



Josephine Rita Arico

June 20, 1930 - December 12, 2016

A celebration of the life of Giuseppina "Josephine" Rita Arico will be at 1:00 p.m., Thursday, December 15, 2016 at St. Benedict's Catholic Church under the direction of Hayhurst Funeral Home. Josephine will be laid to rest at Calvary Cemetery. Friends may visit the funeral home on Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and continuing at St. Benedict's from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. A Rosary will be held at St. Benedict's on Wednesday, December 14, at 7:00 p.m.

Josephine was born on June 20, 1930 in Brooklyn, New York to Pasquale and Annunziata (Carita) Arico. Josephine graduated from Mother Cabrina High School. Josephine worked as a Clerical Staff Administrator for Metropolitan Life.

Josephine is survived by her beloved son, Peter Thornton and his wife Susan (Stutsman) Thornton; grandchildren Grace Ann and Brian Schroeder, Anthony Thornton and Joseph Thornton; and her sister, Stella Marie Fryer of North Stonington, Connecticut.

Josephine was preceded in death by her parents, Pasquale and Annunziata Arico, and sister Concetta Beraducci.

Josephine had many "joys in life." Josephine loved to cook. She was a great

cook and was true to her Italian heritage, making delicious Italian meals for her family and friends. Josephine was an avid gardener, growing many of her own vegetables and spices, and she loved flowers, especially her roses. Josephine loved singing and was a long time member of the church choir. She performed in a clown troop, entertaining the elderly in nursing homes. One of Josephine's greatest joys was praying for others. She started the prayer circle at St. Benedict's, receiving countless requests for people in need.

Josephine's greatest joy in life was family, friends, and the children she cared for. Josephine was a wonderful mother and grandmother. She loved children and, after retiring from MetLife, started a day care in her home. Josephine was one of the first teachers at St. Benedict's Mother's Day Out program. She taught religious education at the convent to 2nd grade children, preparing them for First Communion, and she was a preschool teacher at St. Benedict's for many years. Josephine loved her church family and was involved in anything and everything involving St. Benedict's. She was a loving mother and grandmother figure to many at church.

Josephine was a founding member at The Church of St. Benedict. She was the first Tulsa Diocesan Woman of the Year, which was an honor awarded her for her outstanding works and achievements in the Diocese.

Memorials may be made to: St. Benedict's Seminarian Fund, The Church of St. Benedict, 2200 W. Ithica St., Broken Arrow, OK 74012.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

9101 S. Harvard Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74137

Previous Events

Rosary

DEC 14. 7:00 PM (CT)

St. Benedict's Catholic Church
2200 W. Ithica St.
Broken Arrow, OK 74012

Viewing

DEC 14. 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Hayhurst Funeral Home
1660 South Elm Place
Broken Arrow, OK 74012
(918) 258-9623
hayhurstfuneralhome@gmail.com

Viewing

DEC 14. 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

St. Benedict's Catholic Church
2200 W. Ithica St.
Broken Arrow, OK 74012

Funeral Mass

DEC **15**. 1:00 PM (CT)

St. Benedict's Catholic Church
2200 W. Ithica St.
Broken Arrow, OK 74012

Tribute Wall



“ *Josephine Rita Arico*

October 23, 2023 at 01:21 AM



“ *Josie will be greatly missed by all those who knew her and whose lives she touched. She watched over me as a young child and thankfully had great influence over the person I am today. She had a zeal for life and a deep commitment to her family, friends and St. Benedict's community. Much love for her and may she rest in peace.*
Chris Vogel

Chris Vogel - December 14, 2016 at 04:39 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Miss Josie*



Emily C - December 14, 2016 at 02:36 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Josephine Rita Arico.*



December 14, 2016 at 02:31 PM

LH

“ You never saw Josie without her big smile. It showed so much love and caring. It will be greatly missed. Lucilla Herman

Lucilla Herman` - December 14, 2016 at 12:46 PM

JK

“ Both of our children had the privilege of being in Miss Josie's Angel Tots class at St. Benedict's MDO. She was a blessing to them and to our whole family. Even as the children grew up, she would still offer hugs to us all when we would see her at Mass. "Well done, my good and faithful servant."

The Krawczyk Family

Jeanne Krawczyk - December 14, 2016 at 09:16 AM

JG

“ When time permitted I would have lunch with Josie at the preschool. She shared her past and we would talk about what she cooked for her Sunday dinner. She often prayed for me and my family. Glad I was able to share that time with her. Love you Josie. Rest now with Jesus. 💜

Judy Galvin - December 13, 2016 at 10:23 PM

MK

“ JOSEPHINE WAS OUR SPECIAL FRIEND. WE SPOKE EVERY DAY. WE BECAME FRIENDS A LONG TIME AGO. WHEN WE CAME TO ST. BENEDICTS AND SHE WELCOMED US RIGHT AWAY. THERE ARE SO MANY WONDERFUL MEMORIES THAT DON AND I HAVE OF HER. OUR FAMILY ALL LOVED HER. SHE TAUGHT OUR GREAT GRANDSON WHEN HE WAS AT ST. BENEDICT. IN THE PRE SCHOOL. I WILL MISS DISCUSSING OETA TV SHOWS ESPECIALLY DOWNTON ABBEY. BUT MOST OF ALL I WILL MISS MY DEAR FRIEND. REST IN THE PEACE OF THE LORD JOSIE. YOU DESERVE IT.
YOUR DEAR FRIENDS
DON AND MARIANNE KELLEY



MARIANNE AND DON KELLEY - December 13, 2016 at 09:12 PM

GC

“ My late husband and I were among the first families of St. Benedict's church with Josie and she was every where, helping where ever she could. She was in the choir, serving soup on Friday's during Lent, and praying for all the requests on the prayer circle. Her faith was strong and she shared that faith with others in many ways.



Eternal rest grant unto her oh Lord, and may her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.

Gail Cornejo

Gail Cornejo - December 13, 2016 at 03:21 PM

HH

“ *It is our honor and privilege to serve the Arico family and to provide this permanent tribute website in memory of Josephine Arico.*



Hayhurst Funeral Home - December 13, 2016 at 02:16 PM

JH

“ *Saints of God, come to her aid! Come to meet her, angels of the Lord! Receive her soul and present her to God. May the Virgin of Guadalupe welcome Josie home.*
Respects sent from Joyce Hummel on behalf of those welcoming Josie to the kingdom including Helen & Fred Hummel; Evelyn & Gladys Joyce; Barbara Hummel Young and Gordon Hummel.

Joyce Hummel - December 13, 2016 at 02:15 PM

GG

“ *My wife and I extend our deepest sympathy to Josie's family. Josie was a very unique individual and a very devout Christian. I used to tease her about being from the Bronx but she always corrected me telling me, with emphasis, it was Brooklyn!! Each December that we would return to Broken Arrow, we had dinner with Josie, David and Chrissie McGrath and Msgr Gaalaas. Last year it was at Josie's home and it was an authentic Italian meal, and quite delicious. My wife and I shall miss her but we know she has gone on to a much better and glorious place, and is in the presence of our Lord. Rest in peace, Josie, we love you.*

George Goins - December 12, 2016 at 08:28 PM

SP

“ My condolences to the family of Mrs. Arco. May the family finds comfort in the memories and in the father of tender mercies, the God of all comfort. With deep respect,spp

spp - December 12, 2016 at 06:28 PM

TT

“ Even though Josie was small in stature she could make even a grown man wish that he had done it right in church. I am very humbled to have known her in this life and I PRAY that she remembers me in the next life. Josie I love you as a mother and know that your children and grand children share your love of GOD and prayer. May our LORD grant you eternal rest and keep you in the warmth of his love.

Tim Thummel - December 12, 2016 at 03:14 PM