



Elvira Rosemarie Gilberti

SEP 1, 1926 - FEB 14, 2021



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 5



Elvira Rosemarie Gilberti

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Elvira Rosemarie (Cerreta) Gilberti, 94, passed away peacefully at home on February 14, 2021 surrounded by her loving family. Born September 1, 1926 in Stamford, CT, she was the daughter of the late Ernesto Cerreta and Rosemarie (Cestone) Cerreta. On September 1, 1947, at just 21 years old, she married her soulmate, William J. Gilberti, Sr., and for 41 years they shared a life rooted in love and family - a vow that she honored even after his death in 1988. She was his “Vera,” and it was truly serendipitous that they were reunited on Valentine’s Day. When the time came, her “Bill” was waiting there to take her hand and share that long-awaited dance to their song, Let Me Call You Sweetheart.

Vera’s world revolved around family. A strong woman of faith and proud homemaker, she moved with her husband and three children to Syracuse, NY in 1960 to open a family restaurant. For nearly 40 years, Gilberti’s Corner House was a neighborhood gathering place known for its homestyle meals and warm atmosphere. She was the face of the dining room, greeting guests as if they were family and friends; a tradition that carried on even after her husband passed and she stepped in to help manage the restaurant until her retirement in 1997.

Vera’s greatest joy came from raising her children whom she taught to lead with kindness, and always value the love of family. For her, there was no greater achievement than being their mother, the grandmother to her three granddaughters, and the great-grandmother to her four great-grandchildren, who affectionately call her their “GG.” Even in her absence Vera’s love will live on through them always.

Elvira is survived by her children, Donna (Gilberti) DeSiato; William J. Gilberti, Jr. and his wife Kimberly Gilberti; Carmel Gilberti and her wife Jennifer Gilberti; grandchildren, Danielle (Brian) Kuhn; Erika Gilberti; Alyssa (Matt) Albert; and great grandchildren: Emily (6), Daniel (3), Jackson (3), and Noah (1).



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The family would like to extend a special thank you to all of Vera's wonderful nurses and caregivers; especially Bessie, Julie and Tammy, and her own personal angel-on-earth, Jennifer, for their unsurpassed love and care.

A private Mass of Christian Burial and entombment will be held in Syracuse, NY. Vera's recorded version of her funeral mass will be available for viewing at tjpfuneralhome.com from Tuesday, February 23, 2021 on.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Funeral arrangements entrusted to THOMAS J. PIRRO JR. FUNERAL HOME.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her memory to the following organizations: The ESM Education Foundation <https://www.esmef.org>
The Family Pantry of Cape Cod <https://www.thefamilypantry.com>
McMahon Ryan Child Advocacy Center <https://www.mcmahonryan.org>



Tribute Wall

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RC

Rose Cerreta posted:

Happy memories of our teenage years. I would run to the school bus and ask Tommy to wait for Vera, who was running behind me!

February 27 at 8:05 AM

RG

Roger Glass posted:

Bill, sorry to hear of your Mom's passing. What a great legacy. I have wonderful memories of your family and still remember "sleep overs" where your Mom spoil us. God Bless. Roger and Darya Glass

February 25 at 4:02 AM

SD

Susan Duenas posted:

Carm and Jennifer, sorry to hear about your Elvira's passing. She was a strong woman and came from "good stock." You gave her such wonderful care these many years. You should have no regrets. Thinking of you during this time of great loss. Susan Duenas

February 24 at 5:18 AM

NP

Nick Pirro posted:

Donna, Bill and family, Patti and I offer our deepest sympathy on the passing of your Mom. I remember her from back in the day at the Corner House. A beautiful lady who took great pride in welcoming you to the restaurant. She had to be proud of her family and all your success. Sorry for your loss. Patti & Nick Pirro

February 23 at 10:13 AM

TR

Tina E Redmond posted:

Donna - We are so sorry to hear of your mother's passing. It is always difficult to go through this; yet seems to be harder in these times we are living in. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family. Tina and Sean Redmond

February 22 at 5:06 PM



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JS

Joel Felber & Linda Spear lit a candle in honor of Elvira.

February 22 at 1:25 PM



JK

John & Sheila Kresse lit a candle in honor of Elvira.

February 22 at 9:42 AM



KE

Kathleen M Effler posted:

Hi Donna. I was so sorry to see that your mother had died and I want to offer my condolences to you and your family. You might remember your brother lived in my neighborhood and his children played with ours many years ago! Yet my contact was mostly with you, and you were always a mentor in many ways. The picture of your mother is beautiful and the write up certainly says a lot about her wonderfulness. And yes, I know she passed that down to you! I retired long ago, but you will not be forgotten. BTW, I listened to your fun snow day song! I'm sure you and your family share much joy amidst the sadness with memories galore! Lots of Love, Kathy Effler (a voice from the past!)

February 22 at 8:25 AM

DC

Dorothy Cerreta lit a candle in honor of Elvira.

February 21 at 3:46 PM



EP

Elaine Polak posted:

My husband Bob and I bought our first home on the North Side of Syracuse. We soon learned of a wonderful restaurant right across the street-The Corner House! We shared many meals there as newlyweds!! We will NEVER forget the house salad dressing-delicious!!! I always enjoyed the fun stories about your mom on the opening day of school! Gather with family to share fond memories, laugh, and cry together. Fondly, Elaine Polak

February 21 at 9:22 AM




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CD

Cheryl Valentine Dardano posted:

Thoughts and prayers to the Gilberti and DeSiato families in your time of loss. Hold tight to those wonderful memories 

February 21 at 8:37 AM

BD

Bob Deyo posted:

Oh, what wonderful memories we have of The Corner House. We moved to Syracuse (Jasper Street) in 1984 and The Corner House was our "go to" restaurant. Mrs. Gilberti was always there to greet us. It was still a regular stop for us after we moved to Dewitt. In fact, we were there the last week she ran the restaurant. It was never the same after that. What a wonderful person. Our thoughts and prayers are with the whole family. Bob Deyo Hyannis, MA

February 21 at 5:48 AM

SF

Sue And Al Fiero posted:

Our sympathy to the Gilberti Family on the passing of Vera. We were next door neighbors for over 30 years. What a Joy she was, sweet and caring. Rest In Peace dear friend. Love Al and Sue

February 21 at 5:26 AM

JG

John L. Gibbons posted:

Whenever we came to Syracuse to visit family, we always headed to the Corner House and after a satisfying meal and the warmth of the Gilberti's, we'd take 2 orders of whatever we fancied, to bring backhoe to New York City. Vera used to get a laugh out of it. She was so kind and attentive to my brother and wife and their daughters and to our Mom. She always took the time to be like a "mother" to everyone. What a privilege to have such a fantastic memory of dining out at the restaurant, for we felt like visiting a relative. God rest her soul. John L. Gibbons New York, New York

February 20 at 4:32 AM

PT

Patty Tanguay posted:

Donna, so sorry to hear of your Mom's passing. I am sure she will always be with you and the family in your hearts. How wonderful to have had Mom so long with your family. I remember celebrating my in-laws 40th anniversary at the restaurant and how wonderful everything was for all of us. Sending prayers. Patty Tanguay

February 19 at 9:39 AM



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DF

Debbie Di Fino posted:

Dear Billy ,Donna and family,We are so sorry to read of your Mother'sPassing.Please know that you are in our thoughts and heart.With love,Santo and Debbie Di Fino

February 19 at 7:24 AM

SS

Sue Schardt posted:

Love and condolences to your family. Saturday night dinner at the Corner House was a staple for my parents, and the rest of the Schardts still share memories of our wonderful meals, of Vera and Bill's warmth and hospitality, and of enduring friendships with the Gilberti's.

February 19 at 5:24 AM

PL

Pat Lamanna posted:

As a new member of the staff, I remember her warmth, sunny attitude and comforting smile when visiting her restaurant or a family event. (And who could forget the delicious Corner House food!). Our condolences, thoughts and prayers are with the wonderful Gilberti family! Love, Pat and Ben Lamanna

February 19 at 5:06 AM

PT

Paula & Tony lit a candle in honor of Elvira.



February 19 at 4:50 AM

FS

Francis Stinziano posted:

A beautiful lady...our prayers and sympathy to the entire Gilberti familyFrancis and Donna Stinziano

February 18 at 11:48 AM

VI

Victor Ianno posted:

Donna, Bill,Sending my condolences on the passing of your Mom,.May she rest in peace,!Victor Ianno

February 18 at 11:44 AM



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LJ

Louise A Jarmac posted:

Donna & Family so sorry for your loss. Will keep you all in my Thoughts & Prayers.Louise Jarmac

February 18 at 9:08 AM

AB

Anthony F. Bucci posted:

Will,So sorry to read about the death of your mother. Peace to you and your family.Tony & Lee Bucci

February 18 at 9:06 AM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful Heart Bouquet to the Gilberti family.



February 18 at 7:34 AM

MC

Mike Cartini posted:

I had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Gilberti while I was working at Key Bank Shop City. She was a lovely person and always smiling when she was at the branch. She was that way with her customers too. We had several branch events there because of her hospitality. My condolences to her family and friends.

February 18 at 3:58 AM

MM

Michael Mcsherry posted:

Billy,Very sorry to hear your Mom passed away.You have my most sincerest condolences to you and all the Gilberti Family.Mike McSherry

February 17 at 12:46 PM

SG

Sue Gilberti posted:

What a wonderful long life. I will always remember Aunt Vera's smile, her positive attitude, her pride in her children, and her deep faith. Her prayers, I'm sure, helped tremendously with my husband's recovery. You were all so blessed to have such a great mom. Sue Gilberti and family

February 17 at 10:15 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Elvira by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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