



Clara Ruggiero

October 23, 1929 - July 28, 2024

Clara Ruggiero, age 94, passed away peacefully Sunday morning, July 28th. Clara was survived by her four children, Anthony, Clementina (Ken), Alfred (Jocelyn), and Carl (Donna). She was grandmother to Michael, Sara, Alyssa, Ellia, Daniel, Gianna, Olivia, and Joey, and great-grandmother to James, Jack, Camila, Catherine, Clara, Lilyana, Isla, Ruth, and Evelyn.

Beloved Clara was born October 23rd, 1929, in Arpaia, Italy. She was the youngest daughter of nineteen brothers and sisters, and the last surviving. She fell in love with her future husband, Anthony and moved to New York in 1954. They were married a year later and moved to College Park (Orlando) to start their family.

Her love language was food. Every Sunday, with pasta and meatballs on the table, the whole family gathered for dinner; a Bocci game frequently followed. Our Pasta night tradition has never missed a beat and will continue in her honor.

She was an avid sports fan, and loved the Orlando Magic, Orlando City Soccer, and tennis- especially Rafael Nadal. She loved the outdoors and would frequently be found in her garden tending to her orchids and vegetables, as well as caring for her chickens and bunny. She knew more than anyone about current celebrity gossip and would keep the family up to

date on who Taylor Swift was currently dating. Clara loved her adopted country and studied and passed the US citizenship test so she could vote. She was passionate about politics, although she wasn't sure who she'd vote for in the next election.

Clara had an open door, open mind, and open heart. She loved her family fiercely and was so proud of them. She was everyone's best friend, and her home was the family's haven. No one had more of a pure heart. Clara knew the richness of having each other was foremost and made her family understand that. She gave practical advice when needed along with her unwavering love.

Clara leaves behind a beautiful legacy and will be deeply missed. She will be memorialized on Friday, August 2nd at DeGusipe Funeral Home in Maitland from 6-8pm. Funeral mass is Saturday, August 3rd at 1:30 pm at Saint Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Orlando. Interment to follow at Greenwood Cemetery in Orlando.

DeGusipe Funeral Home & Crematory
9001 Orlando Ave
Maitland, Fl. 32751

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church
4005 Edgewater Dr.
Orlando, Fl. 32804

Greenwood Cemetery
1603 Greenwood St.
Orlando, Fl. 32801

Cemetery Details

Greenwood Cemetery

1603 Greenwood St.
Orlando, FL 32801

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering with Reception

AUG 2. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

DeGusipe Funeral Home & Crematory
9001 N. Orlando Avenue
Maitland, FL 32751
<https://www.facebook.com/DeGusipeFH/>

Funeral Mass

AUG 3. 1:30 PM (ET)

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church
4005 Edgewater Drive
Orlando, FL 32804

Burial to follow Mass

AUG 3 (ET)

Greenwood Cemetery
1603 Greenwood St.
Orlando, FL 32801

Tribute Wall

AR

“ 1 file added to the album Clara and her family



AI Ruggiero - August 02, 2024 at 02:11 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Clara Ruggiero.



August 01, 2024 at 11:27 PM

CO

“ To All the RUGGIERO FAMILY! Your mom was the BEST and I loved visiting her the past few years when I was in the area. Her love for her family was paramount to her! She loved the Lord with her whole ❤️ and kept her family entwined in her heart like the Blessed Mother keeping them altogether and being with them once a week, at the very least. Her children and grandchildren and great grandchildren are to be commended and she always told me of the sacrifices that you each made in LOVE to keep...
Magdlyn “Cookie” Olander

COOKIE OLANDER - August 01, 2024 at 10:45 PM

LG

“ Love The Gruskin’s purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Clara Ruggiero.



Love The Gruskin’s - August 01, 2024 at 02:56 PM

LG

“ Love The Gruskin’s planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Clara Ruggiero.

Love The Gruskin’s - August 01, 2024 at 02:56 PM

RS

“ Rhonda Fletcher- W Winter Park St purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Clara Ruggiero.



Rhonda Fletcher- W Winter Park St - August 01, 2024 at 02:47 PM

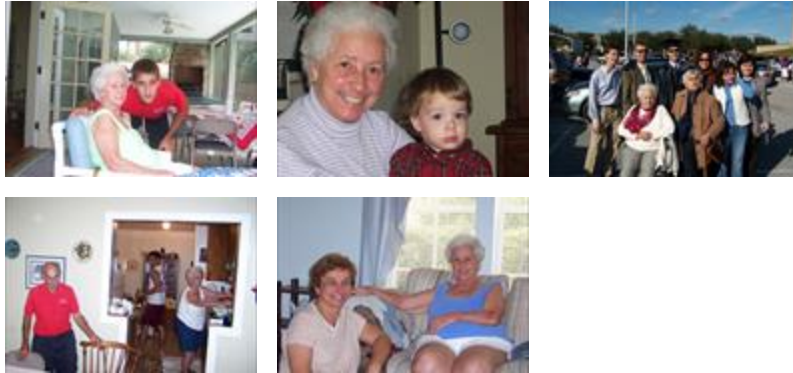
CL

“ Christine L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Clara Ruggiero.

Christine L. - August 01, 2024 at 02:25 PM

AR

“ 10 files added to the album Family Photos



AI Ruggiero - August 01, 2024 at 02:01 PM

KM

“ Kenneth & Linda Moore purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Clara Ruggiero.



Kenneth & Linda Moore - August 01, 2024 at 09:58 AM

MB

“ Mike Byrd purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Clara Ruggiero.



Mike Byrd - July 31, 2024 at 09:00 PM

MB

“ Mike Byrd planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Clara Ruggiero.

Mike Byrd - July 31, 2024 at 09:00 PM

CC

“ Carmela C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Clara Ruggiero.

Carmela C. - July 31, 2024 at 07:40 PM

AF

“ Antonio and Elena Fallucca purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Clara Ruggiero.



Antonio and Elena Fallucca - July 31, 2024 at 07:16 PM

AF

“ Antonio and Elena Fallucca planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Clara Ruggiero.

Antonio and Elena Fallucca - July 31, 2024 at 07:16 PM

BR

“ Barbara Ruggiero purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Clara Ruggiero.



Barbara Ruggiero - July 31, 2024 at 06:10 PM

BR

“ Barbara Ruggiero planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Clara Ruggiero.

Barbara Ruggiero - July 31, 2024 at 06:10 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Clara Ruggiero.



July 31, 2024 at 07:36 AM



“ To say "to know Clara was to love her" would be the greatest understatement. If you met Clara, you couldn't help but fall in love with her. There are no adequate words to describe Clara. They would all pale in comparison to the most remarkable women that I will ever meet. Knowing Clara was to 'experience' Clara. Her gentle spirit drew you into her world and you knew that you would be forever changed.

From chatting over coffee and biscotti cookies to rolling around the neighborhood hearing stories from the past, to trips to Publix, to Sunday Five hundred rummy card games (where I was usually beaten), there was not one moment that I didn't DELIGHT in being in Clara's presence.

God Blessed me with almost 2 years of 'experiencing' Clara and a friendship that will live in my heart until God calls me home and I see her again.

Stephanie Wangerin

Stephanie Wangerin - July 31, 2024 at 06:47 AM



“ Yvonne D. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Clara Ruggiero.

Yvonne D. - July 31, 2024 at 12:29 AM

RL

“ *Romeo & Adrienne LeBlanc purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Clara Ruggiero.*



Romeo & Adrienne LeBlanc - July 30, 2024 at 08:44 PM



“ *My Grandma was one of the most iconic people. She was simply the best. The best cook. The best listener. The best cheerleader. She loved her people so much and would do anything for us. Any time I would go to grandmas house I would leave with a happy heart and full belly. She's such a special person and I am truly going to miss her so so much.*



Gianna Ruggiero - July 30, 2024 at 07:36 PM

MR

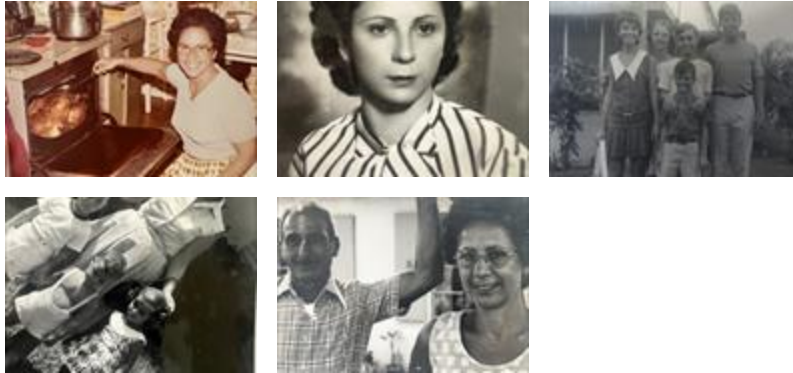
“ *Mark & Cathy Jo Rose purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Clara Ruggiero.*



Mark & Cathy Jo Rose - July 30, 2024 at 03:57 PM

AR

“ 8 files added to the album Clara and her family



Alyssa Rose - July 30, 2024 at 03:10 PM



Beautiful pictures❤️

Gianna Ruggiero - July 30, 2024 at 07:25 PM

TF

“ The Peanoski family purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Clara Ruggiero.



The Peanoski family - July 30, 2024 at 02:00 PM

AE

“ Clara was my next door neighbor and dear friend. She welcomed me and my husband from the moment we moved here almost 11 years ago. She and I loved talking about all things Italian, especially food. She was very wise; often I felt I should be paying her instead of my therapist. I was/am in awe of the large, close family she and her husband built. Ti voglio bene per sempre, Clara, and hope to see you again one day, Angela

Angela Emerson - July 30, 2024 at 01:43 PM

AR

She loved you, Angela. Thank you for being there for her <3

Alyssa Rose - July 30, 2024 at 02:16 PM

LG

“ *Linda and Gary Glanz purchased the Your Light Shines for the family of Clara Ruggiero.*



Linda and Gary Glanz - July 30, 2024 at 01:39 PM