



Mafalda A. Brucato

August 21, 1924 - July 27, 2012

Mafalda A. Brucato, 87 died Friday July 27, 2012 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville, NJ. She was born in Brooklyn, NY the daughter of the late Bernadino and Concetta Caliendo. She was a resident of Manville, NJ for the past four years. Prior to that she lived in Kissimmee, Florida for 18 years. Mrs. Brucato worked as an operator for the Bell Atlantic Telephone Company in Hempstead, NY for many years before retiring in 1990. She loved to cook and entertain. She also enjoyed listening to Italian music and dancing. She was predeceased by six sisters Angelina, Rose, Michalina, Marie, Josephine and Collette and by three brothers Salvatore, Vincent and Anthony. She is survived by her four daughters Annette Melchers of Dix Hills, Long Island, NY, Barbara Rutigliano and her husband Alfred of Lake Worth, Florida, Denise Brucato of Manville, NJ, Anna Marie Brucato of Milltown, NJ and by a sister Theresa Taormina of Harrison, NY. She is also survived by four grandchildren Michelle, John, Kim and Billie Jo and by three great-grandchildren Joseph Alexander, Mario and Alfredo. The viewing will be on Sunday July 29, 2012 from 5 to 9 PM at the Ketusky Funeral Home, 1310 Brooks Blvd., Manville, NJ.(908)575-8512. The Funeral will be on Monday July 30, 2012 9:00 AM from the Ketusky Funeral Home to be followed by a 10:30 AM Committal Service and entombment at St. Gertrude Cemetery, 53 Inman Ave., Colonia, NJ 07067. For additional information please visit our website at www.ketusky.com.

Cemetery Details

Saint Gertrude Cemetery

53 Inman Ave.
Colonia, NJ 07067

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **29**. 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Ketusky Funeral Home
1310 Brooks Blvd - PO Box 747
Manville, NJ 08835
(908) 575-8512
info@ketusky.com
<https://www.ketusky.com>

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Service

JUL **30**. 10:30 AM (ET)

Saint Gertrude Cemetery
53 Inman Ave.
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Tribute Wall

BS

“ I am truly sorry I could not say goodbye in person, but believe me I am there with you grandma. I remember all the awesome food you used to cook (thats why I love to cook) and trips to disney. When growing up you always tried to keep us in focused with that truly strong side of yours. You always wanted me to quit smoking and now i did and I can't tell you in person but now you can see it now that I know you are with me. I am glad now you are not suffering and now you are with others that love you. You were always caring and loving. I know you are now in peace with your family in heaven. Every time I look at a rosery I always will think of you because now there is an awesome angel in heaven and she will be missed very much and is loved very much. Now I can talk to you anytime. I love you grandma..



Billie Jo Skripko - July 29, 2012 at 03:28 PM

VR

“ Although I did not get to spend much time with Mel, only the couple of occasions that I did meet her, she was quite unique-I am glad that I did get to meet her and have been very close to the Brucato family-My prayers, love and sympathy go out to all of you and know that I will always be there for you-Love you all Ginny

Virginia Raynor - July 29, 2012 at 03:04 PM

AB

“ *Annie Brucato sent a virtual gift in memory of Mafalda A. Brucato*



Annie Brucato - July 29, 2012 at 01:28 PM

AB

I love you MOM & will miss you very much. I will always remember your "MOM" touch...forever & ever. From my heart to yours. I'm so glad of all the wonderful years we had together, thanks to God for that. They erased the bad ones so that the only ones that remain are a good ones. Send my love to JESUS & to all the aunts & uncles for me. Tell them Hello for me, from this side of life. I'll see you again.

Annie Brucato - July 29, 2012 at 01:34 PM

BR

“ *How can I express my love in a few words? I don't know how else but to say THANK YOU MAMA! Thanks for the love you showed through your family, your cooking, the fun we had going to Coney Island, Freedomland, Sandy Beach. The pool parties and barbeques. There are truly a lifetime of memories. I know I'm not remembering everything. I could go on and on. I love you much and you will always be with me. I will speak with you daily. You are in my heart. Thank you Mom for being there. I wouldn't have had it any other way. Love you always, Barbara*

Barbara Rutigliano - July 29, 2012 at 12:24 PM

AL

“ Looking back at all the memories that I had with Mafalda I finally realise how special they really were to me. The smallest gestures were some of the most important ones to me, and the ones that made me really love Mafalda. I remember seeing Mafalda and she would always give me some change or a dollar or two. I remember what she told me " Dont waste your money, save it and spend it on something nice" Mafaldas heart was like an open book, who ever had the love and desire to learn about her and get to know her she would open her heart and let you in. Anyone who really knew Mafalda knew she was a sweetest thing ever, and loved her Italian food. I always remember Mafalda saying "mmm, mmm" while eating Italian food or some sweets. Except Mafalda was also a very stronge woman. When I would visit Mafalda in the nursing home her face seemed to just light up. On Easter when me and DeeDee went to go see her she said "This is such a treat" That really made me happy because i made her day. Also because she didnt always remember things and for her to remember me made me feel like I held a permanent spot in her heart. towards the end of mafaldas journey here on earth her family came down to spend her last breaths with the amazing women that they love. I wasnt able to see her but I know she knew I loved and will always love her. When I heard the devistating news there was part of me that was extremely sad but part of me knew that shes out of pain and in Heaven with the angles. She might not be physically with us, but shes in all of our hearts and watching over us and keeping us safe.

~Alexis~



Alexis Landgraber - July 29, 2012 at 12:16 PM

DB

“ Well what can i say about mom...she loved to go crabbing lets chat about crabbing...she would come home with bushels of crabs..they would be on the kitchen floor till mom was ready to cook them..we would have the freezer full of crab ,dancing,joy rides,let me expound about the joy rides..she would leave the house in am and pick up her sisters in brooklyn then they would make a wrong turn and be lost, my mom used to say i am in a car this is an adventure so she was never really lost ,the maclamal sisters were together on their adventure...throwing parties.having barbecues,pool parties,all with the name of family , sisters,daughters,in laws cousins,grand kids,great grand kids ..she was all about her family . my mom taught me how to cook..she was a great cook, whatever my mom did she did with 100% effort...she had a twin sister they were inseparablethey were the best...i will always remember her as the best mom and friend...all the breakfast we shared, and the laughs..I LOVE YOU MOM Denise



denise brucato - July 29, 2012 at 11:46 AM

MP

“ I too have very fond memories of Aunt Mel. She was, after all, the chauffeur of the family. Driving my grandmother, Marie, and Aunt Clare on many excursions, that often led to Easton, PA. to visit us. There was one occasion that resulted in a phone call stating that they would be "late" because they were accidently heading to Ohio (someone missed an exit). She was a constant at Gramma's house, at least when we were able to make it to Brooklyn; I now know that it wasn't a coincidence. My one and only trip to Disney was also made possible because of her hospitality. Thank you Aunt Mel.

Michael Palumbo - July 28, 2012 at 09:27 PM

RM

“ I think anyone who knew "Mel" relative friend or colleague would say first and foremost FAMILY MATTERS. She was the first one on the scene (part of the MARCLEMEL trio) for weddings and wakes births and birthdays. Her twin "Aunt Mary" aka Marie was her closest buddy in every sense of the word. Surely Mel loved all of the family- but the closest bond was with what she (and my mom) called TWINNIE. I was most honored to see that bond throughout my life - everyone could.

Aunt Mel was also a huge FOODIE- before the term was in fashion.. Huge portions of delicious Italian fare were the rule and not the exception. Having the first back yard pool made her the quintessential Summertime Queen to this Brookklyn kid. No matter when I went, she always had a swimsuit at the ready. That was one of the wonderful memories I had.

She was kind to all particularly stray dogs and cats that found their way to 601 Fiske Place Uniondale. They were so lucky as she had a soft spot for all God's creatures.

Many of my memories stem back to my early youth over 40 years ago. Brides (Barbara and Annette) had their pictures on the front lawn, a huge group family photo is part of my framework of memories taken when Michele "Sunshine" Melchers was baptized. The other memories I have are just as wonderful.. So many could write their own signature about her but their will be a common thread in each of them.

New year's eve was a gala for all who showed up. Noisemakers ran the gamut from the sublime to the ridiculous- Just give us a pot and ladle and we'd have at it!!!

She loveds adventure- we had a lovely family vacation to the Amish country over 4 decades ago- 9 passengers in a limousine it was the best ROAD TRIP ever!!

She and her other sisters would go on rides never knowing quite where they would end up just that it was destination - FUN. When she was at the wheel it was like Wheel of Fortune- take a spin and lets see where we end up.

Mel's spirituality was always important with the ethnic connection of Naples Italy. The town of Nola held special significance as that was the beginnings of the "GIGLIO" A July tradition started with Mel's parents. The FEAST was her favorite place to be, and she reveled in the enjoyment and pageantry of it. "Meet me on the steps of the church" was the standard pre event plan- no matter that thousands of folks had the same idea.

She worked hard played hard, and made sure everyone around her was happy. She was always working and then adding a little business on the side. She worked side by side with Mario in the limousine business. It was hard but the perseverance she had kept her on an even track. Returning to the workplace after that business meant hourly work , and different shifts. She would take Splits (split shifts) as she called it , and was a very loyal employee till her retirement.

Her kindness extended to me personally in so many ways. My first Disney trip to Florida was made possible by staying in the townhome she had purchased but not yet lived in at that time. P.G remembers little but that he stayed in aunt Mels house. Pg also remarked that he was told aunt Mel saw him the minute he was born- that was TRUE.

She Aunt Clare and Marie waited for the blessed event (they had done so with other great nieces and nephews)

My personal feelings of love and gratitude could go on and on- and be annoying by now.

My husband of 3 years Al had the pleasure of getting to know her as well in these later year, and his daughter Robyn enjoyed the "aunts

and uncles". Our wedding in 2009 had the siblings together. We celebrated her last milestone birthday together The smile on her face will stay with me forever. That party was the celebration of a life well lived and WELL LOVED!!

Last week when I visited her in the hospital, she looked at me and started to shake - she thought that I was her twin, Her reaction looking back on that day probably was a hint that she was going to see my mom soon. It had been 4 years since they were together.

Now she is with all her loved ones parents siblings, in la

Rosemarie Mandart Murray - July 28, 2012 at 03:25 PM