



Irene May Benson

December 5, 1922 - February 16, 2020

Irene May Benson went home to join her Lord on February 16, 2020.

She was born on December 5, 1922 in Maspeth, New York, to Edward Pazderski, Sr. and Michalina Szymanski and had 4 brothers (Edward, Jr., John, Eugene and Alfred) and 2 sisters (Florence and Elinor). Her family was Roman Catholic and her aunts and uncles on her mother's side all served the Church as priests and nuns.

She met the love of her life, Clifford Benson, through her sister, Elinor, who was dating his best friend, Austin. The first time she saw him, he was asleep in the back seat of the car, since he was home on leave from the Coast Guard and she said it was love at first sight. They were married in June 1943 and Clifford left for the War in the Pacific just months afterwards, and didn't return home until their first child, Dennis, was almost a year and a half old. They were married for almost 53 years, until his death in May of 1996.

Cliff and Irene had their second son, Richard, in New York, also, and then moved to Miami in 1948, where three daughters (Diane, Karin and Kristine) and a son (David) were born.

Irene cared for the family home and was ever-present as a mother, involved in her children's lives and education. She taught by example and lived a life of

being there for others - caring for her own mother and father until their deaths and also for many neighbors and friends. She continued to keep in touch almost daily with all 6 children throughout her 97th year, as well as with extended family and Martha, her childhood friend of 87 years. Her son, Richard, lived with her and was a loving son and caregiver. She was also blessed to have Gwen and Debbie as companions for the last five years.

Irene taught us all the value of learning and knowledge - and she continued to challenge herself with new technology, enjoying her iPad & her Google Home to look things up and stay connected.

Irene is predeceased by her parents, and her brothers and sisters and her husband, Clifford. She is survived by her sons: Dennis, Richard and David; and her daughters: Diane, Karin and Kristine; 5 grandchildren: Erika, Gregory, Ashley, Nathaniel and Andrew; and 2 great-grandchildren: Andrew and Anthony.

A funeral mass will be held at St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church in Winter Park, Florida and later she will join her husband, Clifford, with a burial at sea.

In lieu of flowers, please send your donations in memory of Irene M. Benson to Habitat for Humanity, Poland - To support the work of Habitat POLAND, please send your tithe to: Habitat for Humanity International P.O. Box 6598 Americus, GA 31709-3498.

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

MAR 6. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church - Chapel
526 N. Park Avenue
Winter Park, FL 32787

Tribute Wall

BB

“ *Barbra Brown purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Irene May Benson.*



Barbra Brown - March 02, 2020 at 01:07 PM

DE

“ *I was blessed to be a caregiver for Irene once a week and I loved being with her and her beautiful family. Her smile was infectious and lovely! She taught me some polish and had a very cute polish song that made you laugh. She worked out on her bike pedal,. Twenty revolutions forward and back. I smile when I think of her and thankful for the memories*

Debbie eagle - March 02, 2020 at 10:31 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Irene May Benson.*



March 01, 2020 at 06:44 PM

KL

“ Irene, when I close my eyes and think of you a mental picture comes of you buzzing around the house in North Miami with a huge smile on your face and always a positive attitude as Cliff reads his paper in the back room. You ALWAYS made me feel at home and you were so easy to talk to. Thank you for being such a positive influence in my life. The proof that you were a great mother is easily found by looking at all of you awesome children. We will miss you.

Kent Larocque - February 24, 2020 at 08:11 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Irene May Benson.



February 24, 2020 at 07:59 PM

GD

“ My best memory is the look on Irene's face when she won first prize of our Bunko game. She had insisted that she could not play but enjoyed the game and was surprised and proud when she won!

My condolences to the entire family.

Geri Dixon

Geri Dixon - February 20, 2020 at 10:37 AM

DN

That's true! she got to be Bunko Queen for the night - and wear my tiara!~

Dnunz - February 20, 2020 at 07:05 PM

HF

“ You loved your friends and family deeply and the feeling was reciprocal. You will be greatly missed. Rest in peace sweet lady.



Harrison Foster - February 20, 2020 at 07:58 AM



“ On behalf of the staff at DeGusipe Funeral Home, please accept our condolences. It is an honor to serve your family.



Luke Spalding - February 17, 2020 at 01:18 PM

DE

I feel blessed to have been apart of the family and Irene was teaching me Polish and sang a very cute song that made us laugh. She had a beautiful smile and talked a lot of her family. There was a lot of love and nice memories.

Debbie eagle - February 22, 2020 at 03:30 PM

DN

you are part of our family!

Dnunz - February 28, 2020 at 11:10 PM