

# GRACE SUZANN FORZESE GHIRARDI

Age 76, of Southern Shores, NC, passed away peacefully on Thursday, June 6, 2024, at Sentara Norfolk General Hospital. Grace was born on December 19, 1947, in New York, New York, to the late Alice Jean Puccini Forzese and John Joseph Forzese. Grace was a devoted wife to William R. Ghirardi and a loving mother to her sons, Justin, Daniel, and Christian Ghirardi. She cherished her role as a grandmother to her granddaughters, Daphne and Chloe Ghirardi. Grace's dedication to her faith and education led her to earn a degree from La Roche University and a master's degree in religious education from Duquesne University. She then served as a Director of Religious Education for the Diocese of Pittsburgh, eventually working in that role at her parish, St. John Newman. After relocating to Southern Shores, Grace became a faithful parishioner and contributor at Holy Redeemer By-the-Sea Catholic Church. Grace found solace, purpose and community in her faith. Grace was a committed and passionate Catholic who served in many roles within the church community – both professionally and personally. She had a love for song, and was an active contributor to mass as a vocalist and Eucharistic minister. She loved working with teenagers and young adults, with a focus on promoting service and inspiring spiritual growth. Grace touched the lives of many, and held so many in her prayers. She will be dearly missed by her family, friends, and all who knew her. A Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated at 11:00 am on Thursday, June 27, 2024, at Holy Redeemer By-the-Sea Catholic Church by Rev. John F. Hanley, osfs. **TWIFORD FUNERAL HOMES, OUTER BANKS** is assisting the family with arrangements.

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