



Ann Whitford

February 5, 1934 - April 13, 2022

On Wednesday, April 13, 2022, Ann Whitford, loving mother and grandmother passed away at the age of 88. Ann was born February 5, 1934, in Newark, NJ to the late Elizabeth and John Mascuch. Ann, a former pilot with the Civil Air Patrol, received her degrees from Columbia University in English and Philosophy, after living in Bermuda for a number of years as a hotel manager. She later went on to teach high school English in Plainfield, New Jersey, during the Civil Rights Riots. There she began to volunteer with her local teachers Union.

In 1970, she became a union pioneer, as the First Female Field Representative/negotiator in New Jersey. Ann worked with NJEA in that role for 15 years, before serving as NJEA's Associate Director of Research. After retirement, Ann began traveling the world with her late sister Joan Mascuch. The pair cruised around the world, exploring Eurasia. Before settling down in Sarasota, Florida.

Ann always made time to visit and travel with her loving daughter Wendy Ann Butera and beloved Son-in-law Mark Butera. She especially loved spending her time and going on adventures with her cherished grandchildren Elizabeth Marie Butera and Peter John Butera.

Since Ann was loved by so many, there will be two services held to honor the

amazing life she led. On Wednesday, April 20th memorial service will be held in Sarasota, Florida. Visiting hours begin at 12pm followed by a memorial service at 2pm at Toale Brothers Funeral Home located at 40 North Orange Avenue Sarasota, FL 34236 (Phone # 941-955-4171). The Family will be in Florida until April 25th. A second service will be held in New Jersey; prior to interment of her ashes at Hollywood cemetery in Union, New Jersey, more details to follow.

In lieu of flowers, we ask that donations be sent to either SPARCC, 2139 Main St, Sarasota, FL 34237 or The World's Central Kitchen, in Ann's name.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **20**. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Toale Brothers Funeral Home & Crematory - Colonial Chapel
40 N. Orange Avenue
Sarasota, FL 34236
(941) 955-4171
info@toalebrothers.com
<https://www.toalebrothers.com/>

Memorial Service

APR **20**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Toale Brothers Funeral Home & Crematory-Colonial Chapel
40 N. Orange Avenue
Sarasota, FL 34236

Tribute Wall



“ *Ann was the first, but her position at NJEA was earned -- not given. She was a solid professional who helped many others on the NJEA staff as well as the NJEA members with whom she worked. She had a career to be proud of.*

Ed Gallagher

Ed Gallagher - April 21, 2022 at 02:09 PM

KJ

“ *Ann was indeed a pioneer for women. As an NJEA colleague I knew I could count on her expertise and her friendship. Rest In Peace Ann.*

Karen Joseph - April 20, 2022 at 07:30 PM

VG

Ann and I were both hired by NJEA the same year—1970. We were both field reps—Ann in Union County, me in Bergen County. She enjoyed a very positive and well earned reputation, both among NJEA members and staff. She broke the glass ceiling, being the first woman to be hired in the Field Service Division at NJEA. I never knew that Ann had been a pilot and a hotel manager before becoming a teacher and NJEA staff member—knowing Ann’s strong work ethic, I’m sure she was very successful at both of these endeavors. Rest In Peace.
Vince Giordano

vince Giordano - April 21, 2022 at 02:36 PM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Ann Whitford.*



April 18, 2022 at 03:05 PM