



RITA MAE (CASSALIA) BONACCIO

June 4, 1928 - July 12, 2024

Rita Mae (Cassalia) Bonaccio, age 96, of Solvay, passed away on Friday evening, July 12, 2024. She was in the loving and dignified hospice care of Francis House in Syracuse at the time of her death. She was able to live in her own home until July 1, thanks to the dedicated care and support from her children and her three wonderful caregivers, Sharon, Kathy, and Danielle. Rita was born in Syracuse on June 4, 1928, to the late Mary (Palladino) and Sebastian “Ben” Cassalia. Her early years were spent with her parents, brothers, and sister in the home on Avery Avenue in Syracuse that she carried fond memories of into her final days. Rita married the love of her life, Anthony “Tony” Bonaccio, on May 26, 1956 at St. Cecilia Church in Solvay. In 1960, Rita and Tony settled into their new home in Solvay, where they would raise their four children and where she would spend the next 64 years of her life. After Tony predeceased her in 1997, she continued her faith-filled and independent lifestyle and was truly an inspiration to her children, grandchildren, and everyone who knew and loved her. She graduated from Powelson Business School, and spent her entire career at the family business, Syracuse Barber & Beauty Supply (“the Store”). She was a strong woman, dedicated in the Catholic faith that was central in her life. She loved her immediate and extended families and was especially happy to have company in her home. While not passionate about cooking, she inherited her mother’s skills in preparing terrific Italian dishes – meatballs and braciola were a specialty! She herself was a lifelong devotee of milk

chocolate; holidays and birthdays brought a bounty of cookies and sweet treats that she would heartily enjoy. She loved music, played the piano (and loved to tell the story of how she learned), and tapped along on the kitchen table to the music of Lawrence Welk.

Rita is survived by her four children: son, Anthony and his wife Connie, of Shelburne, Vermont; daughter, Mary and her husband Robert Green, of Rochester; son, John and fiancée Carol Deninger, of Dewitt; and daughter, Margaret and partner Mary Bolton, of Sammamish, Washington. Also surviving are her grandchildren: Benjamin Bonaccio and wife Carolyn Bauer, of Burlington, Vermont; Nicholas Bonaccio and partner Joscelyn, of Madison, Wisconsin; Matthew Bonaccio, of Syracuse and Thomas (Jenna) Bonaccio, of New York, NY; Joseph Green and fiancée Anja, of Dallas, Texas; Jack Henry Green, of Rochester; and Laura Borate and husband Brian, of Rochester; and Bill Green of Rochester. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews. In her final years she was helped by many but especially her nephew, Robert, her niece Dennise, and her cousin Theresa.

In addition to her parents, Rita is predeceased by her husband, Anthony Bonaccio, and by her four siblings: John "Jack" Cassalia, David Cassalia, Patrick Cassalia, and Frances Palladine. Also predeceasing her are Tony's siblings: Michael, Dominic, and James Bonaccio; Antoinette VanNamee, Louise Albert, and Josephine Bonaccio.

Family and friends may call from 4:00 to 6:00 PM on Wednesday, July 17, 2024 at BAGOZZI TWINS FUNERAL HOME, 2601 Milton Avenue in Solvay. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 9:30 AM on Thursday, July 18, 2024 at St. Marianne Cope Parish-St. Cecilia Church, 1001 Woods Road in Solvay. Interment will follow immediately at Greenlawn Cemetery, 2932 Warners Rd., Warners.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made in her memory to St. Marianne Cope Parish Food Pantry, 105 Stanton Ave, Solvay, NY 13209 or Francis House, 108 Michaels Ave, Syracuse, NY 13208.

Please share online tributes and memories at www.bagozzitwins.com.

Cemetery Details

Greenlawn Memorial Park

2932 Warners Rd.
Warners, NY 13164

Previous Events

Calling Hours

JUL 17. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

BAGOZZI TWINS FUNERAL HOME
2601 Milton Avenue
Solvay, NY 13209
info@bagozzitwinsfh.com
<http://www.bagozzitwins.com>

Mass of Christian Burial

JUL 18. 9:30 AM (ET)

ST. MARIANNE COPE PARISH; ST. CECILIA CHURCH
1001 WOODS RD.
SOLVAY, NY 13209

Tribute Wall



“ Bagozzi Twins Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of RITA MAE (CASSALIA) BONACCIO



BAGOZZI TWINS FUNERAL HOME, INC. - July 16, 2024 at 04:34 PM

SK

What a beautiful lady! ❤️

Sharon King - July 16, 2024 at 01:48 PM

DT

“ I can just imagine Aunt Rita coming home Friday night, as she approaches 1118 she gets a whif of Poppy smoking a cigar in his Cadillac parked in the driveway. When she walks in the front door she's greeted by Gram making sauce, Aunt Fran is coming down the stairs when she sees her sister...she screams in delight, runs to her while yelling "Jack, Pat, Dave come quick it's Rita she's HOME! After all the hugs and kisses Aunt Rita senses someone off to the side. As she turns there is Uncle Tony standing there tapping his toe with the widest smile. He opens his arms and says Rita you're finally here .

Dennise Tatusko - July 17, 2024 at 03:50 PM

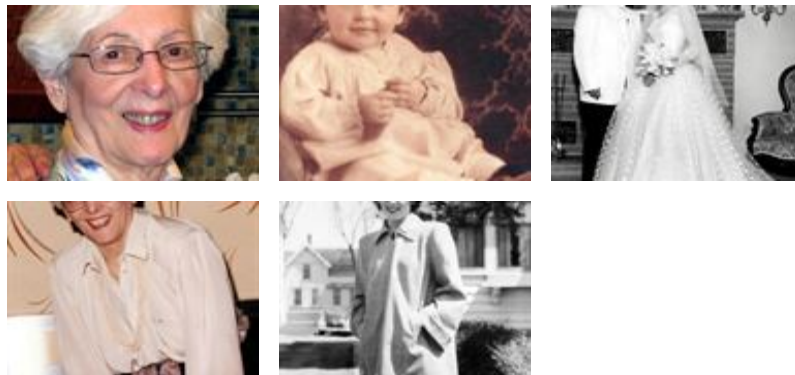
TB

A beautiful tribute to our dear Mom, Denise's. Thanks so much to you and John for all you did for her, and for being with us at Mom's services.

Tony Bonaccio - July 20, 2024 at 06:37 PM



“ 31 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



BAGOZZI TWINS FUNERAL HOME, INC. - July 16, 2024 at 12:27 PM

LK

“ *Love, Matt, Tommy and Karen purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of RITA MAE (CASSALIA) BONACCIO.*



Love, Matt, Tommy and Karen - July 16, 2024 at 12:30 AM

KB

“ *Beautiful picture of Rita... this is how I will always remember her. May she rest in peace and my condolences to the whole family.*

Karen Bonaccio - July 15, 2024 at 09:35 PM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of RITA MAE (CASSALIA) BONACCIO.*



July 15, 2024 at 07:30 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of RITA MAE (CASSALIA) BONACCIO.*



July 15, 2024 at 02:24 PM