



Loretta Rose Smykalski

June 29, 1933 - December 17, 2025

Loretta R. Smykalski, of Crystal, passed away peacefully on December 17, 2025, surrounded by her loving family.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Louie (Louis); her sons Timothy, Thomas, and twins James and Jane; her parents, James and Anna Cafferty; and her nine siblings, John, Bryan, Anna, James, Frank, Marie, Mark, Jerome, and Alice. Loretta was the baby of the family and the last of the Cafferty siblings to pass. She is survived by her daughter, Marlene (Phil) Castagna; her son, Terence (Jodi) Smykalski; grandchildren Joey Smykalski, Nick (Sammi) Castagna, Josh Smykalski, Lexi Castagna, and Justin (Tenika) Smykalski; and great-grandchildren Maya, Leia, Nicholas, and Quinn. She is also survived by many beloved nieces and nephews.

Loretta's first job was taking care of her family, she worked many places, starting with the Forum Cafeteria, followed by positions at Shopper City, Montgomery Ward, a local nursery in Osseo, and North Memorial Hospital. She also worked at the local school district as a server and cook. The family still enjoys many of those recipes today. She worked with her best friend as a housecleaner. They had many stories about their antics to get every spot of dirt and dust. She later worked at Honeywell, alongside several members of the Smykalski family. Prior to retirement, she served as a meal companion and performed kitchen duties at St. Therese in New Hope.

Loretta was a mother to many, everyone who met her loved her. She had two honorary sons, Bob Beadle and Carl Stahlmann. She welcomed all with open arms and a warm heart. She was a wonderful, loving mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Known as the best cook, her family treasured her many delicious meals. She was also a great listener who always made time for others.

Rest in eternal peace, Loretta. She was deeply loved and will be greatly missed.

A memorial service in Loretta's loving memory will be held on Wednesday, January 14, at St. Raphael's Catholic Church, 7301 Bass Lake Road, Crystal. Visitation will begin at 10:00 a.m., followed by Mass at 11:00 a.m. A luncheon will follow prior to interment and prayer at St. Patrick's Cemetery, 16453 Bass Lake Road, Maple Grove.

Cemetery Details

St. Patrick's Cemetery

16453 Bass Lake Road
Maple Grove, MN 55311

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 14. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Raphael Roman Catholic Church
7301 Bass Lake Road
New Hope, MN 55428

Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 14. 11:00 AM - 11:55 AM (CT)

St. Raphael Roman Catholic Church
7301 Bass Lake Road
New Hope, MN 55428

Tribute Wall

DC

“ I will always remember how she went out of her way to make Marc and I feel welcomed. I made some comment once about how I liked her oatmeal cookies. The next time I saw her she had made a batch specifically for me. I will never forget that - such a small thing but it meant a lot to me. That's the way she was. I am very thankful that I got to see her this past summer one last time. She will be missed.

David Castagna - January 06 at 10:46 AM

BB

“ Barbara B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Loretta Rose Smykalski.

Barbara B. - January 04 at 07:48 PM