



Pearl Rutkowski

September 26, 1931 - November 22, 2025

With great love and sorrow, the family of Pearl L. Rutkowski announces her peaceful passing on November 22, 2025, at the age of 94. Born on September 26, 1931, Pearl lived a long, full, and joyful life devoted to the people she cherished most.

Family was the center of Pearl's world. She is survived by her daughters Pauline (Bob) Balan and Janet (Benjamin) Rodriguez; her grandchildren Thomas (Tracy) Milo, Kristen (Tom) Collins, Ryan Milo, James Wheatley, Donna (Dovie) Martens, and Savannah Cseh; her great-grandchildren Brittany, Brennan (Crystal), Austin, Stephen, and Bryanna; and her four precious great-great-grandchildren. Each of them was a source of joy and pride, and she cherished every moment spent with them. Pearl is preceded in death by her beloved husband Donald Rutkowski, her parents William and Dorothy Marx, and her four brothers.

Pearl was known by many names, "Mrs. Clean", "Momma Pearl", and "Beauty Queen", each one reflecting a part of who she was. She took pride in everything she did and poured her heart into caring for her family, friends, and neighbors. Whether she was tidying up, offering a comforting hug, or sharing a story that brought laughter, Pearl had a way of making people feel loved and at home.

Pearl's smile was bright, her laughter contagious, and her presence comforting. She loved to sing and dance, often turning simple moments into treasured memories. She was a sweetheart to all who knew her, gentle,

caring, and always ready to lend support.

Her devotion to her family, her lively spirit, and her boundless love will remain in the hearts of those she leaves behind. Pearl's legacy is one of joy, dedication, and kindness. She will be forever missed and lovingly remembered. May she rest in peace.

Family and friends will be gathering for a memorial visitation and funeral mass on Friday, December 12, 2025 at St. Blase Catholic Church 12151 15 Mile Road (Btwn Schoenherr & Van Dyke) Sterling Heights, Michigan from 9am until time of the mass at 9:30am.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

DEC 12. 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM (ET)

St. Blase Catholic Church
12151 15 Mile Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48312

Memorial Mass

DEC 12. 9:30 AM (ET)

St. Blase Catholic Church
12151 15 Mile Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48312

Tribute Wall

R#

“ *Reckinger Family #98 purchased the Sweet Snacks Gift Crate for the family of Pearl Rutkowski.* ”



Reckinger Family #98 - December 15, 2025 at 12:06 PM

DF

“ *Donna and Steve Farabaugh purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Pearl Rutkowski.* ”



Donna and Steve Farabaugh - December 11, 2025 at 11:46 AM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Pearl Rutkowski.* ”



December 10, 2025 at 01:55 PM

WC

“ *With Love, Shelby Comfort Care purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Pearl Rutkowski.* ”



With Love, Shelby Comfort Care - December 04, 2025 at 10:07 AM

WC

“ With Love, Shelby Comfort Care planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Pearl Rutkowski.

With Love, Shelby Comfort Care - December 04, 2025 at 10:07 AM

BS

“ Life has not been the same since you were called home by our Creator. I miss your smile, your gentle voice and your calm vibes. You always thought about others before yourself. You were one of the most...sweetest, kindest and most gentle of souls I ever knew. I don't know if you ever realized how funny you were, without even trying to be. The laughter, and all the love you gave me and everyone else whose lives you touched along the way will never be forgotten. I miss and love you SO much Pearly Pearl❤️. Love Always, Barb



Barbara Shepard - December 03, 2025 at 07:04 PM

JT

“ Jeff, Theresa and Bob Tanghe purchased the Firey Lily and Rose for the family of Pearl Rutkowski.



Jeff, Theresa and Bob Tanghe - December 03, 2025 at 10:07 AM

JT

“ Jeff, Theresa and Bob Tanghe planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Pearl Rutkowski.

Jeff, Theresa and Bob Tanghe - December 03, 2025 at 10:07 AM

NF

“ *Caring for you made my time the best ever!!
Talking to you & seeing your smile brighten my day.
I'm grateful for our talks & simply you enlightening my overwhelming
days. Thank you for your talks and encouraging words. The best
“Grandma “ ever. May your legacy live forever & Your soul Rest in
eternal Peace.
-Minister Naria J. 💜*

naria Fason - November 25, 2025 at 10:51 PM

NF

“ *Thank You for allowing me to care for you in your last moments!
On a bad & overwhelming day seeing your smile brighten up the
whole day. You were the best ever. Thank you for your encouraging
talks & words to enlighten my life.
My “Grandma” Rest in eternal Peace. I will miss you & May your
legacy live forever. 💜*



naria Fason - November 25, 2025 at 10:48 PM

AH

“Caring for you was one of the greatest honors of my life. In every smile, every story you shared, and every quiet moment, you touched my heart in ways I'll carry forever. You were so much more than a resident to me you were a light, a comfort, and a reminder of the beauty in simple kindness. Thank you for letting me be a part of your days and for the love, wisdom, and warmth you brought into mine. I will miss you deeply, but your memory will continue to guide me, inspire me, and stay with me always.



Autumn Hader - November 25, 2025 at 08:54 PM

KJ

“Pearl was a wonderful neighbor and friend. She never had an unkind word to say about anyone. I enjoyed all our conversations. Rest in peace sweet lady.
Karen Jankowski

Karen Jankowski - November 24, 2025 at 04:01 PM

JS

Our family had the pleasure of living across the street from Don and Pearl from 1996-2009. They were the sweetest neighbors and our children adored them, we loved our visits on the porch while they were swinging. It was a joy when I cut Pearls hair, we had such great conversation! Both Pearl and Don were perfect neighbors and they were always there to show themselves helpful and so friendly. Pearl truly was a faithful, loyal, and joyful lady.
Sending our sincere condolences!
Jim and Kelly Starnes
Jimmy, Jillian, Zachary and Julie

Jim and Kelly Starnes - November 25, 2025 at 12:36 AM