



Florence "Flicka" Ray DiPersio

September 23, 2023

Florence "Flicka" Ray DiPersio, 87, died peacefully at her home in Sarasota, Florida on September 23, 2023 with family at her side.

She is predeceased by her brother and his wife, Charles Thomas and Cynthia Ray, her sister, Helen Louise Ray Kennedy, and parents, Eunice Wheeler Ray and Charles Ralph Ray. She is survived by family she cherished, including her children, Alane Rapazza, Kenneth DiPersio, Robert DiPersio, Jr., and Leslie Sheehan, and many grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

Flicka grew up in the Mount Hood neighborhood of Melrose, Massachusetts, where she and lifelong friend Norma DeLouis Gorman would regularly climb the Slayton Tower, go sledding on the hill near the Mount Hood Golf Club, and ice skate on First Pond. She later married and moved to Newtown, Connecticut to raise her family before moving to Sarasota in 1977. After Norma moved to Sarasota in 1996, the two would bop around town together, going shopping, to the theater, movies, bookstores, museums, and on many other adventures.

Flicka loved taking care of her house and yard, reading, playing games, crafting, solving logic problems and Sudoku. Known as the "Puzzle Lady" at her favorite used bookstore, Brant's Books, Flicka enjoyed countless hours

making jigsaw puzzles. She loved animals, particularly her Lhasa Apso, Tibet, of 14 years. Above all, she enjoyed the many visits with family and friends who visited Sarasota over the years, and she always made everyone feel welcome and loved. Florence was a loving mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend and will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

A Celebration of Life will take place on October 27, 2023 at 11:00 AM at Wyoming Cemetery in Melrose, Massachusetts.

Written in loving memory by Raychel Rapazza

Previous Events

A Celebration of Life

OCT 27. 11:00 AM (ET)

Wyoming Cemetery
205 Sylvan St, Melrose, MA 02176
Melrose, MA 02176

Tribute Wall

MH

“ *Michelle Huff sent a virtual gift in memory of Florence "Flicka" Ray DiPersio*



Michelle Huff - October 26, 2023 at 09:17 PM

MH

“ *Michelle Huff lit a candle in memory of Florence "Flicka" Ray DiPersio*



Michelle Huff - October 26, 2023 at 09:17 PM

MH

“ *Michelle Huff Hernandez lit a candle in memory of Florence "Flicka" Ray DiPersio*



Michelle Huff Hernandez - October 25, 2023 at 12:07 AM

MH

“ I met Ma back in 1978 when she bought the house 2 doors down from mine. I think I was like 12. Ma and I spent everyday together. We played cards, watched TV, did puzzles, and just be with each other. She was the most amazing human. I loved her beyond words can reach. She was a Mom, Aunt, Sister, Mentor, and most of all, a very best friend. I'm sure I could have turned out a different person had she not been in my life. My children loved her and my grands loved her. She was such a beautiful, loving, fun, and funny person. She loved her entire family and I know that included myself and Norma. Ma is profoundly missed by all whom she loved. Thank you Ma for being my very best friend. I will always love you and miss you. ☐💜

Michelle Huff Hernandez - October 25, 2023 at 12:06 AM

KL

“ My Nana was the most amazing lady!
She was filled with love for her family and friends (and puzzles!). Every time our phone calls ended she would say “hugs and kisses all around!” (for my kids and husband who she also loved!). I don't think she missed saying that once in all the years of our phone calls. Nana made me laugh all the time and she was also a great storyteller. I loved her stories of her and her best friend Norma - making fairy moss gardens in their youth and making memories that would last a lifetime.
My heart is broken for our loss but it comforts me to think that we all now have yet another angel in heaven looking down on us!

Katie Leder - October 24, 2023 at 02:47 AM

MB

“ Alane and family,
I am so sorry for your loss. Mom was a master making jigsaw puzzles. I made some boards for her to store some of the completed puzzles on. Then she could look and show others before taking them apart. She treated me by taking us to a unique place called Solomon's Castle in Ona, FL. Another good memory I have is how much she loved Christmas. Especially when Alane surprised her with a case of her favorite soda "Moxie", which had to be shipped to Florida. Someday I hope to visit the mountains in New Hampshire that she loved. May she rest in peace!
Michael Buchy



Michael Buchy - October 18, 2023 at 10:08 PM

DI

Dear Alane and family,
We are sad about the passing of Florence. She was a special woman always joyful and cheerful- she was the one that told me about the miniature circus when our son Luke was a child- which is still one of my very favorite things to see at the Ringling Museum. You were a wonderful daughter to her till the end. May she rest in peace . The Celebration of Life luncheon was very beautiful and special.
Thank you
Kenny, Diana and Luke

Diana - October 21, 2023 at 03:39 PM