



## Joan Mary Basic

July 22, 2017

Joan Mary Basic (née Zaninovich) passed away on July 22, 2017 after a short illness.

Born on March 6, 1931 in West New York, NJ, Joan was the second daughter of Anton and Kate (née Parmać) Zaninovich, both immigrants from the Dalmatia region of Croatia. She was a mischievous and fun-loving tomboy as a child, who was the marbles champion of her West New York neighborhood and enjoyed visiting her maternal aunt and uncle's farm in Red Hook, NY.

From an early age, Joan loved music (particularly classical) and was an accomplished pianist who studied at the Manhattan School of Music. Often called upon to perform at family gatherings, she and her sisters also frequently performed in public; several of their performances were recorded and still exist on 78 rpm acetates cherished by the family. She was also the long-time organist and member of the choir at Sts. Cyril & Methodius and St. Raphael Croatian Catholic Church in Manhattan, where she first met her future husband, Steve.

Before her marriage to Steve G. Bašić on October 4, 1959, she worked for many years in the advertising industry (one fond memory was working on the campaign celebrating the 500th anniversary of the founding of Paris, France) and the pharmaceutical industry in New York City.

After their marriage, Joan and Steve had three children: Anne Marie, Stephen, and Mary K. and Joan poured her love and energy into her new roles as devoted wife and mother. Joan and Steve remained active parishioners at the

church where they had met and both were active in church activities, particularly the Cardinal Stepinac Folklore Group.

In 1970, after her youngest child began grade school, Joan returned to the workforce and began a nearly four decade long and exemplary tenure of service to the Bergen County Medical Society and the local medical community, ultimately rising to the position of Executive Director. While at the Society, she returned to school and became a Certified Association Executive. Upon her retirement in 2008 as Executive Director of the Bergen County Medical Society, Joan was honored by a Joint Legislative Resolution of the Senate and General Assembly of New Jersey “commend[ing] her meritorious record of service and commitment”.

In retirement, Joan continued in her charitable endeavors and in her unceasing devotion to family, friends, and church. She will truly be missed. Joan is survived by her daughter, Anne Marie, her son, Stephen, her granddaughter, Mikayla Rose Clancy, her sister, Catherine Karlich, numerous nieces and nephews, and other extended family and friends. She was predeceased by her husband, Steve, her daughter, Mary K., her parents, her brother, Vincent, and her sister, Antoinette Vlacancich.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit on Monday, July 24th, from 4-8 pm at Volk Leber Funeral Home, 268 Kinderkamack Road, Oradell, NJ. A funeral mass will be held on Tuesday, July 25th at 10 am at St. Joseph’s Roman Catholic Church, 300 Elm Avenue, Oradell, NJ, with cremation to follow.

# Cemetery Details

## Cedar Lawn Crematory

Corner of Crooks Blvd & McClean Avenue  
Paterson, NJ 07503

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL **24.** 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Oradell  
268 Kinderkamack Rd.  
Oradell, NJ 07649  
(201) 261-1088  
info@volkleber.com  
<https://www.volkleber.com>

## Funeral Mass

JUL **25.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Joseph's RCC  
300 Elm Street  
Oradell, NJ 07649

# Tribute Wall



“ *Joan Mary Basic*

October 08, 2023 at 09:59 PM



“ *Joan Mary Basic*

October 08, 2023 at 06:27 PM



“ *Joan Mary Basic*

August 30, 2022 at 02:48 PM



“ *My fondest memories of Aunt Joan were all the family gatherings we had at her sister, Antoinette's house (Antoinette was my Aunt, married to Domenick, my mother's brother); Joan played the piano and my Aunt along with their other sister, Lily, would sing and you got goose bumps from head to toe!!! Old Croatian songs, lovely American classical songs - just AMAZING!!! Another thing that stood out, was Aunt Joan's beautiful blue eyes! They were like crystals :) Being an immigrant child, this was all so WOW to me :) They (the entire Zaninovich family) took us into their family circle as if we were always theirs :) That, I'll never forget!!! Aunt Joan, rest in peace and sing some more with my Teta Antoinette - until we meet again!*

*xoxoxox Rossella and family*

**Rossella Muzich** - July 26, 2017 at 12:21 PM

BL

“ *Brian Lipton purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Joan Mary Basic.*



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**Brian Lipton** - July 24, 2017 at 02:25 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joan Mary Basic.*



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July 23, 2017 at 05:28 PM

VF

“ *Vukosa, Kinney-Cassidy, Vlacancich families purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Joan Mary Basic.*



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**Vukosa, Kinney-Cassidy, Vlacancich families** - July 23, 2017 at 02:54 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Joan Mary Basic.*



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July 22, 2017 at 08:48 PM

FF

“ Remembering our many young happy days with you. Our deepest loving sympathy to Stephen & AnnMarie. Coralie & Paul Fabijanic

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**Fabijanic Family** - July 22, 2017 at 03:30 PM

CK

“ Catherine Karlich lit a candle in memory of Joan Mary Basic



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**Catherine Karlich** - July 22, 2017 at 03:19 PM