



## Marlene Frances Bertino

November 27, 1940 - April 3, 2025

Bertino, Marlene Frances (Gudorf), age 84, of Edina, Minnesota passed away on April 3rd, 2025.

She is preceded in death by her husband Robert F. Bertino, her parents Urban and Frances Gudorf, brothers Urban Gudorf, Don Gudorf, Norm Gudorf, James Gudorf, Paul Gudorf.

Marlene is survived by her sisters Dorothy Stein, Patrica Lorenz, and Brother Tom Gudorf, sisters in law Patrica Gudorf, Sharon Gudorf, Linda Gudorf, brother in law Paul Stein, daughter Colleen A. Bertino (Brad), son Robert F. Bertino ( Dee) daughter Stevie L. DeGiulio (Anthony) grandchildren Anthony ( Jessica), Anna, (Rhiana) Frances-Rose , Joe, Louis, Jack, Adrienne, and great granddaughter Gianna, many nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews, long term and dear friends Tom and Gwynn Rosen, Marion Presti, Cheryl Reeves, and her friends and her neighbors from the Westin, Christine Warren, Barb Dorset, Indie Watts and the staff of Fantasy Gifts, Tara, Liz, Tim, Sarah, Shane and the rest of the Fantasy Gifts staff. Dozens of others who called her Grandma Marlene as all her kids' friends and families were always welcome at the Bertino home.

Marlene was a wonderful mom and loved her husband Bob, who swept her off her feet when they met on a blind date in Dayton, Ohio while she was in

nursing school. She graduated with her RN in 1963 from St. Elizabeth Hospital Nursing School, was married in June of 1964 and moved several times with her husband from Ohio to Kentucky, to Missouri back to Ohio, to Minnesota, to New Jersey and finally back to Minnesota in 2000, because that's where the grandchildren were. She worked as a Nurse at Midway hospital, Methodist Hospital and as Director of Emergency Nursing at Waconia Hospital until 1986 when she joined her husband as co-founder of Fantasy Gifts and decided to be the first in her family to get a 4-year college degree (in business) from Metro State in 1991. In the 90's they moved to Bob's hometown, Hammonton, New Jersey ostensibly to retire and were bored within months and opened Fantasy Gifts stores there, too. She was active at Fantasy Gifts until only a few years ago when she finally decided to let her kids go at it themselves. She was an active board member at the condo association at the Westin in several roles and enjoyed all her friendships there. Marlene had a fondness for Dewar's on the rocks and loved a good sale on paper goods.

A gathering (or meet and hug) will be held April 19th from 11 AM to 2 PM at the Westin Hotel 3201 Galleria Drive, Edina, Minnesota 55435. Private interment on a later date at Lakewood Cemetery, Minneapolis, MN. Memorials are preferred to the donor's favorite charity.

# Tribute Wall



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Marlene Frances Bertino.



April 14, 2025 at 09:58 AM



“ Duane R. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marlene Frances Bertino.

Duane R. - April 13, 2025 at 03:20 PM



“ Darryl L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marlene Frances Bertino.

Darryl L. - April 13, 2025 at 03:11 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Marlene Frances Bertino.

April 11, 2025 at 01:01 PM



“ Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Marlene Frances Bertino.



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April 11, 2025 at 01:01 PM



“ My father (87) started his stores 42 street Nyc would talk about how brave Marlene was having stores in NJ. Law makers and religious people protesting .  
A different world back then. Dad would say "Marlene open the doors for so many people. A true pioneer." rest in peace. Fantasy Lingerie Gworld OEJ

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**Scott Lipkin** - April 10, 2025 at 12:30 PM



“ What a legacy for a truly well loved woman. Join your husband in the conversation that never ends. Rest in love and peace.

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**Kim Airs** - April 08, 2025 at 06:29 PM

AW

“ I was heartbroken to hear about Marlene’s passing. She was one of my very first clients, and from the moment we met, we hit it off right away. Despite the nearly 50-year age difference between us, she quickly became a dear friend—someone who treated me like a granddaughter.

*Marlene had such a vibrant, spunky spirit that made everyone around her feel instantly at ease. I still remember our last dinner together at Crave, right next to her condo—it’s hard to believe that was almost eight years ago. I think of her often, and every memory brings a smile to my face.*

*She loved her husband and children deeply, and it was always so evident in the way she spoke about her family. Marlene will always have a special place in my heart. I’m so sorry for your loss—she was truly one of a kind.*

*Angie Weidemann*

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**Angie Weidemann** - April 07, 2025 at 11:27 PM