



Constance Kuzmick

MAR 24, 1935 - AUG 5, 2024



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Constance A. Kuzmick (nee Aquilina) passed away peacefully on August 5, 2024. For 33 years, she was the beloved wife of the late Nick Kuzmick. Cherished mother of Lynn Lisker Hoffman (Joseph) and Laurie Aquilina (William Carmean). Stepmother to Karen Merkle (Paul), James (Linda), Robert (Beth), John (Mary), Peggy Engelhard (Dave), and Mary Jo Kuzmick. Loving grandmother, great grandmother, and step grandmother to many.

Connie was the daughter of Antonio and Pietra (Castronovo) Aquilina, who immigrated to America from Sicily via Ellis Island in 1910. She was born and spent her early childhood in East Brady, Pennsylvania and then relocated with her family to Miami Shores, Florida. Connie graduated from Miami Jackson High School and earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Education from the University of Miami where she was a member of the Alpha Delta Pi Sorority. In 1956, she was honored to be crowned Queen Isabella by the Order of the Sons of Italy in America Miami Lodge No. 1995 – a nod to her Italian heritage and a moment that brought great pride to her family.

A passion for teaching young children led Connie to a fulfilling career as a second-grade teacher at Hollywood Hills Elementary School in Hollywood, Florida. Her fun and welcoming classroom was often used as a model for student teachers and visiting administrators, all of whom admired her ability to teach students proper etiquette.

In 1975, Connie married the love of her life, Nick Kuzmick, and they embarked on a new chapter of life together in Strongsville, Ohio. They shared a deep love for each other and a zest for life that they expressed through travel, golf, attending Cleveland Browns games, and hosting legendary themed parties overflowing with Connie's fabulous food.

Connie's greatest delight came from her role as grandmother to Julia Hoffman Houghton (Lucas) and Maria Hoffman. Her life was further enriched with the arrival of her great-grandchildren, Eloise and Joseph Houghton. Her love for them is a testament to her nurturing spirit and



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enduring legacy.

Along with her devotion to her family, Connie generously shared her time with organizations such as the American Association of University Women, Christ Child, Blossom Music Center, Columbia Hills Country Club, and was a founding member of St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Strongsville.

Connie leaves behind a large Italian-American family consisting of adored nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family members, and friends whom she dearly loved. She will be deeply missed and always remembered for her infectious laughter, warm smile, and fabulous cooking skills.

Along with her parents, Connie was preceded in death by her sister and brother-in-law, Mary and Thomas O'Malley; sister and brother-in-law, Helen and Vito Fenello; and brother, James Aquilina. She is survived by her sister-in-law, Josephine Aquilina.

Visitation will take place on Thursday, August 15, 2024, at Sunset Memorial Park, 6245 Columbia Road, North Olmsted beginning at 4:00 p.m. and will conclude with praying The Rosary together at 7:00 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial Celebrated by Fr. Barry will take place on Friday, August 16, at 10:00 a.m. at St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 16271 Pearl Road, Strongsville. Entombment immediately following Mass at Sunset Memorial Park, 6245 Columbia Road, North Olmsted.

“Remember me with smiles and laughter, for that’s the way I will remember all of you.”
Condolences may be shared by clicking the green "Share a Memory" tab to the left.

To view the Mass of Christian Burial livestream, please visit sjnohio.com.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Connie’s memory to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or simply visit stjude.org.



Events

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Visitation

 **Thursday**, August 15, 2024

 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM ET

 **Sunset Chapel**
6245 Columbia Road, North Olmsted OH 44070



Church Service

 **Friday**, August 16, 2024

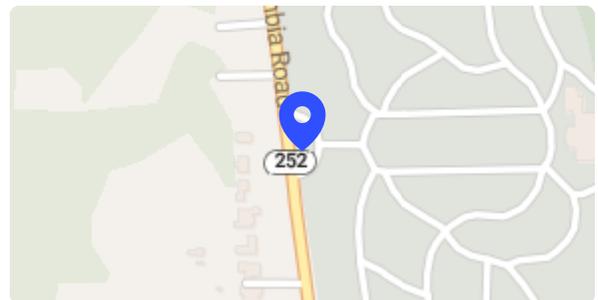
 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET

 **St. John Neumann Roman Catholic Church**
16271 Pearl Rd., Strongsville OH 44136



Cemetery Details

 **Sunset Memorial Park**
6265 Columbia Road, North Olmsted OH 44070





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Salvatore (Sam) Castronovo posted:

My sincere condolences to the Aquilina family. To say the Castronovo family and the Aquilina family were intertwined would be an understatement. Connie and Helen were both my parents godchildren. Jimmy and I were close in age and like brothers. Growing up, we spent each summer together. Our families would spend one summer together in Rochester, NY and then the following summer in East Brady, PA alternating each year. I can recall Uncle John Castronovo, Connie's grandfather sitting on their patio the first thing each morning smoking his stogie cigar. Also sitting on their screened porch, which cantilevered off the side of the house, enjoying each others company. The family store was below the home on the first floor. Uncle Tony, Connie's father, was ahead of the curve. His was the first store in my memory that had shopping carts. As noted in the obituary, Connie brought great pride with her accomplishments to her family. Such great memories and times which I shall never forget. Connie and the other members of the Aquilina family will be missed.....

August 17 at 7:24 AM



Rosalind Neilen August 21 at 4:07 AM

I share no blood relations with Connie. However I had the pleasure of being her personal trainer. Connie took her training very seriously. She rarely missed her 3 day a week 30 minute appointments with me. She even trained VIRTUALLY during the COVID pandemic. She made weekly visits to Weight Watchers to validate her fitness training and food regiment. She was constantly watching the scale working towards losing the "3lbs". Connie was a sharp dresser, yes, even to the gym and nary a hair out of place. During the holiday's, she always offered me her Xmas cookies. The last year she made them I finally accepted, I'm so glad I did. If you've had them you know why, she even gave me the recipe! I'll miss you "Italian Queen"



Anonymous sent a Dreams From the Heart Bouquet to the Kuzmick family.



August 15 at 5:52 AM



Laura, Karen And Tasha planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Constance.



August 15 at 5:52 AM



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Kevin & Collette Tucker sent a Fiery Lily and Rose to the Kuzmick family.

August 14 at 6:04 PM



Roseanne And Mike Deucher sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Kuzmick family.

August 14 at 5:51 PM



Roseanne And Mike Deucher planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Constance.

August 14 at 5:51 PM



Anonymous sent a Dreams From the Heart Bouquet to the Kuzmick family.

August 14 at 9:58 AM



Anonymous sent an Ocean Breeze Spray to the Kuzmick family.

August 14 at 8:09 AM



Uhy Consulting planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Constance.

August 14 at 8:09 AM





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The Eing, Reder, Knapp & Duncan Families sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Kuzmick family.

August 14 at 6:21 AM



Love, Jeff And Laura Thomas sent a Country Basket Blooms to the Kuzmick family.

August 14 at 5:03 AM



Sue Sieder sent a Serene Retreat to the Kuzmick family.

August 13 at 1:02 PM



Sue Sieder planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Constance.

August 13 at 1:02 PM



Matt, Taylor, Finley And Kellen Tucker sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Kuzmick family.

August 13 at 9:53 AM



Anonymous sent an Enchanted Cottage to the Kuzmick family.

August 12 at 2:05 PM





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Nelly Hobrath & Norbert&Barbara Hobrath planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Constance.

August 12 at 2:05 PM



Anonymous sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Kuzmick family.

August 12 at 11:16 AM



John, Mary, Gina And Emily Kuzmick sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Kuzmick family.

August 12 at 7:32 AM



Frank, Kate, Franky, Zach, Jay & Beverly sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Kuzmick family.

August 12 at 7:14 AM



Mindy Mace And Marshall Hood sent an Arrive in Style to the Kuzmick family.

August 12 at 5:41 AM



Lori Frontz posted:

When I became Lynn's friend, I became part of her family. Connie always made me feel at home and welcome in her house! From her themed meals and fun stories of teaching and living in Florida, she made quite the impression on me. And who would have thought I would follow in her footsteps! Rest in peace Connie and know that you were loved by many!

August 11 at 3:49 PM



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Leslie Sperry posted:

I met Mrs. Kuzmick when I moved to Strongsville in 1979 and a junior in high school. Lynn welcomed me with open arms - a true reflection of her mom - and made the incredibly hard transition so much easier. Mrs. Kuzmick's house was where we would all hang out and she'd always feed us. She was so very generous and lovely. I appreciate her being in my life.

August 11 at 6:24 AM



Margaret C. planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Constance.



August 10 at 6:37 AM



Tom & Rita, Tim & Stacie And Families sent a Days of Sunshine Bouquet to the Kuzmick family.



August 9 at 2:11 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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