



Antoinette "Toni" DiScenna

January 30, 1924 - December 18, 2019

Antoinette "Toni" Vincenza DiScenna (née Manginelli) 95, of Syracuse, went home to the Lord on December 18, 2019. She was born in Pittsburgh, PA, grew up in Youngstown, OH and earned her B.A. in Romance Languages at Youngstown University. Toni was a woman ahead of her time. She was a full-time mom, a full-time housewife and a full-time businesswoman all wrapped in a tremendous faith in, and love of God. She met Amleto, the love of her life and they married and moved to Syracuse in 1952 surrounded by the generous community of Collelonghesi. Antoinette and Amleto began working to improve the lives of Italian immigrants in Syracuse, through Toni's work with the Americanization League, and later through the establishment of DiScenna Travel Service. Countless individuals passed through the doors of Di Scenna Travel across six decades with many seeking immigration and citizenship information, and help filling out the myriad forms, advice on Italian pensions, and often simply asking questions on how to do things in America, or sometimes just needing a kind word and a friendly smile, and Toni was a natural.

Antoinette was very involved in her faith and in parish activities from St. John the Evangelist to Blessed Sacrament to Our Lady of Pompei, serving as lector and extraordinary minister of the Eucharist, and regularly visiting the sick, the elderly, and the homebound, in addition to active involvement in innumerable church and school organizations. In the mid-1970s, as the Charismatic movement grew in the Church, Amleto and Antoinette were instrumental in establishing il Cenacolo, an Italian Prayer Group, with Fr. Richard Dellos, at Our Lady of Pompei. Later in life, Antoinette became a member of the Lay Order of Carmelites. Antoinette and Amleto were a constant presence on the radio from the 1960s with their own programs, Voci d'Italia and L'ora del Risveglio. After Amleto's passing, Antoinette continued to both entertain and inform the Italian community on George Branca's and more recently, Tullio Salomone's weekly radio programs. Antoinette had the attention and care of her daughter-in-law, Kathleen, for many years. More recently, Pascal stepped in to help. We would like to thank her caregivers, Victoria Steer and Nikki Cavallaro and the nurses, therapists and aides of Kindred Home Health for their exceptional care during the past year.

Antoinette was predeceased by her husband, Amleto; her parents, Pasquale and Maria (Garramone) Manginelli; brother, Rocco Manginelli; sister, Angela Manginelli; sister-in-law Helen Manginelli; and great-niece, Francesca Schilling.

Antoinette is survived by her sons, Fred (Barbara), Pascal (Carolyn) and Armand (Kathleen); grandchildren, Matthew (Maria), Laura, Alexander (Rekha), and Stephen Di Scenna; nephews Rocco (Deborah) and Pasquale Manginelli, and niece Marie Elena (Scott) Schilling; great-nephews Gabriel Manginelli and Scott Schilling; great grand-niece Emilia and numerous nieces and nephews in Italy.

Visiting hours will be Monday, December 23 from 9:30 to 11AM at Our Lady of Pompei Church, followed by Mass at 11AM and burial at Woodlawn Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a contribution to Our Lady of Pompei Parish/School, the Progresso Lodge of the Order of Sons and Daughters of Italy, EWTN or the Third Order of the Carmelites.

Cemetery

Woodlawn Cemetery

800 Grant Blvd

Syracuse, NY, 13203

Events

DEC **Calling Hours** 09:30AM - 11:00AM

23

Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter Church

301 Ash Street, Syracuse, NY, US, 13208

DEC **Mass of Christian Burial** 11:00AM

23

Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter Church

301 Ash Street, Syracuse, NY, US, 13208

Comments



“ Susan Maurillo lit a candle in memory of Antoinette "Toni" DiScenna



susan maurillo - December 26, 2019 at 06:15 PM



“ Susan Maurillo Sims lit a candle in memory of Antoinette "Toni" DiScenna



susan maurillo sims - December 26, 2019 at 06:14 PM



“ Mrs. DiScienna and her husband were the hidden gems of the North Side. It was individuals like them that made the North Side great. Their door was always open to help those in need. My parents immigrated to this country from Italy. They came here with only 2 suitcases and 2 small children in tow. They knew no English, yet they worked hard and persevered to live the American dream. I remember my mom going to visit The DiScienna's on N. Salina St. with papers from Italy they could not decipher. The DiScienna's were ALWAYS so kind and genuine to my parents. They would charge nothing and often accept cookies from my mom as payment that they would share with their son / daughter in law who worked there and were gracious as well. When my father passed Mrs. DiScienna reached out to console my Mom who was heart broken from having lost her partner from over 50+ years of marriage. I'm certain my parents were at the gates of heaven with many others ready to greet and welcome Mrs. DiScienna. Thank YOU Mrs. DiScienna and the entire family for the unending kindness you so willingly shared and showed my parents and all the other Italian immigrants from the North Side. Your genuine nature is what made the North Side so great. RIP Antoinette DiScienna!



Marisa Santaro - December 26, 2019 at 08:03 AM



“ Dear Family of Mrs. DiScenna,

I met Mrs. DiScenna in the 1960s and over the years, she helped my husband Tony and I with travel arrangements and translation of Italian documents. I am especially indebted to her for helping me with pension matters as she was able to translate and communicate as needed. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Joyce Pennucci



Joyce - December 22, 2019 at 09:04 PM



“ TO THE FAMILY OF DiScenna very sorry for your lost
Lenny Medico

Lenny Medico - December 22, 2019 at 10:55 AM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Antoinette "Toni"
DiScenna.



December 20, 2019 at 10:33 PM



“ Anthony And Maria Lamanna lit a candle in memory of Antoinette "Toni" DiScenna



Anthony and Maria Lamanna - December 20, 2019 at 10:02 PM



“ Dear Family and Friends of Toni,
We, the Franciscan Sisters who served at Pompei, wish to offer our sympathy. Toni was a delight and inspiration. She served the poor, the refugees, those in RCIA, and all who were in need. May she rest in peace.
Sr. Francis, Sr. Pat and all who knew and worked with Toni.

Sr. Pat Coyle - December 19, 2019 at 01:15 PM



“ A very kind, loving and compassionate woman who shared a wonderful friendship with my mom. She was such an intelligent and well respected lady and definitely ahead of her time. You know she and my mom are in heaven singing in the choir!
Thoughts and prayers to all her family.

Ofelia Bell - December 19, 2019 at 11:57 AM



“ Antoinette Pallotta lit a candle in memory of Antoinette "Toni" DiScenna



Antoinette Pallotta - December 19, 2019 at 09:29 AM



“ Please accept the deepest Sympathies from the Ziel Family. Your Mom and Dad were the Best of the Best.
Your Mother planned my trip to Germany (short notice) to see my then Boyfriend who was in the Army stationed outside of Frankfurt in 1979/1981. This was considered scandalous because we were not married yet.
She actually told me to "Be extra careful, pray your Rosary, and remember your morning and evening prayers-You'll be safe".
I'll never forget her.
Please know that she is in Heaven and looking down on you all, so proud.
She will be in my Novena and prayers each day,
Respectfully,
Melanie Ziel

Melanie Ziel - December 18, 2019 at 05:11 PM