



Melisande Amelita (DeSantis) Petosa

August 14, 1933 - January 11, 2021

Melisande Amelita DeSantis Petosa, 87 of Syracuse, passed away on Monday, January 11, after a long illness. Born on August 14, 1933, she was the daughter of Pasqualina Delmonaco and Eustachio DeSantis.

She is predeceased by her loving husband of 52 years, Nicholas J. Petosa,; her parents; sisters, Genevieve DeSantis Federico, Aida Caputo, and Leonora Payne; brother, Fidelio DeSantis.

Surviving are her children, Linda (Chris) Lorusso, Diana (Albert) Fortunato, Nicholas (Lisa) Petosa, and Andrea (Larry) Martin; grandchildren, Chris (Jennifer) Lorusso, Michael (Sierra) Lorusso, Gina (Vincenzo) Giufre, John and Dominic Fortunato, Maria and Nicholas Petosa, Adina, Rebecca and Joseph Martin; several great-grandchildren; sisters, Norma (Augusto) Collacchi, Tosca (Dominic) DeSantis; many nieces and nephews.

As a teenager, Melisande worked in the family business, The DeSantis School of Music (The Lyra Music Company) and also W.T. Grant as manager of the music department. She was also an avid classical guitarist. On Sundays she produced and hosted "The Italian Hour" on WNDR Radio, which was a musical program spoken both in Italian and English. She graduated from North High School in 1952. In 1955, she married the love of her life nine months after he returned from his two and a half year tour in Korea.

In 1966, she became a foster mother for Child and Family Services, and also for the Onondaga County Department of Social Services (Children's Division). She later opened a private day care in her home for 35 years where she cared for many children.

Melisande's greatest pleasure in life was spending time with her husband, children and grandchildren and she especially loved sitting in the audience watching her grandchildren perform Italian music together as The Lyra Performers. She took such pride in the wonderful family that she and her husband created together, and she will be profoundly missed.

The family of Melisande would like to thank the wonderful staff at Upstate Community

Hospital for the excellent care they provided for her in her final moments.

Calling hours will be held on Monday, January 18th from 9:30-1130 a.m. at Farone & Son, 1500 Park Street. A private Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated for family only at Holy Family Church at 12:30 pm, 127 Chapel Drive. A private burial at Assumption Cemetery will follow. To attend the calling hours remotely, please use the link on Melisande's tribute page at www.faroneandsoninc.com to watch the live webcast at 9:30a.m. For those who wish to watch the live streamed mass, go to www.holyfamilysyr.org and click on the funeral masses icon.

Cemetery

Assumption Cemetery

2401 Court Street

Syracuse, NY, 13208

Events

JAN **Calling Hours** 09:30AM - 11:30AM

18

Farone & Son Inc. Funeral Home

1500 Park Street, Syracuse, NY, US, 13208

Comments



“ Dear Nick, Lisa & family, My condolences to you on the passing of your Mom, Mom-in-law & loved one. A beautiful tribute to an obviously loving & gifted person. Sending prayers of strength & peace. Love, Carol Capogreco-Wells.

Carol Capogreco-Wells - January 19 at 01:10 PM



“ Diana and family - I am so sorry to hear of your mother's passing. It is never an easy time, but seems so much harder in these times we are living in. My thoughts and prayers are with you. I wish you peace.

Tina E Redmond - January 18 at 09:04 PM



“ thank you

Diana - January 27 at 11:40 AM



“ Alexandra Federico McGrath lit a candle in memory of Melisande Amelita (DeSantis) Petosa



Alexandra Federico McGrath - January 18 at 10:09 AM



“ My deepest condolences for your loss! I will always remember how sweet Aunt Mel was! A true angel indeed! <3

Alexandra Federico McGrath - January 18 at 10:10 AM



“ Thank you so much

Andrea Martin - January 19 at 06:07 PM



“ thank you so muh

Diana - January 27 at 11:41 AM



“ Dearest Linda, Diana, Nick, and Andrea, our sincerest sympathy on the passing of your mom, my Aunt Mel. One of my earliest childhood memories is of her courting days with your dad on Salina Street. Such a good looking couple! She had a great sense of humor and was beyond proud of her children and grandchildren. May all of your memories bring smiles to your faces during this sad time. Sending love, Amy (Amelita... a name we shared) and family!

Amy Federico McGrath - January 17 at 03:23 PM



“ Thank you Amy for your memories of mom and dad. We miss them both so much.

Andrea Martin - January 19 at 06:09 PM



“ thank you so much

Diana - January 28 at 12:16 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Melisande Amelita (DeSantis) Petosa.



January 16 at 04:18 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Melisande Amelita (DeSantis) Petosa.



January 16 at 09:03 AM



“ Adelaide, Tony & Anna, Mario & Marianne Petosa purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of Melisande Amelita (DeSantis) Petosa.



Adelaide, Tony & Anna, Mario & Marianne Petosa - January 15 at 07:28 PM



“ Linda and Diana, my heartfelt sympathy to you and all of your family on the loss of your mother. I am sure she is reunited with your father and may they both rest in peace.

Mary Herbst

Mary Herbst - January 15 at 11:21 AM



“ Thank you so much Mary

Diana - January 28 at 12:18 PM



“ Mom I miss you so much but now you are reunited with the love of your life. Give dad a big hug and kiss for me and tell him we all love him and miss him too.

Diana Fortunato - January 15 at 09:56 AM



“ Dear Petosa Family

“ It is a wonderful thing, a mother; other folks can love you, but only your mother understands.

She works for you, looks after you, loves you, forgives you anything you may do, understand you, and then the only thing bad she ever does to you is to die and leave you.”-

Baroness VonHutton

How true!

May the many happy memories you have bring you comfort!

So sorry for your loss, but rest easy, knowing that your mom is in Heaven reunited with the rest of the family .

Your long ago neighbor from Corning Ave,
Dolores (DeRoche) Grace

Dolores Grace - January 15 at 11:35 AM



“ Thank you delores for your kind words

Diana - January 28 at 12:20 PM