



Sophie Paterakis

February 22, 1930 - January 28, 2022

****MASKS ARE REQUIRED****

Sophie Paterakis, age 91, fell asleep in the Lord on January 28, 2022 in Toledo, Ohio. Sophie was born in Cleveland, Ohio on February 22, 1930 to Spiros and Evangeline (Rokakis) Gonakis, both of Crete, Greece.

Sophie married John Paterakis of Crete, Greece on October 30, 1955 at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Cleveland, Ohio. In 1961, Sophie along with her husband owned and operated Mikes Place on Cherry Street until they retired in 1985.

Sophie was known as “Sophia Loren,” as well as the “Queen of Cherry Street”. Sophie ran Mike’s as a neighborhood community center dispensing tough love, encouragement and hugs. She was known for her humor, generosity and progressive thinking. She was a surrogate mother to many. No matter where Sophie would go people would recognize her. Many thanked her for kindness and “helping raise them and keeping them out of trouble.”

Sophie was a member of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, the Philoptochos Ladies Auxiliary and Young at Heart. She died as she lived praising God and praying for Salvation.

Sophie was preceded in death by her husband John; brother Mike Gonakis;

and sister Chrystal Christ, brother-in-law Pete Vourlis, and sister-in-law Goldie Gonakis.

Sophie is survived by her daughters Debra Paterakis of Toledo, Ohio; Irene (Steve) Steffas of Westlake, Ohio; Antonia (Fr. Eugene) Wozniak of Green Bay, Wisconsin; her grandchildren Alexis Steffas, Elena (Michael) Vourvopoulos, Leia Steffas, Elizabeth Wozniak and Sophia Wozniak; great-grandson Yianni Vourvopoulos; sister Rose Vourlis; brother-in-law Chris Christ; many nieces, nephews, and cousins in the United States and Greece.

Visitation from 9:00-11:00 a.m. with funeral at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 5, 2022 at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 740 N. Superior St. Toledo, Ohio 43604. Internment at Toledo Memorial Park Cemetery. In lieu of flowers her family asks that donations be made to Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral.

Cemetery Details

Toledo Memorial Park

6382 Monroe Street
Sylvania, OH 43560

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 5. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
740 N. Superior St
Toledo, OH 43604

Funeral

FEB 5. 11:00 AM (ET)

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
740 N. Superior St
Toledo, OH 43604

Tribute Wall

MG

“ I remember the first time I met Mrs Paterakis. She was standing by an olive barrel in her store. She was telling one of the girls (through a window in the back of the store) to turn off the octopus. So many trips to "Mike's" with my mom for olives. Thank you for the many ways you contributed to my childhood.

Michelle Gauthier - February 06, 2022 at 11:24 AM

NZ

“ Our deepest condolences from our family, Zach is sending you an extra special hug to all of you. Mrs.Sofia will always stay in our hearts as a caring and loving person with humour and broad knowledge of everything. She would always bring me articles she would discuss with me and I always admired her for endless desire to expand her knowledge.Not to mention her love for Crete and the traditions.She will always stay in our hearts.
Natassa, Zachary, Artemis

Natassa Lainaki Zacharopoulou - February 03, 2022 at 04:05 PM

AF

“ Ever since I was a toddler, Sophie called me "best friend in the world". When I would call her for her birthday in February and when she would call me in March, this is how we addressed each other. She will always be larger than life in my memory of her, and I will miss her so very much. We all have been so blessed to have her as part of our lives.

To Sophie's children, grandchildren, sister Rosie, and various nieces and nephews. I am so sorry for your loss. May time heal your sorrow, may friends and family ease your pain, may peace replace heartache and may warm memories remain.

*May her memory be eternal.
Cookie (Psihountas) Frome*

Anna (Cookie) Frome - February 03, 2022 at 09:17 AM

JB

“ We are saddened to hear of Sophie's passing. She was always a cheerful person who gave of herself to others. A trait that we all should admire and live up to. Her devotion to her church and family speaks volumes. Cherry street in Toledo hasn't been the same since the family business closed. Our sympathy to her extended family on a life well lived. May her memory be eternal.

John & Denise Bellas - February 02, 2022 at 04:14 PM

NA

“ We are sorry for the loss of Sophie. May she rest in peace. Frixos and Nancy

Nancy - February 02, 2022 at 02:02 PM

AF

“ *We are deeply saddened by the loss of our friend Sophie. Our condolences to her children and grandchildren. May her memory be eternal.*

Anagnos Family - February 02, 2022 at 01:57 PM