



## Loretta Anna Okoniewski

September 19, 1920 - March 20, 2013

"A hug, a kiss and a blessing" Loretta Anna Okoniewski, age 92, was born September 19, 1920 and went to her heavenly home March 20, 2013.

Beloved Wife of the late Norbert T. Okoniewski

Mother of Norbert J. Patricia, Thomas J. Carrie, Josi J. & Donna, Therese M. Gregory Wisnewski, Paul J. Michele and Mary Rundell. Grandmother of Deana, Wendi, Jared, Troy, Tracy, Miriam, Rebecca, Sierra, Logen, Jessie, Meric, Jillian, Joshua, Michael, Dustin, Brad and Nick. Great-Grandmother of Tanner, Riley, Ava, Greyson, Joshua, Skylar, Raeden, Nicholas and Chloe. Daughter of the late Julius Peruski, Anna Shubert and Step-Daughter of the late Rose Kowalski.

Sister of Isabella Powierski, Lawrence Peruski and the late MaryAnn Cove, and Joseph Peruski.

And Friend to ALL. Loretta lived a long and a full life.

She was very active in the St. Lawrence Church community in many ways: Altar Society, Lector, Eucharistic Minister, Council of Catholic Woman, etc., etc... She also initiated and introduced traditions into the church community such as Palm weaving during Holy Week, Oplatki wafers during the Christmas season a Polish tradition and Advent mangers. Loretta was a prominent member of St. Mary's Retreat House in Oxford, MI, which she considered her second home for over 50 years, where she served on the Board and actively promoted and chaired retreats. She also helped begin one day retreats at the Capuchin Retreat House in Washington, Michigan. Loretta was a loving and

caring individual who helped a great many people in many ways throughout her life's journey. She also kept in touch with many of those people she met along the way through cards, letters, etc...

Family and friends have expressed what a special person Loretta has been and she will be sorely missed but fondly remembered for her many kindnesses.

# Tribute Wall

JM

“ So sorry to hear about your Mom. What a great lady! She's through the pearly gates before us all. She sure made a difference in so many lives through her genuine kindness of love for others. She helped raise a beautiful family that all walk in her footsteps. She will be missed.

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**Joan Nowalski McNish** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PP

“ I am so sorry to hear of your Mom's passing. Its not an easy thing to lose your Mom. It does make it easier when you have such wonderful memories of her. She will be missed.

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**Pat Henk Piscitelli** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ To all of the Okoniewski family, I am so sorry to hear of your Mom's passing this past week. You know she and Bert are back together again and happy. I have many happy memories of Loretta and your Dad while growing up, from St. Lawrence, flying and more things our families did together. You know this is what she worked her whole life to attain!

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**Michael Henk** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PF

“ Every year I looked forward to my piece of gum on my birthday. It is amazing how the little things in life can have the largest impact on us. That simple gesture every year reminds me of the poem footprints in the sand. With Loretta always being there no matter where I was in life with her kind words and a stick of gum. God bless.

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**Paul Fields** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ As godmother to our son, Paul and spiritual mother to our family, Loretta never failed to let us know how important we were to not only her but to God. She faithfully sent birthday cards to my six children with a stick of gum inside and the message that God loves them and so does she. This card was most anticipated of all birthday gifts and brought much fun over the stick of gum. Her simplicity and pleasure in loving and serving God is her legacy to our family. When we visited with her this last December, she did not know us. We were with her during her lunch and her table companions kept up a lively conversation. When we were leaving, Loretta stood up and gave John and I her "hug, kiss on the cheek, and blessing with the sign of the cross on our foreheads. Then she set off to find Theresa. Always, she gave such Joy to us. Blessings to you as you find comfort in knowing your mom's life touched so many, one person, family, group or church at a time.

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**Linda and John Fields** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ Aunt Loretta will be greatly missed. She always had a kind word and prayer, She and Uncle Norbie raised a beautiful family and both were such good role models. As did all family members, we looked forward to the Oplatki at Christmas and her notes and cards. She always had so much joy and love to share and she gave with such beauty and grace. God has another angel in Heaven and we were so blessed by knowing and loving her during her time here on earth. Shirley Oakie Milatz and Family

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**Shirley Oakie Milatz** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ Did not know Loretta personally but know she was a very thoughtful woman. When my child suffered a serious accident, she sent her cards of love and support, almost daily , always a stick of gum or a treat of sorts to lighten her day. She surly is in heaven today.

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**R Debeaussaert** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ We know that Loretta went straight to Heaven. She was an Angel on Earth and now she is an Angel in Heaven. My mom Carmella Mezzapelle and I have countless memories especially during our retreats at St. Mary's. Rest in Peace Loretta, you will be greatly missed.

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**Kathy Celletti** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ We are very sorry to hear of your mom's passing. She was a tremendous influence to me during my high school days and remained a devoted dear friend of my parents, Grace and Mike Adragna.

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**Mary Adragna** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ So sorry to hear of your mom's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you. We know she is where she always prayed to be and in peace.

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**Michael Kindret** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ I remember when Therese and I were in school, her Mom always had a smile on her face. I always thought she was a kind and pretty lady. She was a loving and giving Mother. God bless the family. She is in a much better place now. We have another angel !!

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**Mary Sawicki Freeman** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GO

“ My aunt was very good to my whole family. Everyone waited for her cards for a birthday, anniversaries and special occasions and the prayer notations each contained. It was a pleasure to visit at their house and at family outings. She will be remembered in all our prayers. The Oakie and Boman families.

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**Gene Oakie** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CA

“ I just have to leave another message. I always wondered why Loretta had such a special place in my heart and tonight when I got home, I found out why. My mother's father, Theodore Shubert, and Loretta's mother, Anna Shubert Peruski, were brother and sister. So we were very distant cousins. My mom knew her sister Maryann and had visited Maryann before her death and had actually gotten to have a nice visit with all 3 of the girls, Loretta, Maryann & Isabella that day. It is such a small world and it is just wonderful how God works!

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**Connie Rooney Adkins** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CA

“ Loretta was a patient of ours here at Shelby Eyecare. I always looked forward to seeing Loretta and taking care of her. I will miss her smiling face greatly. She always had a hug and a smile and a "Bless You" for us. I was very glad that I got to give her a big hug the last time she was in.

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**Connie Rooney Adkins** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ Loretta has been our friend for over 50 years -- and our parents' friend even longer. Her focus was on serving God, her husband, family and her church. She radiated God's love wherever she went and she was a wonderful example to all. A well prepared lector in our church, we looked forward to her proclaiming the Word of God. Loretta loved unconditionally. Our sympathy to her family.

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**Doug and Barbara McKay** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Loretta always had a smile on her face and a loving, good word on her lips, full of faith and God's love to share with others. Blessings on all of her family rain down on you from heaven where I'm sure she is happily watching over all. We will keep all of you in our prayers.

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**Matt & Karen Masalskis** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ So sorry to hear about the passing of Loretta. I always enjoyed the readings that she shared with us at our Altar Society meetings. May your memories always bring a smile to your hearts.

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**Janet Smith** - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM