



Miss Lucille A. "Ceil" Bonanza

September 3, 1942 - March 19, 2026

NORTH GRAFTON, MA / UTICA – Miss Lucille A. “Ceil” Bonanza, age 83, passed away on St. Joseph’s Day, Thursday, March 19, 2026. She was never without her family’s love, their thoughts, and their prayers.

Born in Utica on September 3, 1942, Lucille was the daughter of the late Rocco A. and Josephine (Buonasegna) Bonanza. She was a natural caregiver and in the way she oversaw the wellness of her parents and her aunt, Rose, she showed a rare and humble kind of love – one that asks for nothing, yet she gave everything.

Lucille began her education at Wetmore St. Elementary School, and ultimately was a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School, with the Class of 1960. In her secondary school years, she started working in retail at the iconic Lerner’s Clothing Store. Her main profession was a proofreader for a local publishing company, an appropriate position for her personality and mindset.

Lucille was a thoughtful and attentive listener, always respectful and considerate, with a quiet and gentle demeanor. About 18 months ago, when she was no longer able to fully care for her own needs, she was lovingly welcomed into the Massachusetts home of her sister and brother-in-law, along with their families, who became her devoted caregivers. Though it marked a significant change in her life, it brought her great comfort and happiness,

especially as she grew even closer to her nieces, nephews, and her cherished great-nieces and great-nephews. Likewise, her family was elated to have her there with them.

As the years passed, Lucille continued her love of reading, often enjoying newspapers and magazines. More recently, she found simple pleasure in assembling jigsaw puzzles alongside her sister, a pastime that brought them time together and quiet joy.

Lucille was a woman with a great sense of Catholic faith. Being administered the Anointing of the Sick was a great comfort to her, as it spiritually prepared her for her eternal journey. She was a communicant of St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish.

Lucille is survived by her sister and brother-in-law, JoAnn and Joseph DiRoberto; nieces and nephews, Michele and David Riccobono, and Matthew and Erica DiRoberto; great-nieces and great-nephew, Jake, and Sophia Riccobono; Sloane, Jordan, and Leighton DiRoberto; as well as several dear cousins. When residing in Utica, she was known to her neighbors on Boyce Ave. as Miss Lucy, for which she was truly blessed to have such good friends. She was predeceased by her beloved aunt, Rose Pietrafesa.

The family graciously accepts floral offerings, and memorial donations to the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America online at www.crohnscolitisfoundation.org/donate; envelopes will also be available at her service.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Lucille's Mass of Christian Burial and Celebration of Life, which will commence on Friday, March 27, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish, 648 Jay St. Her interment will follow in Calvary Cemetery alongside her parents.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

2407 Oneida Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 735-2727

Previous Events

Funeral Service

MAR 27. 10:00 AM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.
932 South Street
corner of Hammond Ave.
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 724-6714
eannacefh@roadrunner.com
<https://www.eannacefuneralhome.com>

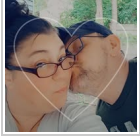
Tribute Wall

DB

“ I am so very sorry I saw Lucy`s obituary too late to attend her funeral Mass and meet her wonderful sister. Lucy was a good neighbor for many years who became a good friend. I always appreciated talking with her when we`d see each other on the way to the grocery store or the bus stop over the years, and later by phone, when her health declined and she was confined to her home. Lucy was such a caring and kind person, even as she struggled with her own health she would always ask how you were doing and how you were. As my husband`s health declined from Dementia she would always say something that made me feel better and she was that way with everyone; her kindness was her strength. Her health problems of the past few years and her suffering so great that I feel her passing a blessing. God bless her sister and brother-in-law and all her loving family that brought such happiness to her final years in spite of all she was going through. I know how much it meant to her to be with them in spite of being initially distressed about it. She told me later that she was so lucky and what a Godsend her Sister and all the family had become to her, how she loved seeing the little ones on the holidays. She said, " I had moments of discouragement so great I almost lost my faith but then realized what a gift God had given me to have such a loving and caring family." When I go to Calvary to visit my husband`s grave I will find Lucy`s and say my heart`s prayer for her. I know she is at peace and with her parents now, her suffering over and at peace. My heartfelt sympathy to her Sister and all her family. Denise Brown



Denise Brown - April 02 at 02:13 PM



“ Oh My Sweet Miss Lucy ❤️ I'll Forever Miss you. 😞 You Were More Than Just a Neighbor You were our Family The girls loved you and Larry and I loved you ,I'll Forever Miss our Porch Chats and Painting you're porch for you , I will forever love your tiger Lillys and I'll pick an extra one just for you when I see them , our long chats on the phone always made me laugh and smile or your random shopping trips for you even if it was just for banana .. Rest Easy and We send you Butterfly Kisses always ❤️

Amanda Gregory - March 27 at 11:24 AM



“ MICHAEL AND DAWN SCALZO purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Miss Lucille A. "Ceil" Bonanza.



MICHAEL AND DAWN SCALZO - March 25 at 04:50 PM