

# BETSY (BOSILJKA) KOSANOVICH CANNON



Betsy (Bosiljka) Kosanovich Cannon entered Paradise on August 9, 2023, surrounded by Christ our Lord, her family, Kumovi, souls of the departed and Heavenly Angels. She passed in peace and comfort, embraced in love and accompanied by prayers for Eternal Life. She was 95.

Mother was born on March 3, 1928, in Greenville, Pennsylvania. She was the daughter of the late Josif and Leposava Kosanovich, both born in Jasenak, Yugoslavia. She lost her mother at 9 and her father at 12. They awaited her spirit for 83 and 86 years, respectively. Upon their passing, she and her siblings were guided in great measure by people of several ethnicities, faiths and backgrounds on Pine Street in Greenville, immediately across from The Chicago Bridge and Iron Company. These painful moments became gifts to her family.

She graduated in the Class of 1947 from Penn High School in Greenville, PA and enjoyed seeing her classmates at reunions over the years.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her sister, Helen (Vranes, 1965) and her brother, Robert (Bogdan "Barney" Kosanovich, 2015). Her husband of 29 years, Henry L. "Hank" Cannon, Jr., former owner of The Cannon Funeral Home in Midland, Pennsylvania, passed away in 1986. Mother represented the last of her generation.

Mother is survived by a loving legacy, including her son Ellis (Yvonne, Pittsburgh); Priscilla (Monty, Orlando); Henry (Marian, Aliquippa); and Sarah (Robert, Chicago). She enjoyed seven loving grandchildren, including Elijah, Michael, Joseph, Zachary, Maya, John and Kate - all of whom are committed to advancing the treasures Babi offered them for the benefit of her most important legacy - her family.

Betsy was a faithful lifelong passionate Serbian Orthodox Christian, a custodian of her parents' values and caretaker of the sacrifices of those before her. She was a teacher in the spirit of St. Sava; an artist and lover of arts; actress and director, including directing many school plays as well as acting on stage with The Valley Players of Ligonier; she was an advocate, fighter, lover of her Serbian heritage, humorous, passionate and a leader. Mother embodied the power of resilience, intellectual curiosity and lifelong expectations that will inspire generations to follow.

Mother lived most of her life in Pennsylvania, living in Greenville, Midland, Ligonier, Mt. Lebanon, and Churchill. She also lived in Mesa, Arizona. In Ligonier, she and Dad co-founded Betsy's of Ligonier. She attended and served at each local Orthodox Church, including St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church in McKeesport, PA. She was a contributor to the 1949 establishment and growth of St. George Serbian Orthodox Church in Midland. Her glorious singing voice was a fundamental piece to the church choir. She - and us - were blessed to have lifelong family and friends in Teta Donna Suznevich, Teta Anna Mae (Kosanovich) Yevak, and Kuma Martha Medich, to whom our family owes all our love. They are all very dear to us.

There are too many memories to recount, as those are for the ages. She worked tirelessly both at home and at the funeral home while Hank was serving his loyal families, and navigated the 1960's and 1970's with her children and those of her beloved sister. She took her children on many drives to the peace of the countryside outside of Midland, where she actively encouraged them to use their imaginations to create stories about nature. She raised her children with much love and warmth, yet innately understood how to set the rules, so as to be respectful and mannerly to all, including their elders. Mother also contributed lovingly to the lives of her sister's children, including nephews Robert and Marc, and her niece Yvonne. She taught us all the power and grace of being free of bias and bigotry.

Loved ones and friends are welcome to join us at **D.L. WILLIAMS FUNERAL HOME**, 848 Midland Avenue, Midland, PA on Sunday, August 13th for visitation between 2:00-4:00 PM and 6:00-8:00 PM. A Pomen "Blessing Service" will be conducted at 7:00 PM. A Funeral Liturgy will be conducted on Monday, August 14th at 10:00 AM at St. George Serbian Orthodox Church, 30 10th St, Midland, PA 15059, to be immediately followed by a Dacha (luncheon) at the American Serbian Home at 514 Midland Avenue, Midland, PA.

Private interment will be on Tuesday, August 15th at Pleasant Hills Cemetery, Glasgow, PA at 1:00 PM.

Flowers to the funeral home would be appreciated. Otherwise, please send flowers in Betsy's name to St. Barnabas Beaver Meadows, 5130 Tuscarawas Road, Beaver, Pa, 15009, so they may be distributed to residents and staff in appreciation for their love and care of Mother.

Finally, we wish to thank the extraordinary love Mother received from all her St. Barnabas Beaver Meadows caregivers and fellow residents. Through them, she and us enjoyed extended life, memories and Godliness. We offer our deepest appreciation to Betsy's daily friend, Megan Elsmann. Mother and our family found the best of us in Megan. May God bless and offer her all the good she deserves.

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