



Bernice (Bronislaw) Pugliese

April 26, 1934 - January 23, 2024

Bernice (Bronislaw) Pugliese passed away peacefully on January 23, 2024. Her real birth name, Bronislaw, is derived from the Polish word for armor, strength, and protection. Perhaps that's why she always exemplified a graceful strength. To her family and friends, Bernice was a steady and supportive figure in their lives.

She was born in Elizaville, NY on April 26, 1931 to Polish/Ukrainian immigrants Steven and Anya Himmel. Bernice was raised on a number of farms throughout Columbia County and graduated from Hudson High School. In 1949 she married Peter Mixa, with whom she had four children. Bernice owned and operated Helene's beauty parlor on Warren Street for well over two decades. Working on her feet by day, caring for four children at night, Bernice was a working mom and successful entrepreneur—long before that was common. Later in life, she remarried Albert Pugliese. When not traveling the world, they spent many happy years in Craryville, NY and South Florida. Bernice liked to dress well and keep others well-fed. She liked her brandy cold and her house warm. She wasn't one to speak badly of others. She was a shopper: clothing, gifts for family and friends, and jewelry. She was a reader: history books, novels, and cookbooks. In April, Bernice would have been 93 and her family would have gathered to eat pierogies, enjoy libation, and toast the woman whose strength protected and connected her family.

Bernice was predeceased by her three brothers, Stanley Himmel, Raymond Himmel and Steven Himmel.

Bernice is survived by her four children, Patricia Mixa Cohen (Myron), Pamela Mixa Cranna, Paula Mixa Millar, and Peter Mixa (Karen Roberts); her six grandchildren, Brendan (Lauren) Cranna, Seth (Amanda) Florio, McCaily Cranna (Ari Raleigh), Kaila Womac, Spencer Rickborn and Kirstyn Mixa Yancy (Payton) her sister Elizabeth Pazera, sister-in-laws Joan Himmel and Julie Himmel; as well as her six great-grandchildren. She was lovingly referred to by her grandchildren and great-grandchildren as Gram, G-Ma, Grammie-cakes, and Baba.

Visitation hours at the Bates & Anderson-Redmond & Keeler Funeral Home are Wednesday January 31, from 4:00-7:00pm. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated from Holy Trinity Church St. Mary's Parish, East Allen St. Hudson, NY, Thursday February 1, at 10:00am. Interment will be in Cedar Park Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, Bernice's family would welcome donations to Community Hospice, Liberty St, Catskill, NY 12414, 518-943-5402, <https://www.communityhospice.org/donate>

Cemetery Details

Cedar Park

Hudson, NY

Previous Events

Visitation Hours

JAN 31. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Bates & Anderson - Redmond & Keeler
110 Green Street
Hudson, NY 12534
(518) 828-3371
<http://batesandersonredmondkeeler.com>

Mass of Christian Burial

FEB 1. 10:00 AM.

Holy Trinity St. Mary's Parish
Hudson, NY

Tribute Wall

DC

“*Bernice was my boss and a great friend back in the early 70's
We had a lot of good times together.
Just saw of her passing. May she rest in peace 🙏
Love Darlene*

Darlene Concra - February 12, 2024 at 10:03 PM

LH

“*Bernice made a powerful and permanent impact on my life. When I first met her, she was running a hair salon. I remember her talking with the customers and beauticians like they were family. If you ever had the honor of being in her home, you felt like family. I was blessed to have been part of her family for over 17 years. Never once did she make me feel like an outsider. I received the same love, 'suggestions' and gifts that her own daughters received. She would give her opinion but always respected mine if I did not agree.
Unfailingly giving and kind, she also managed to have a great sense of humor. She could take a joke as well as she gave it. She made everything fun for the children when they were around.
She taught me how to make her delicious caggage soup, which I continue to make every Winter. Food and experiences were valuable to her, as well as her time with her family and friends. I always told everyone that I had the best mother-in-law God could have given me. Cheers to you, Bernice! You will never be forgotten and always toasted! Heaven gained a really special and fun angel. My prayers and thoughts are with the family in this difficult time. Lisa Hayes*

Lisa Marie Hayes - January 28, 2024 at 05:11 PM