



## ROSE T. CASMENTO

March 6, 1942 - November 22, 2024

IN LIEU OF FLOWERS, THE FAMILY REQUESTS THAT DONATIONS BE  
MADE IN ROSE'S MEMORY TO::

NYC GAY MEN'S CHORUS AND YOUTH PRIDE CHOIR

DONATION LINK:

<https://fundraise.givesmart.com/f/550e/n?vid=1a2cj0>

MEMORIAL MASS: URN WILL BE PRESENT

LIVE STREAMED:

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

or

<https://venue.streamspot.com/71cd47d1>

SATURDAY: DECEMBER 7, 2024

10AM

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH

5635 BERKSHIRE VALLEY ROAD

OAK RIDGE, NJ 07438

973-208-0090

Obituary for Rose T. Casmento

March 6, 1942 - November 22, 2024

It is with broken hearts that we announce the passing of Rose T. Casmento, a

devoted mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, who peacefully left us on November 22, 2024, at the age of 82. Rose was a strong, loving, and dedicated woman whose unwavering commitment to her family was an inspiration to all who knew her.

Rose cherished family gatherings, where her warmth and laughter brought joy to every occasion.

She was predeceased by her parents Rose (nee Costanzo) and Thomas Zacco; her sisters Theresa Mecca and her husband Vito and Paula Zacco; and her nephew Antonio DiGradio.

She is survived by her two beloved sons, Clifford Casmento and his wife Donna, and Thomas Casmento, her two granddaughters, Danielle and Deanna, and her three great-grandchildren, Isabella, LJ and Hanna; her brothers John Zacco and Debra Ryan, and Thomas Zacco. Each of them held a special place in her heart.

Rose is remembered for her loving spirit, sense of humor, stunning beauty, elegant cream-puffs, fashion forward style of dress and steadfast dedication to her family. She also loved chachkas... lots n lots of chachkas.

Her love will live on forever through us, and her legacy will continue to inspire us all.

A funeral Mass will be held in her honor on Saturday, December 7th, 2024 at 10am at St. Thomas the Apostle Roman Catholic Church, 5635 Berkshire Valley Road, Oak Ridge, NJ 07438. All are welcome to attend and the service will be live streamed for those who cannot attend. ([www.facebook.com/ststho](https://www.facebook.com/ststho) or <https://venue.streamspot.com/71cd47d1>).

A memorial service and burial to follow at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Rose's memory to the NYC Gay Men's Chorus and Youth Pride Choir. We laughed and cried along the way and through awareness... we once again grew up together.

Donation link: <https://fundraise.givesmart.com/f/550e/n?vid=1a2cj0>

Rest in peace mama. You will be deeply missed but never forgotten.

Your boys.

On line condolences: [www.sticklesolteszfuneralhome.com](http://www.sticklesolteszfuneralhome.com).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Mass

DEC 7. 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall

AD

“ Tommy, Thinking of your mother, you, and the rest of the family. Our deepest condolences and much love. Love, Aaron Tom

Aaron Dai - December 09, 2024 at 10:24 AM

TM

“ Bye for now (just for now) my amazing beautiful auntie, we love you always and forever. There will not be a day we wont miss you. Our hearts are broken but, knowing you are with everyone that you lost makes us very happy. Cream Puffs will never be the same. Good journey and see you again one day.

The Mecca's - December 09, 2024 at 08:13 AM

LC

“ Loving memories of a Beautiful cousin- Rest in Peace and Enjoy Eternity with all the wonderful Family Members-

Linda C - December 08, 2024 at 02:22 PM

BW

“ Sending you all my love, Tommy. I met Rose at your Jersey home, on that lovely kayaking Labor Day. Your mom was such a strong supporter of the NYCGMC, and of you, and she was a strong and lovely person who loved you very much. May she Rest in Peace.

Bruce Ward - December 08, 2024 at 11:38 AM

SL

“ My condolences to the Casmento Family. I have sung with Tommy for years and I didn't know Mrs. Casmento. But because I know Tommy I know she must have been a very sweet human being. My deepest sympathies

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**Scott Laubner** - December 07, 2024 at 03:02 PM

SL

“ Tommy. So sorry to hear of your loss. My deepest condolences to and your family. With all my love your Brother in song.

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**samuel lartigaut** - December 07, 2024 at 01:54 PM

TK

“ So sorry about your loss Tommy. Sending love, strength, and peace to you and your family.

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**Tim Kim** - December 07, 2024 at 12:53 PM

SH

“ Tommy, love to you as you honor your mother and celebrate her life. We will surround you with love in our NYCGMC performances next weekend and she will be there in spirit.

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**Scott Horne** - December 07, 2024 at 12:07 PM

DJ

“ Tommy my deepest condolences. Sorry for your loss, may God give you comfort and strength in this difficult time. Sending love and prayers  
Domingo

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**Domingo Diaz Jr** - December 07, 2024 at 11:51 AM



“ Dear Tommy, I am so sorry for your loss. What a mom! And what wonderful memories you will always have. As the former music director of NYCGMC, I was always happy to see your smiling face and appreciated your consistently positive outlook. Please know that I keep you in my thoughts during this difficult time. With great affection, Gary Miller

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**Gary Miller** - December 07, 2024 at 11:34 AM

IA

“ Tommy, I'm so sorry to hear about your Mom. We are all so grateful for her support of NYCGMC and her immense love for you. Sending you all my love - Ian (NYCGMC alum)

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**Ian** - December 07, 2024 at 09:34 AM

WB

“ Dear Tommy, I remember meeting your mom once after one of our NYC Gay Men's Chorus performances. She was full of joy and pride sharing her love for you and your chorus family. I have known you since our early days in the chorus in the 1990's and feel so privileged to call you my friend. I know you have been through some very difficult times but I hope you find comfort remembering that you were blessed with such a wonderful mother and that you have an amazing family in our chorus. Our condolences go to you and your entire family. Mark and I love you and we are here for you.  
Billy and Mark

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**William Berrios** - December 07, 2024 at 09:28 AM



“ Tommy, it's been a while since I've sung with the Chorus, but I remember your mother and her dedication to us -- and her love of you. Whenever I'm at Carnegie, I will look up and know she's now joined the Circle of Lights watching over her enormous, loving family. xox Witt

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**Witti Repartee** - December 07, 2024 at 06:37 AM



“ To Tommy, my good friend, and fellow MYCGMC Royal, and to his entire family: please accept my most sincere and heartfelt condolences on the loss of your beloved mother, grandmother, aunt, and cherished family matriarch, Rose Casmento.

*I feel honored and humbled to have had the privilege to have personally known Rose. It was an honor to dine at her table, with many members of her extended family, at a Holiday meal several years ago, in Tommy's beautiful home that he built on the lake in NJ to share with her, and where, for the past 20 years, she was able to live her life in peace, completely secure, content, loved, and happy, knowing that Tommy would always do everything she needed, even if they did occasionally squabble over when or how often to take out the recyclables.*

*Her dry sense of humor, her savvy, liberal, progressive socio-political views, her amazing cooking and hosting skills, and most importantly, her warm, caring, and compassionate way of living, as fully demonstrated by her penchant to always think about the needs of others before she thought about her own needs, are deeply and fully reflected in her son Tommy.*

*Those unique and admirable traits were also shared by many in her family, as they supported Tommy in all of his professional and personal endeavors, especially his steadfast devotion to the NYC Gay Men's Chorus. I know that she, and many family members, attended scores of NYCGMC concerts during Tommy's long tenure with this out, proud, community-minded organization.*

*It was always a pleasure to see her, and many other family members, in the theater lobby after a show, as they bubbled with joy and praise about the performance. I'm sad that I don't remember ever seeing Tommy's older brother with them, but it was such a large, beautiful family, that I'm sure I just lost him in the packed crowd of well-wishers. As such, I look forward to being able to see him at the Memorial Service on Saturday, so I can shake his hand*

*and personally thank him for being a part of Rose's loving family that supported NYCGMC for so many years, and to express the same deep condolences to him, as I will to my dear friend Tommy.*

*It is so inspiring, but not at all surprising, that the family chose to not only post a fabulous video of the Chorus singing on the "Rose Colored Steps" in Times Square, but also to recommend making donations to NYCGMC in lieu of flowers as a way for those who deeply mourn Rose's passing to be able to continue her legacy of always thinking of others before think of herself, and supporting the organization that meant so much to Tommy.*

*Rest in peace, and in power, Rose. We will miss you deeply, and will always think of you when we sing a song about love and family on a stage, OR when we see swans swimming on a lake, because we know that in either of those settings, which you cherished, we will feel your presence.*

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**Alan Anderson** - December 07, 2024 at 04:58 AM

SD

“ So sorry to hear of your great loss -- my deepest condolences

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**Scott Davenport** - December 07, 2024 at 03:04 AM

DW

“ To Tommy and the entire Casmento Family, my condolences during this difficult time. May all your memories of Rose sustain you and bring you comfort.

*-David Witzel*

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**David Witzel** - December 07, 2024 at 01:44 AM

BR

“ Dear Tommy, My heart goes out to you and your family. I know you will keep her memory alive. Truly your brother in song, Brian Thomas Wilson

Brian - December 06, 2024 at 11:03 PM



“ Dear Tommy,

*I'm heartbroken and can only imagine your pain. My deepest condolences to you and your family during this difficult time.*



*If there's anything we can do to support you during this time, please don't hesitate to let us know? You are not alone!*

*With love and sympathy,  
Everton, T2 at The New York City Gay Men's Chorus*

Everton Dantas - December 06, 2024 at 09:23 PM

DS

“ Prayers of solace for you and your family during this time of sorrow, Tommy. From NYCGMC alumnus Dave Stevens

Dave Stevens - December 06, 2024 at 09:11 PM

BC

“ Tommy, my condolences to you and your family. May your Mom's memory be a blessing.

Bill Ciffairy - December 06, 2024 at 08:14 PM

TB

“ I never had the privilege of getting to know Rose, but her love, kindness, and generosity was passed on to her son Tommy. I have been good friends with Tommy for over a decade through the New York City Gay Mens Chorus. He is such a sincerely wonderful guy; those traits we pick up by example of wonderful parents. My condolences to the Casmento and extended family during this loss. And may they find peace love and joy as a family during this holiday season.

- Sincerely,  
Tym Byers

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**Tymothy Byers** - December 06, 2024 at 06:29 PM

JW

“ Rose was a beautiful, bright, loving light who lives on in her family and their memories. My condolences to the entire Casmento family.

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**Joel Weltman** - December 06, 2024 at 06:26 PM

TC

“ My deepest condolences to Rose’s family. Sending lots love and strength at this difficult time. I did not know Rose personally but anyone in NYCGMC who loses a loved one is a loss to all of us. Tommy is a the sweetest and all of us in the New York City Gay Men’s chorus are sending you and your family lots of love in this difficult time. Love Lives On. ❤️

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**Trevor Chauvin** - December 06, 2024 at 05:13 PM



“ *Sending love to the entire Casmento family! We will miss you sweet Rose. You were as much a part of the New York City Gay Mens' Chorus as your beloved son Tommy. See you on the other side, and thank you for giving us Tommy. We love him beyond measure.*

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**Matt Mroczka** - December 06, 2024 at 04:57 PM

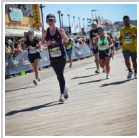
SA

“ *My heartfelt condolences to you and your family over the loss of your mother. I know your mother is in a better place now given how wonderful she was to you and the NYCGMC. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you need anything.*

*Your brother in song,  
Shane*

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**Shane Antony** - December 06, 2024 at 04:27 PM



“ *Tommy and family -- I'm so sorry for the loss of your beautiful mother. I'm so grateful to have Tommy as a member of our NYCGMC family.*

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**Amy Cook** - December 06, 2024 at 04:14 PM

NJ

“ *Tommy, I am so sorry to hear of your mother's passing. My deepest condolences to you and your family. May her memory be a blessing to you and to all who loved her. It's clear that she was a very special kind of mother. I love how enthusiastic she was about NYCGMC and I'm sorry she won't be at our concert next week.*

*Sending you love and hugs,  
Nick Jones*

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**Nick Jones** - December 06, 2024 at 03:43 PM

HE

“ Helio from your NYCGMC family sends you, and your loved ones, love and light in this trying time. Love lives on, dear friend.

Helio - December 06, 2024 at 11:57 AM

JB

“ Sending my sincerest condolences to Tommy and family. Sending so much love and support from NYC GMC!!! Sending you comforting and loving vibes. ❤️🏳️‍🌈

Joshua Barry - December 06, 2024 at 11:29 AM

WZ

“ There is no greater love than a mother’s love. Tommy, she will live in your heart forever.

William Zeolla - December 06, 2024 at 11:25 AM

SK

“ I am so sorry to hear about your mom—the joy and love that Tommy shines out into the world is a reverberation of the love and joy she showed him and the world in turn. Sending you and your family so much love from the NYCGMC.

Sam Kerner - December 06, 2024 at 11:09 AM

SG

“ Love Lives On - Thinking of you and your family, Tommy and so grateful Rose helped raise you with such talent.

Sam Gradess - December 06, 2024 at 11:02 AM

HR

*Bert and I are so sorry for the passing of your mother. You have our deepest sympathy and our condolences.*

*Love,*

*Herb Rubenstein and Bert Marro.*

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**Herb Rubenstein** - December 06, 2024 at 06:37 PM

GD

“ *Sincere and heartfelt condolences to you, Tommy and to your family. Rose sure did us a tremendous favor by bringing you to our chorus family, Tommy! Always so wonderful to know that she was out there applauding at our concerts... Chaz and I hope that you have many wonderful memories to cherish of good times together with your mom. We send virtual hugs of love till we can give them to you in person.*

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**Gary Diamante** - December 06, 2024 at 10:55 AM

DS

“ *While I didn't know Rose, I just recently met her son Tommy through the NYC Gay Men's Chorus, where I am a Tenor. We got to know each other because of my love of bagels and he's a bagel master, bringing us delicious bagels at our rehearsals! He's also friendly and kind, which is no doubt a reflection of his mother's love and lessons. My dear Tommy, I'm so sorry for the loss of your beloved Rose and I send you and your family my most sincere condolences during this difficult time. I hope that the love and light from your fellow chorus brothers will bring you comfort, as we have your back. Always.*

*- Diego M. Santiago*

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**Diego M. Santiago** - December 06, 2024 at 10:44 AM

RC

“ I didn't know Rose, but I am fortunate to call Tommy a friend and chorus mentor. She must have been a wonderful person, considering the brilliant individual he is. I send love and light to Tommy and his entire family.

-Roy Chicas

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**Roy Chicas** - December 06, 2024 at 09:38 AM

AW

“ Tommy was one of the first people to jump up and help me with costumes in the chorus. I did not have the honor of meeting his mother, but I'm sure she was a special woman, having raised Tommy, and will be surely missed. Sending so much love and warmest wishes to Tommy and his family.

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**Alex Weissman** - December 06, 2024 at 09:22 AM

DB

“ Love Lives On—no matter how grown up we get, losing a parent is a tremendous loss. Rose raised Tommy, a lovely and caring son, and though I only met her through the NYCGMC events, she clearly lived a loving and accepting life. Condolences to all who loved her.  
Danny B.

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**dan baillie** - December 06, 2024 at 08:44 AM

GF

“ My deepest condolences to Rose's family. I have been a friend of Tommy's for 25 years through the NYCGMC. He is the sweetest and kindest friend. Rose has always supported her son in his years in the chorus and will be sorely missed at our concerts. Sending love and strength at this difficult time. □

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**Gennaro Fredella** - December 06, 2024 at 04:12 AM

EB

“ *May her memory be a blessing. Sending love and strength from your NYCGMC family!*

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**Emily Baum** - December 06, 2024 at 12:38 AM

DB

“ *My deepest condolences on the loss of your Mom. Sending love and hugs your way.*

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**David Boyd** - December 05, 2024 at 11:56 PM

AB

“ *Tommy and Family,  
May Rose's memory be a blessing and may you have a peaceful mourning. I did not know Rose but her reputation is one of loving support and openness. If only the world had more Mom's like Rose... it would be such an amazing place. It sounds like she lived her life on the principle that giving was better than receiving. Rest in peace, Rose, and thank you for your shining example of how to spread love in the world. Sorry we never met. But we sing on and you will be remembered as long as New York City Gay Men's Chorus is around.*

*—Adam S. Barrett, upper bass since 2020*

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**Adam Barrett** - December 05, 2024 at 11:43 PM

RF

“ *I never met Rose Camento, but I learned of her wonderful generosity and helpfulness when I was helping the late Gary Lambert after a debilitating fall in the subway. Gary praised Rose for what she had done to help him. I do know Tommy Casmento and treasure his friendship. Let me convey sincere condolences to Tommy and everyone else in Rose's family in this time of loss.*

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**Robert Featherstone** - December 05, 2024 at 11:32 PM

GP

“ *My condolences to you Tommy, and your family. May your memories of your Mom bring you comfort in this difficult time.*

Greg Pierson - December 05, 2024 at 11:19 PM

TI

“ *Tommy, my condolences to you and your family. I only met Rose a couple of times after NYC Gay Men's Chorus concerts. She was such a great supporter of you and our choir which I appreciate so much. I know what it means to lose a parent and my heart goes out to you and the family during this challenging time. ❤️*

Timorell - December 05, 2024 at 10:55 PM

HM

“ *Tommy, I am so sorry for your loss. My deepest condolences to you and all who loved her.*

Howard May - December 05, 2024 at 10:50 PM

JC

“ *Dear Tommy and family  
, I am sure the angels came to sing your beloved Mom to her rest. Sadness and grief are the price we pay to love and I know your Mom loved her family very much and was much loved in return. And as our chorus has sung the words & found strength many times, “Her spirit will shine long after she’s gone and so her love will live on. My deepest sympathy and prayers for strength as you face this difficult time.*

john cadue - December 05, 2024 at 10:50 PM

DS

“ Thank you, Mrs. Casamento, for Tommy and for your longtime support of the New York City Gay Men’s Chorus. We lift our voices in song in tribute to you and in support of our brother Tommy in his grief at your passing.?”

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**Dennis Sprick** - December 05, 2024 at 10:36 PM

JC

“ Dear Tommy, I am sure the angels came to sing your Mom to her rest:) My prayers for you and your family for strength to face this difficult transition. Grief is the price we pay to love and be loved and if there is one thing I am sure of is that your Mom lived her family very much and was much loved in return. And as the song says, Her spirit will shine long after she’s gone and so her love will live on. We got you Tommy:)”

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**john cadue** - December 05, 2024 at 10:24 PM

DH

“ Tommy, you and your family are very much in my thoughts. While I never had the chance to spend time with her, I know that she was a wonderful mother, given the caring and compassionate person I have come to know through NYCGMC. May she rest in peace”

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**David Hopkins** - December 05, 2024 at 10:23 PM

RC

“ Tommy - my deepest condolences and sympathies are with you and your family. Your mother's steadfast support of you was a beacon of grace and light in the struggles you've faced - a support felt by all of us in your Chorus family. May Rose's memory be a blessing to you and all her knew her.

*I hope the knowledge of her love & support eases what must be an incredibly difficult time.*

*May you dwell in the peace and strength she imparted to you.*

*And may Rose rest in strength, peace and love.*

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**Rob Cordell** - December 05, 2024 at 09:57 PM



“ Tommy, my sincere condolences to you and the rest of your mom's family. I remember meeting her at a couple of NYCGMC's concerts and what a lovely, gracious lady she was. She was so accepting and loving to all of us, and I know she was a wonderful mom to you. I'm so very sorry for your loss. Love, Ralph Passante”

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**Ralph Passante** - December 05, 2024 at 09:53 PM

MG

“ Sending much love to Tommy and the Casmento family <3

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**Michael G.** - December 05, 2024 at 09:46 PM

RD

“ My deepest condolences on the loss of a wonderful woman. I only had the pleasure of meeting her once, but the love and support she had for her son was abundantly evident. I think that many of the values we treasure in Tommy, like the heart, humor and strength he possesses are traits that he got from Rose. We always appreciated her support, and the support of so many members of his family, not just for Tommy, but for his entire chorus family. May she rest in peace and look down upon him and smile every time he sings.



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**Robert Davis** - December 05, 2024 at 09:42 PM

DH

“ Dear Casmento Family,

*It is never easy losing a loved one, especially the matriarch of a family. Take solace in the fact that your loss is not in vain. Rose is in a better place, where there is no more pain or suffering or worrying , but in a place where she can continue to look out for, and provide peace to those she knew and loved.*

*Her spirit lives on in you and yours. Rest easy knowing she is up there and on your side.*

*David Hill*

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**David Hill** - December 05, 2024 at 09:42 PM

 Jürgen Jones

“ *My deepest condolences to Rose's family. Throughout the years of my friendship with Tommy, I've come to know her as a gracious, caring and charming woman, with a sharp wit and a loving smile. I will always appreciate how accepting she was and a last moment of deep connection with her at the assisted living facility when she held my hand, looked into my eyes and said I love you. I'm glad you've included the video of the chorus singing in Times Square. Fitting tribute to a woman who seemed always to see things as they are and to treat all with fairness and warmth. XJurgen*

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**Jürgen Jones** - December 05, 2024 at 02:46 PM

JS

*Tommy, so sorry for your loss. Always happy to hear of family members so supportive of the Chorus, extended family to all of us. Bless her, bless her, bless her. Xo, Josh*

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**Josh Sippen** - December 05, 2024 at 10:29 PM

JW

“ *I only met Rose a few times. Always welcoming... I imagine how loving, generous, hardworking, witty, and dedicated she was to her family! I came to understand what she gave to the world in the form of one of the best people I've ever met; in the form of my friend of 35 years, Thomas (Tommy)! He's all of those things and a son who adored his mother!!! This is said with much love ❤️😊*

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**john watson** - December 04, 2024 at 04:16 AM