

# **MATHILDA "TOOTIE" (WILLIS) PRANIS**

Of Penn Hills, age 87, passed away peacefully in her home surrounded by family on Sunday, May 26, 2024.

Born the youngest daughter of the late Jacob Willis and the late Bertha (Claus) Willis. Beloved wife of the late Nicholas D. Pranis. Loving mother of James Pranis and Deborah (Patrick) Bachner. Proud Yia Yia of Ryan Patrick (Cyndi), Blake Nicholas and Paige Mackenzie Bachner. Dear sister of Bertha (the late Charles "Chuck") DeCecco. Sister-in-law of Joan (the late Joseph) Kenney. Preceded in death by nine brothers and sisters. Also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Tootie was a 1954 graduate of Carrick High School. She went on to attend Shadyside School of Nursing and graduated in 1957 as a Registered Nurse. Following her graduation, Tootie began her career as an R.N. at Shadyside Hospital. She took time off to raise her children, and later returned to nursing at Forbes Regional Hospital where she worked as a surgical short stay nurse until her retirement in the year 2000.

Tootie was a devout member of Presentation of Christ Greek Orthodox Church "Ypapanti" in East Pittsburgh. At Ypapanti she was active with the Philoptochos 7 group and was a founding member and past President of the YASOU club, which was a group of church members who would socialize and travel together. Each year for the annual food festival, Tootie poured countless time into baking cookies. Tootie enjoyed traveling with Nick following her retirement. Most of all, she treasured the memories made with her loving family.

Friends are welcome Wednesday from 3-7 p.m. at **PATRICK T. LANIGAN FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY, INC.**, 700 Linden Ave. at Cable, East Pittsburgh, PA 15112, (412) 824-8800, where a Trisagion Service will be prayed at 4 p.m.

Additional visitation will be held Thursday from 9:30-10:30 a.m. in the Presentation of Christ Greek Orthodox Church (Ypapanti), where a Funeral Service will be held at 10:30 a.m.

Tootie will be laid to rest in Monongahela Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Ypapanti, 1575 Electric Ave. East Pittsburgh, PA 15112.

Send condolences [post-gazette.com/gb](http://post-gazette.com/gb)