



## BERNICE C. SOROKACH

September 3, 1938 - June 19, 2023

MEMORIAL DONATIONS MAY BE MADE IN BERNICE'S NAME TO:

MILTON FIRST AID SQUAD  
45 MILTON ROAD  
MILTON, NJ 07438

VISITATION:

SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2023

1-3PM

STICKLE-SOLTESZ FUNERAL HOME

FUNERAL MASS:

LIVE STREAMED:

[www.facebook.com/ststthomasjohn](http://www.facebook.com/ststthomasjohn)

OR

<https://venue.streamspot.com/7lcd47d1>

MONDAY, JUNE 26, 2023

10AM

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE RC CHURCH

5635 BERKSHIRE VALLEY ROAD

OAK RIDGE, NJ 07438

INTERMENT:  
MONDAY, JUNE 26, 2023  
FOLLOWING FUNERAL MASS  
ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CEMETERY  
ADJACENT TO THE CHURCH

Bernice Catherine "Penny" Sorokach, 84, of Oak Ridge, New Jersey, passed away on Monday June 19, 2023.

Born on September 3, 1938 in Brooklyn, New York to the late Camillus (nee Donnelly) and the late Michael J. Cryne.

She married Alfred V. Sorokach, a young Air Force Officer, in 1960, and together they raised their five boys.

Penny was an Air Force wife. She spent her life in selfless service to her family, church, community, and country.

Mrs. Sorokach worked as a Kindergarten and pre-first teacher at White Rock and Milton Elementary Schools in Jefferson for over 25 years until her retirement in 1998.

Penny was a parishioner for many years at St. Thomas the Apostle R.C. Church in Oak Ridge. and volunteered much of her time with the Milton First Aid Squad, also in Milton as well as the Jefferson Arts Committee.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Alfred V. Sorokach in 2012, her son Daniel Sorokach of Redfield, New York in 2021 and her brother Michael J. Cryne.

Penny is survived by four of her five sons, Alexander Sorokach and his wife

Denise of Colorado; John Sorokach and Simone of Tempe, Arizona; Dave Sorokach of Colorado and Joe Sorokach and his wife Cindy of Phoenix, Arizona; her six granddaughters, Annalee of South Carolina and Catherine of Arizona, Karen and Alexandra of Colorado, and Helen and Eva of Arizona; and her brother Robert F. Cryne of Nebraska.

The family will receive visitors on Sunday, June 25, 2023 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Stickle-Soltesz Funeral Home, 187 LaRue Road, Newfoundland, New Jersey 07435 (for GPS use 1 Post Place, Newfoundland, NJ 07435).

The Funeral Mass will take place on Monday, June 26, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Thomas the Apostle R.C. Church, 5635 Berkshire Valley Road, Oak Ridge, New Jersey 07438.

Interment will follow at St. Thomas the Apostle Cemetery, adjacent to the church.

Online condolences and directions: [www.sticklesolteszfuneralhome.com](http://www.sticklesolteszfuneralhome.com)

Memorial donations may be made in Bernice's name to the Milton First Aid Squad, 45 Milton Road, Milton, New Jersey 07438.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN **25.** 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Stickle-Soltesz Funeral Home  
187 La Rue Road  
(Parallel to Route 23 North between Clinton Road and Union Valley Road)  
Newfoundland, NJ 07435  
(973) 697-6700  
info@sticklesolteszfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.sticklesolteszfuneralhome.com>

## Funeral Mass

JUN **26.** 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM (ET)

St. Thomas the Apostle RC Church  
5635 Berkshire Valley Road  
Oak Ridge, NJ 07438  
(973) 208-0090

## Interment

JUN **26.** 11:15 AM - 11:45 AM (ET)

St. Thomas the Apostle Cemetery  
5635 Berkshire Valley Road  
Oak Ridge, NJ 07438  
(973) 208-0090

# Tribute Wall

MG

“ Rest in peace Penny. Our condolences to the family. My family lived two houses away in Elro Park. We all have great memories growing up with your family throughout the years! My mother, Martha, enjoyed your friendship. I remember when my husband and I visited my family. We always made a point to come over and spend time to chat with you! You will be fondly remembered. You were a wonderful mother, woman and friend.

*The Chwalek Family  
Maryann (Kurt), Matt, Jeff (Brandy)*

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**Maryann (Chwalek) Gredzinski** - August 19, 2025 at 09:48 AM



“ Condolences to the Sorokach family.



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**Walter Endlicher** - June 27, 2023 at 04:14 PM

CP

“ Carol Frank Punturieri lit a candle in memory of BERNICE SOROKACH



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**Carol & Frank Punturieri** - June 26, 2023 at 04:51 PM

JC

“ Aunt Penny was such a joy to everyone around her. I had a wonderful time staying with her in New Jersey for visits and going to the family reunion. She was always so caring and concerned for those around her and in her family. She will be missed.



Julia Thompson (nee Cryne) - June 26, 2023 at 08:50 AM

JB

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Joan Donnelly Beal - June 25, 2023 at 09:38 PM

JB

“ What wonderful memories I have of my sweet cousin, Penny! My mom and dad, Joan and Ray Donnelly, would take us to visit Penny and family in New Jersey. What fun we had playing with the boys! Penny always teaching us girls some craft! When my first child was born, she sent an advent bear calendar to count the days before Christmas. I still hang that up for my own grandchildren, some 45 years later! And I always tell them my big cousin Penny made it for us! I will never forget Penny's smiling face, laughter and kindness. Be at peace, dear cousin.  
Joanie Donnelly Beal

Joan Donnelly Beal - June 25, 2023 at 09:28 PM

SK

“ I was so lucky to have Penny as my cousin. Penny and her family were part of every holiday, special event, or just a random Saturday. Her smile always lit up the room. Thank you Penny for the joy and love you brought with you. With much love, Susan Donnelly Kaye



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Susan Donnelly Kaye - June 24, 2023 at 09:38 PM

WH

“ Aunt penny was one of a kind with a generous heart! When the triplets were born she would drive out once a week so that I would get a little break and a welcomed set of extra hands. She would always bring a little something, fresh baked goodies or some tiny meatballs the kids would devour. I could always count on her. When I went into labor with Chris she drove out in the middle of the night to watch Jonny, Kaitlyn and Melissa with my mom. She was just an incredible Aunt. Summers at Green Pond stained glass candy at Christmas so many memories. Thank you Aunt Penny❤️



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Wendy Hopkins - June 24, 2023 at 04:12 PM



“ *Sending love & hugs.*



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**Sue Merz DiBernard** - June 23, 2023 at 11:00 PM

DO

“ *Denny & Jeri O'Connor purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of BERNICE C. SOROKACH.*



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**Denny & Jeri O'Connor** - June 23, 2023 at 04:23 PM

ET

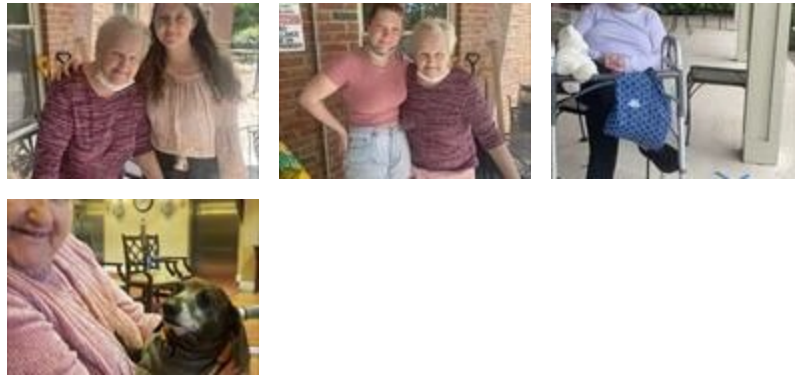
“ *My parents (Raymond & Joan), siblings, and I made the trip from Brooklyn to Oak Ridge a few times a year. We spent time at the pond in the summer & enjoyed Christmas time visits. Every Christmas I hang many ornaments on my tree that Penny made over the years. The little reindeer & turtles that you "pinch" revealing the Hershey kiss that the elves leave is a favorite of my grandchildren. Thank you, Penny, for being such a caring, loving person. Rest in peace, my cousin. Love, Ellen Donnelly Turano.*

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**Ellen Turano** - June 22, 2023 at 07:08 AM

AS

“ Grandma,  
You were the kindest, smartest, most caring woman I got to meet.  
Thank you for raising Catherine and I. Thank you for loving us extra  
on the days we gave you a hard time, thank you for caring for us  
when you didn't have to, thank you for helping us out when we got  
bruised knees or needed help with our homework. Thank you.  
You meant the world to my sister and I. I hate to see you gone but  
you're no longer in pain and I know you're looking down on us,  
smiling.  
I hope I'm making you proud up there. Everything I do from now on  
is going to be for you.  
I love you so much,  
Forever and ever  
Annalee



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**Annalee Sorokach** - June 20, 2023 at 05:18 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of BERNICE C. SOROKACH.

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June 20, 2023 at 04:47 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of BERNICE C. SOROKACH.



June 20, 2023 at 04:47 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Penny and family



Joseph Sorokach - June 20, 2023 at 03:12 PM



“ So very sorry to hear this sad news. My first memory of Penny was when she welcomed us to the neighborhood with homemade banana bread (1991). It was a pleasure being neighbors with a such a wonderful, caring, helpful woman. May she Rest In Peace.



Colleen Cornell - June 20, 2023 at 02:17 PM



“ Ellen Olivieri lit a candle in memory of BERNICE SOROKACH



Ellen Olivieri - June 20, 2023 at 12:01 PM

BB

“ 2 files added to the album Penny and family



**Bob Cryne, brother** - June 19, 2023 at 08:17 PM

BB

*I was a lucky kid. The 'baby' of the family, I had the big sister and brother in Penny and Mike. The photo above was taken on Penny's rear deck in 2006 shortly after my return from Iraq. I visited Penny and All, Mike and Hannah. They are all gone now but will live forever in my heart. God Bless you all, Love, Bob*

**Bob Cryne, brother** - June 22, 2023 at 10:24 PM

MM

*My deepest sympathy to all the family. Anthony & I had all the boys in high school & remember Penny as a member of the Firs Aid Squad, along with Anthony's dad, Art. I remember Penny as a wonderful mother & teacher--much loved by all. We all know she'll be joined with all the angels in heaven. She had a wonderful life & wonderful family. Sincerely, Marguerite Muller*

**Marguerite Muller** - June 23, 2023 at 08:25 PM

LM

*My thoughts and prayers have been with the family since learning the sad news. I am glad that Penny is at peace. I have happy memories of time at Penny's house when I was young. She was such a patient Mom and just showered love on all the kids! She was a very special woman, and she will be missed. I am grateful to have known her.*

**Lorry Mooney** - June 25, 2023 at 05:51 PM

MS

*My memories of Penny are so many, Birthdays at Coney Island, watching TV one of the first in the neighborhood, but the ones that really stand out were the Dance lessons with Uncle Jimmy and all the cousins.*

*Mary Lou Sardaro*

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**Mary Lou Sardaro** - June 26, 2023 at 10:00 AM