



Esther R. Caruso-Barbella

January 6, 2012

Esther Caruso Barbella

My grandmother's honed gifts to the world were her uncanny ability to make any kind of food delectable and her capacity to love and care for people, especially her family. Cooks like Grandma are blessings. Regardless of whether my mother and I were helping her make it, when we tried to replicate the recipe, our food was never quite the same. I believe that God touched her hands and heart with love and Grace. Those were her special ingredients. We lived for Friday night pizza, Saturday's roast beef, and Sunday's pasta.

Oh, who cares? Have another piece. often issued from Esther's mouth, especially with her desserts. Her generosity was boundless.

Born on August 6th, 1924 in Newark, New Jersey to first generation Italian-Americans, James and Rachael Caruso, my grandmother was the youngest of seven girls and two boys, born over 20 years; she died, January 5th, 2012, with one surviving sibling.

Her family was her world. Her husband, Ozzie, her children, Theresa and Robert, her five Grandchildren, ten Great- Grandchildren, and one Great-Great Grandchild completed and motivated every decision she made. No one could have asked for a better wife, mother or grandmother.

Her greatest joy was my grandfather, Ozzie. She would do anything for him. Even when sick, her first words were, How's your Grandfather? Being together since she was 12, falling in love and marrying at 17, they became each other's spiritual halves. Over the course of 69 years of marriage, their

strength and family-centered lives carried them through joy and sorrow.

We heard a lot of "Don't tell your Grandfather." When she would think she was sneaking money to us or buying something, hiding chocolate in the house and think my grandfather didn't know. He knew, and never said a word, and found the chocolate every time!

Whether Essie, Mom or Grandma, her memory will always evoke comfort, love, and our family's heart. Every day of her life she lavished her love and attention on us, and that is her greatest legacy. The family will receive friends at the funeral home Thursday, January 12, 2012 from 1-3 and 5-7 P.M. A service will be conducted Friday, January 13, 2012 at Calvary Catholic Cemetery at 11 A.M.

Tribute Wall



“ *The family of Esther R. Caruso-Barbella uploaded a photo*

August 19, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ *Bill Lumpkin - My wife's great aunt posted a condolence This family was truly blessed to have such a wonderful person to have among them for so many years, the examples of her kindness and love are far to many to list. She was the perfectoi example of what families pray to have as examples of what can only be described as a true saint amoung them. True love, absolute complete kindness and a role model for every single person that ever met her. The bar could not get any higher for a woman that was truly a saint on arth. I know the gates of heaven were opened to the widest extent when she passed through them. I am so sorry for your loss, the family will carry on what she passed down to each of them forever.*

Bill Lumpkin - My wife's great aunt - January 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM