Patricia L. Gaetano

May 19, 1946 - April 30, 2026

Patricia Lee (Novotny) Gaetano, 79, born May 19, 1946 currently of Cicero, New York, passed away peacefully on Thursday, April 30, 2026. Born and raised in Chicago, she was the only child of the late Emil and Rose (Schnarr) Novotny.

She was a loving, caring and involved mother who turned her prior employment talents in Illinois into being an advocate for Down Syndrome and other special needs. In addition to working with Special Olympic chapters in the Syracuse area, Pat championed and led the Friends Bowling League for 25 years. Helping special needs youth of all ages thrive and enjoy the activity brought Pat immense joy and satisfaction.

She enjoyed crafting activities and making special things for her grandchildren, game nights and spending time with family and friends.

Surviving are her husband of 42 years, John A. Gaetano; children, Cynthia Gaetano, Tim (Lynn) Gaetano, and Nicki Gaetano; grandchildren, Alexandria (Danny) Wangerow, Caitlyn (Antonio) Roman, Hunter (Diana) Holland, Emmilee Carmean, and Meridith Gaetano; and great grandchildren, Kaylee, Camden, and Veronica.

The family will greet friends and family on Saturday, May 9th from 11 am to 1

pm with a service to follow. A celebratory luncheon at Twin Trees III will take place immediately after the service.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to ARISE, which is a nonprofit organization in New York dedicated to empowering individuals with disabilities and greatly appreciates your donations. Arise Syracuse, 635 James Street, Syracuse, NY 13202.

Previous Events

Calling Hours

MAY **9**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Fergerson Funeral Home, Inc.
215 South Main Street
North Syracuse, NY 13212
(315) 458-1970
http://fergersonfuneralhome.com/

Tribute Wall

SA

Steve and Tammy Abounader purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Patricia L. Gaetano.

Steve and Tammy Abounader - May 07 at 03:30 PM

FM

Frank & Claudette Mack purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Patricia L. Gaetano.

Frank & Claudette Mack - May 06 at 02:43 PM

PM

Pete Re pete Matty purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Patricia L. Gaetano.

Pete Re pete Matty - May 05 at 08:23 AM

PM

Pete Re pete Matty planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Patricia L. Gaetano.

Pete Re pete Matty - May 05 at 08:23 AM

Patty was the most awesome Aunty. Im sorry I never knew her as an adult. She was kind and caring to me as a child . She also made the best jello on earth!!

Laura Ebner - May 03 at 07:41 PM

TG

I agree! And jello without mushrooms!

Tom Groenwald - May 03 at 07:53 PM

BP

I'm Paige's aunt Barbara. I'm so sorry for your loss. I know how she loves the family, Nikki, it is a big loss and my heart is with you.

Barbara Paola - May 04 at 07:12 PM