



Mrs. Edith M. (Lawrence) Pilla

May 11, 1922 - November 27, 2016

Mrs. Edith M. (Lawrence) Pilla, age 94, joined her family who went before her when she passed away peacefully on Sunday, November 27, 2016 at the Abraham House with the love of her family.

Born in the Bronx, NY on May 11, 1922, Edith was the daughter of the late Cheswell and Agnes (Miller) Lawrence. She was a graduate of Erasmus Hall High School/Class of 1937. On October 11, 1942, Edith married Leonard Pilla; they were devoted to one another and shared a life filled with family. Her dedication, coupled with Lenny's unassuming personality, made for a fulfilling 61 years together. After Lenny's passing on January 16, 2004, Edith carried on with courage and capability, notable attributes of her generation.

Edith devoted herself to raising her children and tending to their needs. When her children became more independent, she accepted a position with IKG Industries where she was successful in her duties in the administrative office and customer service. In 1985, Edith and Lenny relocated to Utica to be in the company and care of her family upstate. A lively soul with a modest heart, it was an honor and pleasure to know Edith. Although she was prim and proper, she was upbeat and loved life. Blessed with a warm and empathetic personality, she tended to the needs of others before her own, even as she aged. As a mom, she was a provider of love, wisdom, and protection, and her children knew that in their hearts. She was creative and had a natural ability to decorate her home tastefully. She had a full life and was favored with many wonderful experiences and people. She will be remembered by friends and

family for her strength of character and thoughtful nature.

Edith enjoyed baking, especially her delicious Scottish short bread, raspberry pastry, and fudge balls. Always proud of her English –Scottish heritage, she always took time for tea at 4:00 every afternoon. Holidays were always a celebratory time, and Edith was a gracious hostess and entertainer. Her guests were welcomed with a warm smile and went home with a warm sense of appreciation. Edith knew how to knit and gifted many with beautiful baby outfits, and afghans for all, each delicate and intricately detailed. She was also creative at crafting clothing for her precious collection of porcelain dolls, and she handmade teddy bears with individual features. Combining her husband's woodworking skills and her decor and design expertise, amazing doll houses were built to become heirlooms, a hobby with a purpose. She was a believer in Jesus and a promised after life, and she followed her Protestant faith.

Edith is survived by her sons and daughter-in-law, Michael and Maria P. Pilla of Clinton, and Robert Pilla of Queens NY. She always held close to her heart the memory of her son, Leonard L. Pilla, who passed away on October 24, 2006. She also leaves her grandchildren, Mark Pilla, Michael and Michele Pilla, and Angela and Robert Bernier; Patricia and Kristian Rouillard; and Justin Pilla and his mother, Laurie Pilla; her great-grandchildren, Giavanna and Michael Pilla, Anthony, and Dominic Bernier; Benjamin, and Olivia Rouillard; her nieces and nephews, Susan and Michael Aloisi, Nancy and Steve Kitz, Marie and Zach Dimitriou, Christopher and Theresa DeMattia, and Laurie and Kevin Finn. She was predeceased by her sister and brother-in-law, Eleanor and Alfred DeMattia; many in-laws of the Pilla family; and her cherished friend, Angela Piacenti, who preceded her on August 11, 2016.

The family is grateful to Dr. Fred Talarico for his kind-hearted concern, and Pat Rosati/NP who always made her time special; the personnel of Hospice & Palliative Care and the amazing staff and dedicated caregivers of the Abraham House who journeyed with Edith with much love.

The family will honor and commemorate Edith's life at a private time.

Expressions of sympathy in the form of donations may be directed to the St.

Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105, online at <https://www.stjude.org> or the Abraham House, 1203 Kemble Street, Utica, NY 13501 in lieu of floral arrangements.

Tribute Wall

RP

“ I have to say I was the luckiest person in the world to have her as a mother! I spent the last 12 plus years speaking with her sometimes two three times a day and enjoying her not only as my mother, but my best friend. I miss her every second of every day and feel like a big part of my heart and soul has been removed from my being!



Rob Pilla - January 05, 2017 at 02:00 PM



“ Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Mrs. Edith M. (Lawrence) Pilla.



November 29, 2016 at 06:30 PM

KT

“ Kathy Torbitt lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Edith M. (Lawrence) Pilla



kathy torbitt - November 29, 2016 at 12:49 PM

MP

Thank you so much, kathy!

Maria Pilla - November 30, 2016 at 01:44 PM

KT

“ Angela I so love both of your grandmas your Nonni and Grammy belonged to all of us privileged to be a part of your family. I can still remember sitting on the front porch of Tilden Ave with McDonald hot fudge sundaes waiting for the phone call for Anthony to be born and the screeches when he was.

kathy torbitt - November 29, 2016 at 12:48 PM

MP

Those times on the porch are so precious!!

Maria Pilla - November 30, 2016 at 01:45 PM

 Janet Davis

“ My prayers and sympathy go out to your family.



Janet Davis - November 29, 2016 at 09:33 AM

MP

Thank you so much, Janet!

Maria Pilla - November 30, 2016 at 01:45 PM

CB

“ Edith was such a sweet lady and loved all of you so. I am thinking of all of you and sending love and prayers.

Christine Barnes - November 28, 2016 at 11:30 AM

MP

Thank you so much, Chris!!

Maria Pilla - November 30, 2016 at 01:45 PM

AB

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Angela Bernier - November 28, 2016 at 10:17 AM