



# ROSARIA BUTTACAVOLI

JUL 4, 1928 - DEC 3, 2023



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# Table of Contents

<b>Obituary</b> .....	Page 3
<b>Events</b> .....	Page 5
<b>Tribute Wall</b> .....	Page 6



# ROSARIA BUTTACAVOLI

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**R**OSARIA (Rose) BUTTACAVOLI was born in Baltimore, Maryland on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July in 1928 to Rosario (1900 to 1980) and Sadie (Brocato) (1909 to 1965) and lived with her family in the Little Italy area of Baltimore above the family's restaurant and tavern on West Baltimore Street, where she completed her education at St. Peter's Commercial School. During World War II, at the age of only 14, her advanced typing and unique translation (English to Sicilian Italian) skills resulted in the U.S. government recruiting her and another local girl to serve the U.S. Military Interrogation and Translation Service during the U.S. military's interrogation of Italian prisoners of war on a docked Liberty Ship in Baltimore Harbor. The Calabrese family moved to the Allapattah area of Miami in the latter part of the 1940s. There she met and married Ciro Buttacavoli (deceased 2021), her husband of over 70 years, in 1951 at Corpus Christi Church, which was located directly across the street from her family home. They moved with their young family to their first home in 1955, near St. Michael the Archangel Church, where they lived until moving to Pompano Beach in 2019. She volunteered on many occasions for St. Michael the Archangel Church and School, including fundraising, and working in the library, cafeteria, and recess yard. She worked for the Miami Dade County Tax Collector's office at the Dade County Auto Tag agency across from Miami Stadium from the late 1940s to the early 1950s, pausing her career to raise her three children. She rejoined the Miami Dade County Tax Collector's office in the late 1960s and worked there until retiring as the Mail Room Supervisor for the Auto Tag Division in the late 1980s. She was involved in the County transitioning the annual auto tag renewal date from August of each year to the birthdate of the vehicle owner. She helped train and mentor numerous young men and women during her career, helping those who were struggling to become valuable members of her staff. She is survived by her children, JoAnne (Andres Pumariega), Frank (Mayra Buttacavoli), Ciro (Ellen Kessler), 7



## Obituary

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grandchildren, and 8 great grandchildren ranging in ages from 14 years to almost 3 weeks, and one more on the way. She is also survived by her sisters Francesca (Fran) Shaheen (1931), and Concetta (Tina) Feria (1932). Her sister Santa Maria (Sandy) Zkiab (1930) preceded her in death in 2021. She has several nieces and nephews, all of whom are children of her 3 sisters. Mrs. Buttacavoli enjoyed all sports; first and foremost, the Orioles and Colts teams from her hometown of Baltimore, and then later shifting her allegiance to the local South Florida teams; especially the Miami Heat. She often accompanied her husband Ciro to thoroughbred horse racing events at whichever South Florida racetrack was running during that time of the year. She also attended the World Series in Miami in 2003, and the first game ever at Marlins' Park in 2012. Since her retirement, she enjoyed a simple and unburdened life with her husband and family, relishing in their life events, milestones, and accomplishments. She and her husband took great pride in the foundation they laid for their children that stressed the importance of education and dedication to family.

Her legacy will live in the kind, compassionate, and generous way she treated those that she interacted with; especially those that served her in any way, including grocery store employees, restaurant staff, and healthcare providers. On countless occasions when her children met any of these people for the first time, they raved about her and her husband's kindness and compassion. She sacrificed so many material things so that her children could have access to education and other experiences that would help them on their way to success. In lieu of flowers, please send donations St. Jude's Children's Hospital or St. Michael the Archangel Catholic School, Miami, FL.




# Events


**ROSARIA BUTTACAVOLI**

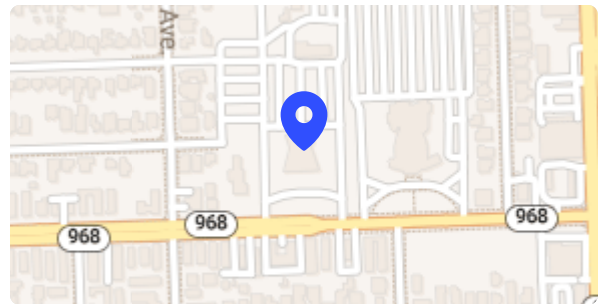
JUL 4, 1928 - DEC 3, 2023

## Funeral Mass


 **Saturday**, December 9, 2023

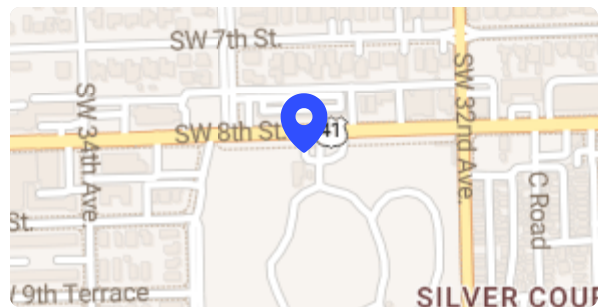
 11:30 AM ET

 **St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church**  
2987 W. Flagler Street, Miami FL



## Cemetery Details

 **Woodlawn Park Cemetery North ~ Mausoleum**  
3262 S.W. 8th Street, Miami FL 33136





## Tribute Wall

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LP

**Lynn Guarch-Pardo** posted:

JoAnne, Frank and Ciro, Please accept my deepest sympathy on the passing of your sweet mother. Both of your parents were such very special people to the Guarch Family. My mom absolutely loved "Rosie", and the years they spent working together were very happy ones for Mom. I can't remember a time when the Buttacavolis weren't a part of our lives. Mrs. Buttacavoli never forgot a birthday and I very much enjoyed our phone conversations, where she kept me updated on all the Buttacavoli family news. I was floored by the fact that she had been a translator during WWII and wish I'd been able to ask her about that. But somehow it doesn't surprise me at all! Please know that all three of you and your families are in my thoughts and prayers. Neither of your parents will ever be forgotten. May she rest in peace.

February 5 at 1:14 PM

VP

**Val Pumariega** posted:

Rose was always so kind and encouraging. She had so much empathy for people. My fondest memories of her were spending Christmas Eve dinners with her and Ciro at The Pumariega's. She would share about her past, her family and always made me feel part of her family. God bless you Rose, you have left a beautiful mark on this earth.

December 9 at 7:11 AM

PM

**Patty Lukacs Mcgrane** posted:

My sympathies for the loss of Rose. She was the matriarch of a wonderful family and those memories will offer comfort. My parents always spoke so fondly of the Calabrese, Buttacavoli and Féria families. Rose was a bridesmaid for my mother in 1947. She will be missed but is now with her beloved Ciro.

December 9 at 5:04 AM

JJ

**Janice Jackson** posted:

I had the pleasure of taking care of this wonderful lady and her husband Ciro..it started on a weekend of Thanksgiving two years ago... shortly after her husband passed I continue with Rosa...she was much loved by everyone..I hve so much memories of her my favorite was when she would say I was born on 4th of July..I came with a Bang....and that was how she live her time with me taking her to all the music entertainment and playing bingo...she will be missed terribly... but she lives on in our hearts forever...

December 7 at 4:23 PM



## Tribute Wall

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MC

**Maria Collins** posted:

I have been friends with JoAnne since I was 9 years old. We have many treasured memories. Her mom was the kindest and sweetest person ever. She was always full of energy and cheer. I always thought of her as the Energizer bunny. She was always so full of life and faith. Lucky are those who crossed her path. All my love goes to JoAnne, Frank, Ciro and family!!! Her memory will always live in your hearts. Maria Llaneza Collins

December 5 at 12:49 PM

LP

**Luis M Pumariega** lit a candle in honor of ROSARIA.

I first knew Rose when my brother Andy started dating her daughter JoAnne in high school. Rose was a warmth and loving nature person and that is why eventually my brother Andy fell in love with JoAnne. She and her husband Ciro were happily married for over 70 years and raised her three children to be well respected adults. Rose always loved my brother Andy as one of her own. Rose was always remembered my birthday, my brother's Cesar and my parents birthdays by calling and sending us each a card. She loved my family as one her own. She was always also a thoughtful, kind and considerate person towards others and always showed it. She will not only be missed by her family but also by those that knew her. God has her a special place in heaven. May she rest in peace.



December 5 at 12:15 PM

LP

**Luis M Pumariega** posted:

I'm sorry but I'm continuing my memories of Rose. She will always be missed as well by grandchildren and great grandchildren. My deepest sympathy towards the Buttacavoli and the Calabrese family. I know that God holds her a very place in heaven. May she rest in peace.

December 5 at 11:39 AM

JM

**Jossie Lynn Martínez** December 12 at 7:26 AM

Did not have the pleasure of meeting Rose, but also knowing you since Elementary let's me know of what a wonderful lady and upbringing you were exposed to. So sorry for your loss 😞 she is n Heaven now, only a dimension away.



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring ROSARIA by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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