



Mrs. Olga (Bereskin) Mazzei

April 14, 1941 - December 29, 2018

UTICA - Mrs. Olga (Bereskin) Mazzei, age 77, passed away peacefully on Saturday, December 29, 2018.

Born in Minsk, Belarus on April 14, 1941, Olga was the daughter of the late Roman and Anna (Chernetski) Bereskin and wife of the late Vincent A. Mazzei. She was a graduate of Utica College of Syracuse University where she received her Bachelor of Arts degree and then pursued her post-graduate studies at Norwich University.

Olga dedicated 31 years to her profession as an educator in the New Hartford Central School System where she taught Russian, French and German at the junior high and high school levels. She was a beloved teacher who built a very popular and successful Russian language program. Year after year, her students were awarded with gold medals from state and national Russian competitions. Olga was honored to help write the New York State Russian Regents exam for many years, and she also served as a translator for the Utica City Court system. Olga was a communicant of St. John of Kronstadt Russian Orthodox Memorial Church in Utica.

Olga was fondly known for her unparalleled hospitality and hostess skills. Her beautiful home meant so much to her and she loved to fill it with friends and family. Olga was an incredible cook and was never satisfied unless her guests were well fed. She also loved to garden and spent countless hours outside tending to her plants and enjoying the natural surroundings and landscape of her home. She was an avid reader with a particular passion for historical

fiction and she loved to pass time tackling the daily crossword puzzle. Her family was everything to her, but her many friends were incredibly important to her as well. Olga made everyone feel special, and entertaining her friends or enjoying a meal with them brought her immense joy. She also loved music, especially opera, which her family played to comfort her in her last moments of life.

Olga is survived by her daughters and sons-in-law, Tanya and Michael McRorie of Sauquoit, and Natasha and Matthew Kaiser of Basking Ridge NJ; her son and daughter-in-law, Edward F. Manley, Jr., "Butch" and Chase Manley of New Hartford; grandchildren, Adam and Mallory McRorie, Nicholas and Serene McRorie; Emma Manley, Claire Manley (and their mom Lisa); Sophia Kaiser, Johnny Kaiser, and Michael Kaiser; and her two grand-puppies Teddy and Jax. Olga was excitedly awaiting the arrival of her first two great-grandchildren in April and July. She will also be remembered by her brothers, Igor Bereskin, Peter Bereskin and Roman Bereskin; and one niece, Theresa DiMeo and her family. Olga also leaves behind many cherished friends. She was predeceased by her in-laws, Vincenzo and Theresa Mazzei, Fred R. and Perley Mazzei, Carmella S. and Louis A. Lalli, John A. DiMeo and Johnny DiMeo.

Expressions of sympathy in the form of donations in her memory may be directed to St. John of Kronstadt Russian Orthodox Memorial Church, 1009 Conkling Avenue, Utica, NY 13501 or online at <https://www.stjkmemfund.org> or Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute at <https://www.mwpai.org/> or to Stevens-Swan Humane Society of Oneida County at <https://stevens-swan.org/donate/>. Funeral services and Interment in Holy Trinity Monastery Cemetery in Jordanville will be held privately and at the convenience of the family.

Cemetery Details

Holy Trinity Monastery Cemetery

Jordanville, NY 13361

Tribute Wall

LT

“ I was so very sorry to hear of Olga's passing. My late sister Nancy was her student, admirer, and close friend. In Nancy's memory, and from our family, please accept my deepest condolences on your loss.

*With love,
Linda Thel*

Linda Thel - January 06, 2019 at 10:39 PM

RB

“ Olga, my Countess, As a fellow German teacher we shared quite a few experiences. You helped chaperone the NH students with me to Germany and added a great deal to the trip. Now you are in charge of the heavenly Language Fair. Prost! Ray Beck

Raymond Beck - January 06, 2019 at 10:22 PM

MH

“ Tanya, Butch and Natasha,

I'm so truly sorry for the loss of your mother. Although no words can take away the sorrow that you bear, please know that I'll keep you in my prayers.

*My condolences,
Maria Testa Harple*

Maria Harple - January 06, 2019 at 10:05 PM

JH

“ *What a great person. I taught with Olga for many years in the Foreign Language Dept. She was a wonderful teacher and such a fun person. We had the best department in New Hartford. Rest in peace Olga. You will be missed .*

Judi Harper - January 06, 2019 at 05:32 PM



Natasha
Homa

“ *Olga loved life & had an exuberance which truly was unmatched by anyone. I had the honor of knowing her for over 27 years first by student teaching in New Hartford & then later becoming a member of the NH World Languages Dept. Olga was just pure fun - get togethers were always memorable & I will cherish those memories. She was a divine host & her snarky wit was adored. No one could compete with her style. I am so terribly saddened of her passing. I wish to extend my love and sincere condolences to her family & close friends. Peace be with you all. And, to Olga in the sky - you will be missed by so, so many. A lovingly toast to you always; Na Zdorovie.*

Natasha Homa - January 06, 2019 at 02:25 PM

JB

“ *Olga was always a bright light in the building. A ready smile and a keen wit were her constant companions. We all appreciated them, and her, each day. My condolences to her family. Joe Bottini*

Joseph P. Bottini - January 05, 2019 at 10:39 PM

JC

“ I never met Olga, but she was a friend of my late husband, Mike Corn. They worked together at NHCS. Mike loved to tell "Olga" stories of fulfilled escapades. He always emphasized how Olga handled situations in a dignified, grand manor with a sense of humor. She was lady of substance who will be greatly missed. Deepest sympathies.

Jan Corn - January 05, 2019 at 10:37 PM

PS

Wonderful teacher, truly a lady of elegance and poise. Rip olga

Paul sperling - January 06, 2019 at 03:06 PM

MM

“ Olga was the epitome of elegance and class. Her compassion and wit were a dynamic duo. Her love for teaching and her students was evident. I remember the day she retired; she told me that she was passing the baton on to me. Of course, we all knew that no one could ever carry the baton like Olga. She was a beautiful soul...I will miss our "gym talks" and her laughter. Rest in peace, my friend.

Marilyn Montesano - January 05, 2019 at 12:11 PM

BC

“ We were so saddened to hear of Olga's passing. She was so loved by her students and respected by faculty. Her posted picture is exactly how we remember her. Joyful, happy to see you, and genuinely interested in the lives of her friends & family. Her smile and presence lit up any room she entered. Rest In Peace sweet lady...you will be greatly missed.

Buster & Carol Cataudella - January 05, 2019 at 11:27 AM

GI

“ Oh Olga, what would our Foreign Language Department have been without you. As a friend and colleague you were the absolute best. Taken too soon, you will always be in our love and prayers.
George & Louise Mc Innis

George Mc Innis - January 05, 2019 at 10:16 AM

JC

“ Our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to you all. Olga was a beloved neighbor and friend for many years. Always a woman of elegance and grace. We're so so saddened by her passing. May you find comfort in your beautiful memories. She will be missed.
Fred and Jeanne Castronovo

Jeanne Castronovo - January 05, 2019 at 08:59 AM

SG

“ My condolences to Tanya ,Butch and family I remember going to the house on sage court ,Susan Bogner Gruchy

Susan Bogner Gruchy - January 04, 2019 at 10:13 PM

MC

“ Monica Barile Cook lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Olga (Bereskin) Mazzei



Monica Barile Cook - January 04, 2019 at 09:06 PM

DJ

“ I would like to express my sympathy to Olga's family for your loss of a very nice person and educator. My Mom was a very good friend from the New Hartford Junior High School. My thoughts and prayers are with you. May she Rest in Peace.

David Jones - January 04, 2019 at 09:05 PM

PM

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Mrs. Mazzei was one of my favorite teachers. May your memories of her bring you Peace.

Patricia Foster Mammone - January 04, 2019 at 07:22 PM

LW

“
We met in college and taught and teased together for years. Your mom was mt daughter Marie's favorite teacher and mentor. I remember you all as children, but especially the memory of Olga exclaiming how she had to get potty chair out of the bushes where Natasha had thrown it! Olga also so loved her brothers and they all were close. I'm sorry for your loss. Louise

Louise White - January 04, 2019 at 06:36 PM

DW

“ Love and prayers to Mrs. Mazzei’s family. I took Russian with her for all 4 years I was in High School and took the trip to Russia in 1985...by far one of the most dedicated teachers I have ever had. She left such a legacy at my alma mater. She will never be forgotten and thank you all you did in your many decades at NH High.



Sincerely,
Debbie Wilson NH '86

Debbie Wilson - January 04, 2019 at 06:14 PM

JG

“ My condolences. I had the honor of being her student for three years. She was an amazing teacher and her love for her students shined.

Joyce Gauthier - January 04, 2019 at 06:07 PM

GT

“ My condolences. Mrs. Mazzei was one of my favorite teachers.

Gina Trotta - January 04, 2019 at 04:51 PM

CR

“ Natasha and family, My sincerest condolences on the loss of your mom. Although I didn't have the pleasure of being one of her students, I always remember her as a poised and elegant woman. Thinking of you during this difficult time. Sincerely, Carla LaBarbera

carla renders - January 04, 2019 at 04:20 PM

JB

“ *Olga was a smart, joyful colleague of mine at New Hartford High School. Teachers and her students will always carry fond memories of her! My sincere condolences to the family. John Brady*

John Brady - January 04, 2019 at 03:47 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mrs. Olga (Bereskin) Mazzei.*



January 04, 2019 at 02:34 PM

MK

“ *Prayers to the family*

Mindy and Curt Kemp



Mindy Kemp - January 04, 2019 at 01:05 PM

JP

“ *Joseph P Pintar lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Olga (Bereskin) Mazzei*



Joseph P Pintar - January 04, 2019 at 12:52 PM