



## Rose L. Canary

June 30, 1924 - April 16, 2020

Rose Canary  
Toms River, NJ

Our beautiful mother, Rose Lucy Canary, passed away on April 16, 2020, 2 months shy of her 96th birthday, of natural causes. Right up to the end, she remained vibrant, sharp, quick witted, outspoken and bossy. Always with a beaded necklace to match her outfits, she had a bigger and better wardrobe than most if not all. She had the best memory of yesteryear which we often relied on. We knew not to call her during Jeopardy or visit during bingo! She would provide hours of entertainment telling us stories of her escapades at Rose Garden Nursing Home. She certainly was their favorite, being the president of her very own "tenants association."

Rose was born June 30, 1924 to Rose Rakowski Vernovige and Joseph Vernovige in Jersey City, NJ. She was the oldest of the 3 surviving sisters. Our grandfather, Joseph, suffered from what was called back then severe shell shock from serving during WWI. Our Nana Rose, who was a resilient, sweet, and dearly loved woman raised her 3 girls by herself.

Our mother, Rose, married our father John J. Canary in 1946 in Jersey City, NJ. They raised their 5 children in Bayonne, NJ. Rose was a Boy Scout den leader, a Girl Scout leader and the president of the women's auxiliary at St. Mary's OLSS church. She worked at Maidenform, Inc in Bayonne for close to 40 years, ending her career as the Executive Secretary to its president when she retired at 69. She returned to administer Maidenform's Credit Union for an additional 4 years.

She then moved to Tinton Falls Senior Residence, where she was the first president of their residents' association. This was the first time she had ever lived on her own, taking care of only herself.

She lived at the Rose Garden Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Toms River, NJ starting in 2015. Typical of our mother, she made a great impression on all who met her. She loved being a resident at Rose Garden, and thought they could do no wrong (except for the food, of course). Just last week, she wrote a 2 page letter to her 11 year old pen pal in Texas! We are so very grateful for the Rose Garden staff who always found new ways for Rose to continue to experience a vibrant life style. They treated her always with respect, compassion, and a sense of humor.

Rose leaves behind her 3 devoted daughters and their husbands (Janice and Steve Rettino, Diane and Tony Sobolewski, and Suzanne Cross) and 2 loving sons and their wives ( John and Nancy Canary, and James and Betty Canary.) She has 13 grandchildren; one, Michael, who predeceased her. We know that she is with him now listening to his humorous spin on happenings there. She also has 11 great-grandchildren. Our father and our mother's husband, whom she always referred to as Johnny even when talking to us, died in 1982.

Our mother never wanted fanfare once she passed on. She often said, "just go on with your lives." Thanks to Covid, she got her wish. She wants her final resting place to be in her favorite cookie jar! Once the quarantine is lifted, we will celebrate her life.

# Comments

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“ My nana I will forever love and miss our amazing memories. She will forever live in my heart

**Delaney Cross** - April 20 at 12:34 PM

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“ My heart-felt condolences to all of Rosie's family and friends. From the moment I met her, I found her to be delightfully enchanting and entertaining. I'll always cherish my memories of her. My thoughts and prayers are with her. ~Bob G.

**Bob** - April 20 at 10:13 AM

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“ I am sorry to the entire family, relatives and friend's for the loss of this wonderful woman. Every time I saw her, she had a smile on her face and she put one on mine as well. She is resting in peace with her precious grandchild, Michael. They are now taking care of each other in heaven..This is just a temporary departure. I always like to believe, we will all meet again...RIP

**Gail Kross** - April 18 at 11:17 PM

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“ A. Sobolewski sent a virtual gift in memory of Rose L. Canary



**A. Sobolewski** - April 18 at 05:10 PM



“ May memories bring you comfort and keep her close in heart.

**A. Sobolewski** - April 18 at 05:14 PM

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“ Growing up in Hudson County, New Jersey, we saw a lot of our first cousins because everybody lived close by. As time went on and we all married and had our own families, we all moved further apart. The old saying held true that we only saw those outside the immediate family when there was a wedding or a funeral. That’s the way it was with Rose as well. But whenever I saw Rose, she was always cheerful and funny. She was a very strong and independent woman—ahead of her time. She raised an amazing family and left the world with a lot of really good people. I will miss her a lot! Say hi to everyone for us, Rose.

**martha Jane Smith** - April 18 at 03:32 PM

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“ Diane and family,

Sorry to hear about your Mom. May she rest in peace. You area all in my prayers.

With Sympathy,

Jane, Joe, and Matthew Hollomon



**Jane Hollomon** - April 18 at 12:47 PM

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“ Knowing Rose, even for the short time I did, was having an inside to the life I wanted when I reach her age! Surrounded and supported on all sides by her loving family, she lived life with a zest and brought joy to many because of it. She always made me feel like I belonged and she showed me that strength can have many faces. I can just see her now, holding center stage with all those waiting for her! Thank you Rose, for showing me how to live and embrace my life. See you when I get home...Bobbi

**Bobbi** - April 18 at 12:32 PM