.

April 25 at 10:46 AM



LM

Lisa Hunt (Formerly McCormick) posted:

In the early 1980's, I was a young waitress at the Lamp Post and Mary took me under her wing and taught me the ropes. She took very good care of me and for that, I will always appreciate her and think of her fondly.

April 25 at 9:31 AM

PA

Patti & Jim lit a candle in honor of Mary Agnes.

Helen and family, sending you all much love and many prayers at this difficult time. Patti & Jim Deptula

April 25 at 6:48 AM



RF

Ronald Fortin And Family sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Perez family.

April 25 at 2:22 AM



RF

Ronald Fortin And Family planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Mary Agnes.

April 25 at 2:22 AM





Tribute Wall

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Jenn April posted:

Mom Mary you have blessed everyone you came in contact with from your time here. I'm pretty sure that the first time I met you, I was roller skating in Lewes, when you made me laugh out loud at King's Ice Cream by asking "How can you skate and eat a cone?" I showed her my skill and we both laughed a big belly laugh. Such a Mary Perez move. I thank you for blessing me with knowing you. Cheers Jenn April & Familia

April 24 at 5:55 PM



Love, Mary McBride And Tonya Morris sent a Forever Our Angel Bouquet to the Perez family.



April 24 at 4:21 PM



Love, Mary McBride And Tonya Morris planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Mary Agnes.



April 24 at 4:21 PM



Ethel P. Maull lit a candle in honor of Mary Agnes.



April 24 at 4:19 PM



Ethel P. Maull posted:

I first met Mrs. Perez way back in 1979,. While working at JB grocery store on 2nd street. She was always pleasant and children were well behaved. She had always been in my mind and I send my condolences to her family, remember the happy times. Ethel Maull

April 24 at 4:18 PM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Perez family.



April 24 at 1:09 PM



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Mary Agnes.



April 24 at 1:09 PM



Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium shared an album called **Memories Album**.



April 24 at 11:41 AM



Kelly Conlon posted:

I got to meet Mary years ago when my dear friend, her daughter Helen, took me to her shop for the first time. I was struck by her beautiful smile and how warm and welcoming she was to me. I know she is dearly loved by her family and community and her radiance will be missed by all.

April 24 at 8:29 AM



Laura Madia posted:

From the first time I met Mary, to 35 years years between then and now, I was blessed to know a woman who lived by all the teachings of goodness that God preached. She was a surrogate mother who truly listened and cared. Her wonderful children and the many lives she touched in the best of ways is the best legacy Mary has left behind. She will be so sadly missed here on earth.

April 23 at 12:30 PM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Perez family.



April 23 at 7:33 AM



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KM

Karla Marie posted:

Sending my sincerest condolences to the Perez family. Mary was such a beautiful soul, and a sweet woman. Her legacy will live on in through the lives of her children. May you find comfort in knowing your Mom loved you all so very much, and now watches over you. ❤️

April 23 at 2:14 AM

CL

Colette Lancaster posted:

Richard & family, you stood by us when Dad & Mom passed. You were a blessing. May this time of sorrow be eased knowing that the comfort you gave is now extended to you. Colette & Roxy

April 22 at 4:39 PM

TD

Trish Dickerson posted:

Richard, Helen and family..We are so very sorry for your loss. Thinking of you and sending much love and hugs during these difficult times!!

April 22 at 12:00 PM



Media

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Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium shared a video to the **Memories Album** album.

May 5 at 6:18 AM



SCAN TO WATCH



Media

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Michele Buckler shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

May 4 at 9:53 AM





Media

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Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium shared a photo to the **Memories Album** album.

April 24 at 11:41 AM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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