



Rose Marie Berthiaume

December 22, 2021

Rose Marie Berthiaume's funeral will be held at 11:00 am, Thursday, January 27th at Saint Andrews church in Apex. The family will receive guests at 10:00 am followed by eulogies at 10:50.

Rose Marie Berthiaume, 81, died at home with her family by her side on December 22, 2021 in Raleigh, NC after a long, heart-breaking period of physical and mental decline inflicted on her by Alzheimer's.

Rose Marie was born in Buffalo, NY, to the late Edward and Rose Fischer. She married her husband, Thomas Berthiaume, in 1962 to whom she was lovingly devoted for 59 years.

She is survived by her children Kimberly "Kim" Berthiaume (Roger Nisbet) of Cary, NC; Patricia "Trish" Duplay (Dave) of Flemington, NJ; and Lisa Pierce (Joey) of Fuquay-Varina, NC. Rose Marie's family also includes her six grandchildren on whom "Nanny" doted endlessly: Steve Metcalf (Skye Bacus) of Denver, CO; Eric Metcalf, who predeceased her in 2012; Christopher "Chris" Duplay of Stowe, VT; Elizabeth "Lizzie" Duplay of Boston, MA; Emily Larson of Holly Springs, NC; and Megan Larson of Apex, NC. Beside her for Rose Marie's entire life was her beloved identical twin sister Ann Liotti (Tony, deceased) of Rochester, NY— her "better half" as they both said of each other – and her younger brother, Tim Fischer (Tobey) of Syracuse, NY as well as a host of nieces and nephews to whom she was very close.

Rose Marie graduated high school from Sacred Heart Academy and completed her collegiate studies at Sisters of Charity Hospital, both in Buffalo, NY, where she became a registered nurse. She met Tom on a double date in Baltimore, MD where the twins were practicing psychiatric nursing at Seton Institute. Set up by Ann's soon-to-be husband, the two couples danced the twist at Fort Meade Officers Club and after that first weekend Tom was dazzled, soon proposing to Rose Marie after a whirlwind romance. Bonded from that point forward, the couples were a lifelong foursome, raising their families side-by-side and

traveling together to countless destinations across America through the years.

Rose Marie began her married life in Yorktown, VA where Tom was stationed in the United States Navy. Soon thereafter, they moved to Rochester, NY where Rose Marie spent the following years of her life dedicated to raising her three daughters and making a warm and welcoming home for her beloved family. In 1976, the family moved to Weatherford, OK where Rose Marie developed a life-long love for red clay dirt and tumbleweeds; Silverado pickup trucks (when she wasn't buzzing around in her red Fiat); bronc rodeos (replete with Shepler's pointed-toe cowboy boots that she styled in her unique way); and the myriad charms of small-town life near the panhandle of what became her favorite state. Rose Marie never met a football game she didn't like, cheering loud and long for her Oklahoma Sooners – especially when they played Tom's Notre Dame Fighting Irish. Near the end of her husband's career with 3M, the couple moved to St. Paul, MN where Rose Marie was always too cold for her liking, but nonetheless embraced the icy northern lifestyle before retiring to Cary, NC in 1994. For the next few decades, Rose Marie reveled in warmer climes and the joy of being the center of her Brookstone community where she cooked up countless exquisite meals hosted in her boisterous dining room (always pulling up one more chair to the table for family and friends that constantly gathered), served as adopted grandparents to all the neighbors, and endlessly poured wine to accompany late-night laughs on her back porch – only fussing when too many cigars were lit.

More than a phenomenal wife, wonderful mother and gracious hostess to so many, Rose Marie was kind and warm at her essence, a woman of unflagging faith who served her church in myriad ways that signaled her dedication to her deep faith. Offering trademark hugs, beautiful smile, and “I love you” to so many, Rose Marie never met a stranger and was, quite simply, a generous and lovely woman.

St. Andrews Church is located at 3008 Old Raleigh Rd, Apex, NC 27502. In lieu of flowers, donations in Rose Marie's memory are appreciated to either Western Wake Crisis Ministry, 1600 Olive Chapel Road #408, Apex NC 27502 or Transitions LifeCare, 250 Hospice Circle, Raleigh NC 27607.

Cemetery

St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church Columbarium

3008 Old Raleigh Rd
Apex, NC, 27502

Events

JAN 27 Visitation 10:00AM - 11:00AM

St Andrew The Apostle Catholic
Church
3008 Old Raleigh Rd, Apex, NC,
US, 27502

JAN 27 Funeral Mass 11:00AM - 12:00PM

St Andrew The Apostle Catholic
Church
3008 Old Raleigh Rd, Apex, NC,
US, 27502

Comments



“ Lisa, I am thinking of you and your family constantly. Your mother was such a beautiful and dynamic woman! It's evident that she had an abundance of love to give, charisma, "joie de vivre," and generosity. I know she was SO very proud of you! She will always be your beautiful guardian angel. Sending love and light to you and your family

Mimi Pinner - January 27 at 01:52 PM



“ Lisa, Our hearts go out to you and your family in celebration of your mom's life. She was absolutely beautiful and her legacy lives on! ~Jami



Jami D-Palumbo - January 27 at 09:10 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Rose Marie Berthiaume.



January 26 at 03:02 PM



“ Rose Marie was like a 2nd Mother to me when I became best friends with Lisa in Cary. She always loved to entertain us and she and Tom’s house was always filled with love and laughter. I will always remember our laughter while playing Dirty Scrabble while trying to make the best of a difficult family situation. I will never forget her warm hugs and her beautiful loving personality. Tom will truly miss his true angel but he should take great pride in the love and care he always gave her. Rose Marie raised 3 beautiful daughters and passed along so many of her traditions to them. She taught them how to love unconditionally. Heaven truly gained an Angel. My thoughts and prayers are with you all during this difficult time. Hold each other close and cling to the beautiful memories of your beautiful Mother. I love you all!

Darlene Dendy Miller - December 28, 2021 at 02:44 PM