



Wanda Santaella

February 28, 2022

Wanda E Santaella, loving mom, grandmother and friend of many went to meet her God on February 28th, 2022. Wanda was born to Wanda Emerson 3/1/1943 in Albany, NY. She spent her formative years in Glens Falls, NY and Graduated from Glens Falls High School. She went on to SUNY New Paltz graduating Magna Cum Laude with a degree in sociology in 1968. She then obtained her Masters of Social Work in 1973 from NYU. From then until her retirement in 2017 Wanda maintained many roles, working herself up from clinical social worker until retiring as a hospital administrator. Wanda's career was very important to her, however, her greatest accomplishment was raising her 4 sons. Wanda was preceded in death by her oldest son John. She is survived by her sons Steve, Rob and Dan and grandchildren John, Jesse, Justine, Eric, Adriana, Briana and Juliana whom she adored and loved. Wanda's life will be celebrated at Volk Leber Funeral home on Wednesday, March 16th from 4-8PM. Funeral Mass at Saint Anastasia RCC in Teaneck on Thursday, March 17th at 10AM. Interment to follow at St. Mary's Cemetery, Saddle Brook, NJ.

Cemetery Details

St. Mary's Cemetery

224 Westminster Place
Saddle Brook, NJ 07663

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 16. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Volk Leber Funeral Home
789 Teaneck Road
Teaneck, NJ 07666
info@volkleber.com
<http://www.volkleber.com>

Funeral Mass

MAR 17. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Church of St. Anastasia
1095 Teaneck Rd
Teaneck, NJ 07666
(201) 837-3354

Tribute Wall



“ *Wanda Santaella*

October 08, 2023 at 09:59 PM



“ *Wanda Santaella*

October 08, 2023 at 06:27 PM



“ *Wanda Santaella*

August 30, 2022 at 02:48 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Wanda Santaella.*



March 15, 2022 at 06:36 PM

LH

“ I am devastated- receiving the news of Wanda’s illness and passing. Like many our association began at the Crotona Park Mental Health Center under the auspices of Bronx Lebanon Hospital. I grew as a Clinical Social Worker under her tutelage moving up the career path to cabinet level positions in NYS and NJ. Wanda was a stellar clinician and family therapist and focused on state of the care for her clients. She fostered clinical excellence in all of her supervises. What an asset to the field of mental health! Our relationship was honed and developed to the point she encouraged myself and family to move to Teaneck. We have been here since 1986 and enjoyed many years of friendship. I am saddened to learn she was ill but remain steadfast as an unyielding support for her family. Sharing my continued love and respect for Wanda and remain assured she continues to receive the ongoing care, support and love by our Precious Spirit. We all will miss dear Wanda.

Lorna Hines-Cunningham - March 15, 2022 at 12:09 AM

LR

“ I got a call from Wanda that changed my life forever and I am so grateful to her. She said "Lydia, I need a Director of Mental Health for Morrisania - Apply for the job. I said, I just started a new job a month ago at a different private hospital. She said, no matter apply here -- the South Bronx needs someone like you -- You speak the language, know the population we serve and have the skills. I doubted I could do it -- She said, you can do it --I will guide you and mentor you." Her belief in me changed my life. Wanda was the best boss I ever had - she inspired me to be the best version of myself and her dedication to public health and those that are marginalized have improved the lives of many who had no voice or money. I am Latina and having people like Wanda who are influencers and open access for others like myself and the people who were serviced because of her vision are the actions that promote Diversity, equity and inclusion. She was kind and smart and courageous and so beautiful inside and out. She did it all with such grace and integrity. The world is a better place because of her. I am forever grateful for our paths having crossed and for that phone call. I would be at the service but I am actually teaching and the course starts on the 16th and runs for 5 days. I am there in spirit and she will forever be in my heart. There is no amount of tribute I can show Wanda for her love and trust in me and for all the time she took to mentor me and changed my life for the better, forever. Rest in peace my dear boss - I love you. And while I never met your children my dear Wanda - I send them strength -- and may they all love and support each other as you have them. With so much pain in my heart and many tears, until we meet again my dear and lovely Wanda may you soul rest in peace, reunited with your loved ones. Lydia E. Rosa, LCSW

Lydia E Rosa - March 14, 2022 at 01:20 PM

LM

“ Lydia E. Rosa, LCSW, Morrisania purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Wanda Santaella.



Lydia E. Rosa, LCSW, Morrisania - March 14, 2022 at 12:49 PM

AM

“ Athena Motal lit a candle in memory of Wanda Santaella



Athena Motal - March 11, 2022 at 06:54 AM