



## Yolanda Ciania

May 1, 2025

Ciania, Yolanda (nee Tamburelli), 100, of Leonia, passed away on Thursday, May 1, 2025.

A longtime resident of Leonia, NJ, she was born July 27, 1924 and grew up in Ridgefield, NJ. Yolanda graduated from Dwight Morrow High School in Englewood, NJ and afterward worked at BBDO Advertising in New York City.

Several years later, she reacquainted with her neighborhood friend, Jeremiah, and they fell in love. Yolanda and Jeremiah wed on April 12, 1947. They were happily married for seventy-one years and raised a beautiful family with three loving children before Jeremiah passed away at 100 years old in 2018.

Yolanda was a wonderful wife and compassionate mother and grandmother. She cherished nothing more than hosting a family gathering. She was an accomplished self-taught chef (with unmatched mastery of potato gnocchi) and brought a warm and elegant flair to family events. Yolanda's bright smile and congenial ways lit up any room. Her family sustained her for over a century and she will be missed deeply.

She is survived by her three devoted children: Paul and his partner Dennis Westervelt; Peter and wife Christine; and Christine Muir and husband Tom; two grandchildren, Lauren Apgar and husband Greg; and Thomas Daniel

Muir; and one great-grandchild, Ruth Apgar. Yolanda was predeceased by her beloved husband of seventy-one years, Jeremiah, and her parents, Ercole and Irma Tamburelli.

Donations in her memory may be made to Holy Name Medical Center (718 Teaneck Road, Teaneck, NJ 07666) or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

# Cemetery Details

## Madonna Cemetery & Mausoleum

2070 Hoefleys Lane  
Fort Lee, NJ 07024

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 5. 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

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

## Chapel Service

MAY 5. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall

DA

“ *To The Ciancia Family,  
We are so sorry for the loss of your Mother/Grandmother/Great-Grandmother.  
We are very grateful to have known Yolanda - a Beautiful Person Inside & Out.  
We always enjoyed our conversations and our time spent together.  
When we exchanged cards with each other we always received a lovely note.  
We will keep Yolanda in Our Memories.  
We're thinking of All of You and Sending You Our Love & Sympathy.  
Jim and Debbie Apgar*

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**Debbie Apgar** - May 06, 2025 at 12:55 PM

RP

“ *Dear Ciancia Family,  
  
One of the highlights during my daily walks through the neighborhood was passing by the Ciancia home where I very often found Jerry sitting on his patio relaxing in the sunshine. I would stop to chat and invariably Yolanda would join us for a few minutes of pleasant conversation. "Pleasant and kind" are the descriptive words that come to mind in describing my impressions of Yolanda. My wife and I also had the pleasure of spending a number of Christmas dinner celebrations at Holy Name Medical Center's annual event and truly enjoyed the interaction with both Yolanda and Jerry. Our deepest condolences to the Ciancia family.*

*Rick and Nancy Pumo*

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**Rick Pumo** - May 05, 2025 at 01:00 PM

VA

“ I have so many memories of "Mrs. Ciancia." It was always "Mrs. Ciancia!" This memory is almost as long as my deep and unbroken friendship with Chris. When I was in 10th grade, one of my guinea pigs got very sick while my mother was away. I called Chris' mother to ask if she could bring us to Oradell Animal Hospital. Although she did not want to do that, she told me she would get ready and be at my house in a few minutes. Before she could leave to get me, Pete, the guinea pig in question, passed. I had to call with the news that it was too late! She came over nonetheless and helped me make temporary arrangements for him until he could have a proper burial when my mother returned from her weekend away! That was the first pet who died on me so the loss was real and she was there for me. I don't remember Chris being with her ---I am thinking Chris was likely at a game---yet, Mr. and Mrs. Ciancia more than once served as surrogate parents! She was so loved and will be so missed by many people, myself and my family included. My love goes out to her whole family.

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**Valerie** - May 04, 2025 at 08:46 AM