



MARY T. SWERZENSKI

July 29, 1921 - June 1, 2024

IN LIEU OF FLOWERS MEMORIAL DONATIONS MAY BE MADE IN MARY'S NAME TO:

MILTON FIRST AID SQUAD
45 MILTON ROAD
OAK RIDGE, NJ 07438
www.miltonfirstaidsquad.org

OR TO:

A CHARITY OF YOUR CHOICE

VISITATION:

FRIDAY: JUNE 7, 2024

3PM TO 7PM

STICKLE-SOLTESZ FUNERAL HOME

FUNERAL MASS:

SATURDAY: JUNE 8, 2024

10AM

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE RC CHURCH

5635 BERKSHIRE VALLEY ROAD

OAK RIDGE, NJ 07438

INTERMENT:

SATURDAY: JUNE 8, 2024

FOLLOWING FUNERAL MASS

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CEMETERY

ADJACENT TO THE CHURCH

After a remarkable 102 years as a cherished daughter, wife, mother, godmother, and grandmother, Mary Swerzenski passed away peacefully on June 1st.

Mary was born on July 29th, 1921, to parents Katarzyna and Stanislaw Zabawa in New York City. She was the middle child between older brother Louie and younger sister Gertrude, sharing a particularly special bond with her mother and sister throughout their lives. After graduating the 8th grade, Mary would go on to attend beauty school and work at a beauty shop throughout her young adult years until marrying her husband Joe Swerzenski on September 3, 1944. That day began a 49-year journey that took the couple from Brooklyn to Lake Swannanoa, all while beginning their greatest adventure yet: raising their three sons.

Lovingly known in the family as “Mother Superior,” Mary may have been quickly outnumbered by men in her family, but anyone wise enough knew that she was the true force to be reckoned with in the Swerzenski household. Even when her “boys” were fully grown, Mary remained the no-nonsense voice of reason in the family in just about every day-to-day matter. But this tough exterior was fueled by only two things: her strong faith and her intense love and compassion for her family, friends, and any other soul lucky enough to pass through her life. She was a tireless volunteer, often giving her time to better her community through organizations like the Golden Age Club of

Milton in Jefferson Twp., the Silver Foxes, and the Holy Rollers, and always went out of her way to make sure that not a single person felt alone in this world. Even after she moved into Victoria Mews Assisted Living in her later years, she could often be found in the bistro enjoying sweets with the other residents or telling stories to the staff, always lending an attentive ear, a warm smile, and comforting presence.

Throughout her life, Mary enjoyed many laughter-filled lunches on the lake with her sister, long walks and intense games of ball toss with her grandchildren, dancing the polka, generously giving hugs to anyone willing to accept, and partaking in animated conversations with family and friends on her patio. She lived for summer family gatherings on the lake and holidays in the city, and perfected her eyeroll after years of dealing with her husband's many jokes that were only carried on by her sons. Mary was a faithful parishioner of St. Thomas the Apostle RC Church in Oak Ridge, NJ, and her family firmly believe that God kept her in this world so long so that she could continue to spread His love through her caring nature to as many people as possible. She will be sadly missed, but widely celebrated and remembered for all she meant to her family, friends, and community.

Mary was predeceased by her parents, her older brother, Louis Zabawa, her younger sister Gertrude Zdrojeski, and her adoring husband Joe Swerzenski. She is survived by 3 sons and daughters-in-law: Paul and Carol, Peter and Davi-Ann and Tom and Lisa; 5 grandchildren and 2 granddaughters-in-law: Jared and Jill, J.D. and Sara, David, Kristen, and Daniel; 2 great grandchildren: Claire and Elliot; her Goddaughter and niece: Kathy; and nieces: Kristine, Elizabeth, Janina and Wanda.

A visitation will be held at Stickle-Soltesz Funeral Home from 3-7 p.m. on

Friday June 7 with a funeral mass at St. Thomas the Apostle at 10 a.m. on Saturday June 8 with interment to follow at the church cemetery. A repast at Portofino's restaurant in Oak Ridge is planned after the funeral.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Milton First Aid Squad, 45 Milton Road; Oak Ridge, NJ 07438; www.miltonfirstaidsquad.org or to a charity of your choice.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 7. 3:00 PM - 7:00 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 8. 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 8. 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall

KK

“ To know Mary was to love Mary. The kindest, gentlest person who shared sunlight on a rainy day. A Blessing to so many. I first met Mary when I came to work at Victoria Mews. I had just lost my own mother a few months earlier and meeting Mary was a silver lining in the dark cloud I felt was hanging over me. Mary’s passing on my own mom’s birthday gives me two beautiful women to remember fondly. Much love to the Swerzenski family. Your mom did a wonderful job with her boys. Mary will be missed by so very many. Sincere condolences,
Karlene

Karlene Koba - June 17, 2024 at 09:25 AM

TU

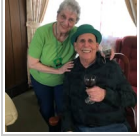
“ The U. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of MARY T. SWERZENSKI.

The U. - June 07, 2024 at 08:49 AM



“ What a woman to have known . Everyone loved her . Parishioners have missed her for some time now ever since she stopped driving to church and eventually ended up in an assisted living facility .God Bless you Mary , Amen

Nina Costa - June 06, 2024 at 05:52 AM



“ so sorry to see you go, Mary, you have touched and continue to touch many lives through your organizing a program to call the shut-ins, among many others with your loving nature. Rest pain-free. Gods faithful servant

Ruth Nehrings - June 05, 2024 at 08:31 PM

MA

What amazing person you were. We will all miss you so much.

Marjoriehueber08@gmail.com - June 11, 2024 at 07:29 PM

MB

“ Mary was a lovely lady that I met in my early days at St. Thomas. I visited her at her home and at Victoria Mews. She was so beautiful and always had a smile on her face. What a gift God gave us to keep her here on earth all these years. Mary, I know you will bring that lovely smile to heaven. May you rest in God's loving arms!

Mary Buda - June 05, 2024 at 05:20 PM



“ Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of MARY T. SWERZENSKI.



June 05, 2024 at 07:35 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of MARY T. SWERZENSKI.*



June 03, 2024 at 04:55 PM



“ *Elizabeth A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of MARY T. SWERZENSKI.*

Elizabeth A. - June 03, 2024 at 04:55 PM