



## Jenny Champine

September 9, 1929 - April 2, 2020

With great sadness we announce the passing of Jennie Mary Champine, our loving and devoted Mother, Grandmother, Great-Grandmother, Aunt and Friend to all whose lives she touched. God called Mom to heaven April 2, 2020. She was 90 years old.

Mom was surrounded by her loving family during her last weeks of fighting a battle with Leukemia. Fortunately, with help from the angels of Hospice, she died in her sleep, reasonably comfortable.

Jennie's life story is first and always of her profound love of her family. Her 3 boys - Joe, Jerry and Mark, always felt loved and supported. A single mother, who was incredibly proud of her still valid "Beautician's License", raised her sons with a great sense of "familia". With 8 Grandchildren and 13 Great-Grandchildren, she was incredibly proud of her sons' families: Joe and Cathy (Joey and Kerry - Luca, Joseph and Jasmine, Jimmy and Megan - Andrew and Wesley, Cristyn and Dustin - Trayten and Irelynn), Jerry and Pat (Mike and Robin - Landon and Keaton, Katie - Anthony, Matt and Kelly - Aiden and Colin), Mark and Susan (Alicia and Steven - Mason, David and Aneesa).

Jennie thoroughly enjoyed sharing in each of her family's "life milestones" - weddings, birthday parties (especially the Great Grand-Children's), vacations, family picnics, high school and college graduations and the birth of new

babies into our family - she was able to be with each of her Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren when they were born, including our most recent additions - Colin and Mason.

She was especially proud to provide traditional Italian Wedding favors of five Jordan Almonds for each of the 11 weddings in our family. These favors included an inscription that embodied her Italian heritage with her sense of life and family: "The five sugar-coated almonds are an ancient Italian tradition. The fresh almond has a bittersweet taste that is symbolic of life itself. The sugar coating reflects the hope their life together will have more sweetness than bitterness. The odd number of almonds is indivisible, just as the newlyweds should remain undivided."

This wish embodied one of her deepest prayers for her family.

Jennie also enjoyed spending long weekends with her sons and Grandchildren's families, sharing family recipes and long talks with them. As Matt said, when she left at the end of her visits, every tupperware bowl was filled with wonderful food and even greater memories.

On the day she passed, Jimmy reflected: "The world is a worse place today than it was yesterday."

But she is still around us, filling us with her love. As Anthony will tell you, when you see a butterfly or a bird flying close to you, it is Grandma Jay stopping by to say "HI - I LOVE YOU!".

During the current national emergency, we will postpone services for Mom until such time that we can have an appropriate day of remembrance with a Catholic Mass and a Memorial Luncheon. We will inform you as plans are finalized.

On behalf of our mother, please know that she loved you - her family and her friends, old and new.

# Tribute Wall

CC

“ 33 files added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Cathy Cottone** - April 14, 2020 at 04:46 PM

JC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Jerry Cottone** - April 14, 2020 at 04:15 PM

JC

“ A heartfelt conversation my daughter had with her son that made us smile and lifted our hearts.

*One time Anthony's grandfather said, "When a butterfly flutters by, he thinks it's a soul passing by to say hi."*

*I always think of that whenever I see a butterfly. I talked to Anthony about it... I told him "If we see a butterfly, that's Grandma Jay saying hi."*

*Today a pigeon flew on top of Anthony and flapped it's wings. It touched him and then stood on the ground feet away. The pigeon stared at him for about five minutes... Anthony looked at me and smiled "Mama, I think Grandma Jay isn't a butterfly, she's a pigeon." Right then, the pigeon flew off. It was kinda a cool, quirky, but spiritual moment.*

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**Jerry Cottone** - April 14, 2020 at 04:10 PM

MA

*Hi this is Vicki . We finally got to share these pictures with mom, social distancing of course! So nice to see the pictures. Anthony's story touched my heart, I'm pretty sure it was Grandma Jay letting you know she is happy. Hugs to all*

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**Marci** - May 30, 2020 at 02:53 PM

JC

“ One of greatest family vacations was our trip to California. The trip included Mom, Fred, Grandma And Grandpa Serio, Uncle Sam and my two brothers, Joe and Mark. The trip included the Painted Desert, Fisherman's Wharf, Disneyland, Knoxberry Farm Amusement Park, Catalina Island and a reunion with our Italian relatives.

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**Jerry Cottone** - April 14, 2020 at 02:19 PM

MJ

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you at this sad time. Your mother was a very special person and her qualities were passed on to her sons. I have worked with Joe Cottone and know his compassion for people and how much he cares about his friends and family is a true day to day tribute to his mom. The world is a better place due to the love she gave, and is now being continued to be spread by her children and grand children. Your family was so blessed to have her as a Mom. love marie*

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**marie joppich** - April 04, 2020 at 06:32 PM

JC

*So very thoughtful Marie.....*

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**Joe Cottone** - April 05, 2020 at 04:27 PM