



## Marie (Mary) Roccia Nepi

August 13, 1919 - April 1, 2018

Marie was known as 'Mary' to her family and friends. She was one of eleven children born to Carlo and Carmela Roccia at 49th & Thompson Streets in West Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The area was an Italian enclave of hard-working immigrant families.

Mary and Peter Nepi were married on November 22, 1941, at Our Lady of Angels Roman Catholic Church, Phila. They were married 74 years when Peter passed in 2016.

Mary is survived by her four sons and daughters-in-law: Thomas and Barbara (Cimino) of Sarasota, FL; Michael and Dale (Mancinelli) of Lorton, VA; Stephen (late Dorrel Edstrand) of Boulder, CO; and Mark and Suzanne (Connors) of Highlands Ranch, CO; five grandchildren: Dawn Bergen, Sandra Arntzen, Lisa Nepi, Mary and Peter Nepi; three great-grandchildren: Matthew Bailey, Megan and Elizabeth Arntzen; two sisters: Florence Cahill and Delores DeCicco.

Before starting a family, Mary was an engineering clerk at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard. She enjoyed singing in the St. Anastasia Roman Catholic Church choir in Newtown Square, PA. One of Mary's many pleasures was to be in her kitchen preparing delicious meals for her family and friends with a smile and loving heart. She was a culinary expert who could create the finest homemade pastas and was known for her homemade New York cheesecake. Mary also mastered the fine art of high quality interior painting and wall paper hanging. She was no stranger at the Benjamin Moore store. Also, she did an

incredible amount of gardening and landscaping in her life especially in Broomall and Annandale.

After having four sons, Mary had always hoped for a daughter. She was elated to have four loving daughters-in-law who, in turn, considered her their second "Mom", whom they deeply loved.

Mary was elated when she incrementally became a Grandmother and Great-Grandmother. She showered all of them with love, affection, wisdom, guidance and support. They adored their "Grandmother", "Grandmom", "Gram-mama", "Grams" and "GG" who was generous with her time.

Mary along with her husband, Peter, enjoyed traveling to China, Europe, Cuba, Hawaii, Alaska and a cross-country road trip to California. She lived in many places including Philadelphia and Broomall, PA, Annandale, VA, Ocean City, MD, Delray Beach, FL, Venice and Sarasota, FL.

She will be buried at the Sarasota National Cemetery, Sarasota, FL, at a private family service.

# Tribute Wall

SD

“ My fond memories of Aunt Mary go back to when I was a young boy and not yet in school. During that time, my Mother (her sister Dolores) was not well and needed rest. Many times, Aunt Mary would take care of me at her house in Broomall, Pennsylvania. On one occasion, she allowed me to sleep in my cousin, Mark's bedroom. She told me not to touch any of his things or play with his 45 record player. When she came upstairs to check on me, I was watching the Art Linkletter show on TV. She laughed and told me that I was very well behaved. As a young boy, I remember her being very kind and loving. She always called me "sweetheart". I also remember the family gatherings that Aunt Mary and Uncle Peter would have in their backyard in Broomall. I played with my cousins and had fun. Family barbecues and reunions were held at her house, my parent's house or Aunt Syl's house. In later years, this tradition continued and larger family reunions were held at Coopersmith Park in Pennsylvania. Aunt Mary and Uncle Peter and other aunts, uncles, cousins and family friends would attend. In 1988, Uncle Peter and Aunt Mary moved to Delray Beach, Florida. When my family would visit them, Aunt Mary was always welcoming. She and Uncle Peter would take us on the Tri Rail to Miami and various stores. Aunt Mary always made me feel special. I will miss Aunt Mary very much on this earth but I'm looking forward to seeing her in heaven. What a large, beautiful and blessed reunion that will be.

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Steven DeCicco - May 11, 2018 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ When I lived In Downingtown, PA, I would take my vacation and travel to Delray Beach, Fl. to visit my parents. I would also visit Aunt Mary and Uncle Peter. They would always invite my family for dinner and Aunt Mary made the very, very best and delicious meatballs. I would make sure to tell her so. She was very loving and kind to me. Aunt Mary and Uncle Peter have always been two very special people in my life and I loved them both.

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**David DeCicco** - May 11, 2018 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ AUNT MARY GAVE SO MUCH OF HERSELF TO OTHERS AND I WAS SO GRATEFUL TO HAVE RECEIVED A BIG PART OF HER WISDOM AND LOVE. SHE WAS A GREAT EXAMPLE FOR ME TO FOLLOW. I WILL NEVER FORGET HER VOICE AS SHE SANG LIKE AN ANGEL. YOUR DEVOTED NIECE MARILYN

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**Marilyn KOCUR** - May 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

TN

“ Our Mother was a loving, gracious and strong woman, who lived her life with compassion and respect for everyone. She had a giving heart, warm spirit and positive outlook on life and was a rock of support for her family and friends. We will hold dear and treasure the beautiful memories we have of Mom and know her spirit will always be with us. We take comfort in knowing that she and Dad are once again reunited in spirit. They say a life well lived is a legacy and Mom will be remembered for creating a loving legacy for her family.

Love,  
Tom & Barbara

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**Tom & Barbara Nepi** - May 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

FC

“ *To My Sister Marie Known Fondly as Mary  
With Love From Your Sister Florence*

*Mary was in charge of house duties. My duty was to clean the kitchen and bathroom with our sister, Elina. When she gave you a job, she expected you to get it done. She always appreciated me carrying out the orders and not giving her a hard time. She always had a pleasant disposition and I never saw her angry. She never made you mad.*

*Mary was hardly ever in the house mostly outside with Peter and his friends. She had many friends that accompanied her to the local park and to go swimming. I was too little to go. She didn't want to be a little kid, always wanted to be grown up. She never bothered anyone.*

*When she was getting married she asked me to wear her shoes to stretch them as I had bigger feet and the shoes were too tight. She would say, "Florence wear them again".*

*Mary was my "go to sister" whenever I had a question or needed to talk. She made you feel good. Of all the sisters, she was my favorite and the nicest. I looked up to Mary fondly.*

*At an early age she had her own life and was very active.  
God Bless and I will see you in heaven.*

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**Florence Cahill** - May 03, 2018 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ *With So Much Love To My Big Sister Mary  
From Her Devoted Little Baby Sister Dolores*

*I was so blessed to be born into a large family of eleven children. I was the baby of the family and received a lot of attention. My sweet sister Mary took it upon herself to bath me each night before bedtime. She scrubbed hard and especially on my neck to remove all the dirt. Of course I cried night after night. One night another sister passed by the bathroom and heard the crying and asked what was going on. Mary said she was trying to get me clean especially this mark on her neck. The other sister in amazement said, "Mary that is Dolore's birth mark". We all laughed and have continued to laugh even when I brought this up to Mary in her last days in the nursing home and we always laugh just as hard.*

*Remembering Mary, you must include that being the older sister she loved to give orders to the young ones. She was in charge of doling out the special cleaning chores to each sister who would have to complete the jobs around the house. I was given two jobs. One was dusting the dining room table legs and every week scrubbed our front door marble steps. She was affectingly called the "cleaning boss". Mary always checked your work for mistakes.*

*All my sisters and brothers were special, but I gravitated towards Mary with extra affection. Mary was special and precious. I certainly will miss you sweet Mary. See you in heaven.*

*Your loving sister Dolores*

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**Dolores DeCicco** - May 02, 2018 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ *Those we love don't go away,  
They walk beside us every day,  
Unseen, unheard, but always near,  
Still loved, still missed and very dear.*

*Mary Nepi was such a gracious hostess to my family when my sister married Tom. We will always remember the times spent with her and Peter. I will miss the occasional phone calls from her while she was in the nursing home. She always managed some pleasant conversation and an occasional laugh. Rest in peace, Mrs. Nepi and enjoy the glorious sights of your heavenly surroundings.*

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**Carolyn (Cimino) Rolli** - May 02, 2018 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ *We will miss our Beloved Aunt Mary very much.  
Her love, her kindness and her sharp wit will always be a part of our memories. Uncle Pete is surely happy to have his Beloved Mary at his side. We love and miss you Aunt Mary.*

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**Carl & Betty Jane Roccia** - May 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ *Heaven has another Angel. So glad that you and Uncle Pete are together again. I have such wonderful memories when you both lived in Broomall, PA. Love you so much!*



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**Carmela (Roccia) Straccione** - May 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM

CS

*Heaven has another Angel. So glad that you and Uncle Pete are together again. I have such wonderful memories when you both lived in Broomall, PA. Love you so much!*

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**Carmela (Roccia) Straccione** - May 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM