



Victoria Pietrusiak

November 13, 1912 - March 11, 2013

Victoria Pietrusiak passed away on March 11, 2013 with daughter Irene at her side. Victoria had celebrated her 100th Birthday on November 13, 2012.

Our Queen Victoria was the best Mother, Grandmother, and Great Grandmother in the world. Victoria was born in Brzozow, Poland to Franciszek and Anna Pieta. She lived on a farm with her parents, brother, and three sisters. Her parents traveled back and forth to the U.S. and they made plans for the whole family to emigrate and become U.S. citizens. All of her siblings went to the U.S. and Victoria stayed behind to take of mother who became ill. She took her mother's place as "lady of the house" and stayed on years after her Mother died.

Victoria's older sister Michalina asked "Teddy" Pietrusiak to look in on her sister as when he traveled to Poland. She hoped they would marry and come to live in America. That is what happened, they married in Poland and Victoria emigrated to the U.S. via ship in 1933 to New York City. They started their life with \$0.50 in their pockets.

She gave birth to her son Stanley about 5 months after her arrival in Manhattan. They had an apartment in the 70's on the East Side, near Lenox Hill Hospital where all of her children were born. Her daughter Carol Ann was born a few years later and Irene the following year. The family moved to N.J.

in and lived in what was called “Frog Hollow.” It was an area of factories and oil refineries and when she hung out the wash there were rust spots on the clothes.

Eventually they bought a house in the “Polish section” of Elizabeth, NJ and were surrounded by all the ethnic people that immigrated from Ireland, Italy, and Germany and proved to be an interesting place to live. The children attended, St. Adalbert’s Parochial school and Victoria went to work at a factory sewing men’s leather jackets.

She progressed to buying a dress shop, which she named “Victoria’s Dress Shop” which she operated that store for about 10 years before moving to Linden, N.J with her husband. A few years later her daughter, Irene asked her if she was ready for a new adventure and together they went to the New York School of Floral Design. Her daughter opened “The Four Seasons Florist” and Victoria became the top floral designer at the shop.

A few years later her daughter Irene and her husband Don started another company, Foliage Plant Systems and asked Victoria if she were ready for a new adventure and as always Victoria was! She was the designer for the Floral and Christmas departments creating designs for commercial clients. Victoria was also involved with installations of plants and maintenance for accounts such as The Port of NY and NJ at The World Trade Center, RCA, McGraw Hill, IBM, Macy’s, and many shopping malls.

At one point she and her husband were able to spend winters in Florida after the Christmas installations were completed. In 1985 Victoria’s husband, Tadeusz died and she moved to a condo in Mahwah. She continued to work and a few years later she and her sister Michalina moved to a house in HoHoKus, N.J.

In 1994, Irene and Don asked the sisters if they were ready for another adventure and en-masse they moved to Carmel Valley, CA. Michalina died a short time thereafter. A few years later Irene, Don, and Victoria went on another adventure and moved to Santa Barbara. Victoria lived in Villa Santa Barbara and after breaking her hip moved to Samarkand, Smith Facility where she spent her last seven years.

She attended most of the activities and thoroughly enjoyed the staff, nurses, and caregivers. The nickname Queen Victoria followed her on all of these adventures. She was a lovely regal lady.

She was preceded in death by husband Tadeusz son, Stanley Pietrusiak, siblings, Louie Pieta, Mary Baron, Eleanor Wladyka and Michalina Lorentz and son-in-law Donald Mastick.

She leaves behind loving daughters Irene Mastick and Carol Magierowski and husband Stanley

Grandchildren:

Stan Pietrusiak Jr.

Dianne Freed and husband Doug

Karen Jones and husband Don

Nancy Policastro and husband Craig

Ted Magierowski and wife Christine.

Great Grandchildren:

Jarrett Magierowski

Scot Policastro

A memorial service will be held on Friday March 15th at 10:30 A.M. at the

Smith Facility Music Room.

Donations in her memory may be made to:

The Samarkand Benevolence Fund

2550 Treasure Drive

Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAR 15. 10:30 AM (PT)

Smith Facility Music Room at The Samarkand
2550 Treasure Drive
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Tribute Wall

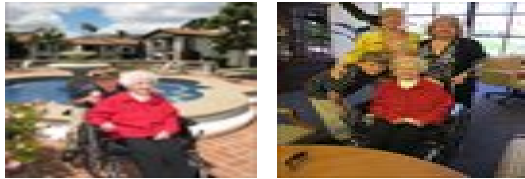
LW

“ My condolences to the Pietrusiak family, and apologies as I was not aware of her passing. I spent time with Victoria when I was much younger and the strongest memory is her pierogies and how much I loved them. Its been a long time I hope you are all doing well. Lori Kimber Wagner, Delmar, NY

Lori Wagner - July 15, 2014 at 08:33 AM



“ 2 files added to the album Memorial Day Weekend 2011



Welch-Ryce-Haider Funeral Chapels - March 18, 2013 at 06:25 PM

NP

“ 2 files added to the album Memorial Day Weekend 2011



Nancy Policastro - March 18, 2013 at 05:57 PM

AH

“ Irene, My condolences to you and your family on the loss of your Mom. I remember the beautiful dress shop your Mom had and the nice home on Franklin Street that your family shared. It was interesting to read about her family history and also the many different enterprises she was involved in. A truly remarkable woman. So sorry for your loss. Love, Annette Hoey

Annette Hoey - March 18, 2013 at 02:54 PM

NP

“ 3 files added to the album Memorial Day Weekend 2011



Nancy Policastro - March 18, 2013 at 02:46 PM

CA

“ 2 files added to the album Memorial Day Weekend 2011



Carol - March 16, 2013 at 09:32 PM

C(

“ 1 file added to the album *Memorial Day Weekend 2011*



Carol Magierowski (Daughter) - March 16, 2013 at 04:10 PM

IM

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



irene mastick - March 15, 2013 at 06:59 PM

IM

“ 2 files added to the album *New Album Name*



irene mastick - March 15, 2013 at 06:50 PM

IM

“ 5 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Irene Mastick - March 14, 2013 at 05:18 PM