



Josephine Bernadine Cooke

April 23, 1929 - November 27, 2018

Josephine Bernadine Cooke, of Gainesville, Virginia passed away on Tuesday, November 27, 2018.

Josephine was born on April 23, 1929 in Swoyersville, Pennsylvania, the daughter of the late Benjamin Joseph Cicero and Patricia Beatrice Maruca Cicero. She was preceded in death by her loving husband of 53 years, Harry Lee Cooke, daughter Joyce Ann, and brother Joseph "Butch" Cicero.

Devoted mother of five, she is survived by Karen Barkley (Joseph) of Manassas, Virginia; Patricia Painter (Fred) of Oak Hill, Virginia; Maryellen Plecha (Dan) of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina and David Cooke (Katie) of Centreville, Virginia. She is also survived by nine grandchildren (Diana (Ryan), Angela (Tommy), Eugene (Alex), T.J. (Larisa), Rachel, Cara (Chris), Doug, Katelyn, and Audrey), nine great-grandchildren (Ava, Gabriel, Caleb, Cayleigh, Maximilian, Cathryn, Leonidas, Faustina, and Jude), and three nieces (Maria Cicero, Noreen Cicero, and Michelle (Doug) Higgins).

Josephine's faith and loving nature graced the lives of many. She was truly a remarkable woman who was always willing to lend a hand and help those in need. Although she worked for the Federal Government as an Administrative Assistant for many years, she would tell you her most meaningful jobs included working with children and volunteering in her community. Josephine's greatest gift was her ability to listen, offer words of encouragement, and leave you with knowing she would include you in her prayers. Her family, friends and God were her world and we are very blessed to have had her in our lives. All

of us can be assured that her grace and love will continue to shine upon us. The family will receive friends on Sunday, December 2, 2018 from 3-5PM at Pierce Funeral Home, 9609 Center Street, Manassas, Virginia. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, December 3, 2018 at 10:30AM at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 8213 Linton Hall Road, Gainesville, Virginia followed by a private burial.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Little Sisters of the Poor or Divine Mercy Care.

Previous Events

Family to receive friends

DEC 2. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Pierce Funeral Home
9609 Center St.
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 257-6028
pfh@piercefh.com
<https://www.piercefh.com>

Mass of Christian Burial

DEC 3. 10:30 AM (ET)

Holy Trinity Catholic Church
8213 Linton Hall Rd
Gainesville, VA 20155-2997
(703) 753-6700

Tribute Wall

CP

“ I met Jo at daily mass five years ago and she became so dear to me. I found out in church today from another friend, Mary Carolyn, about Jo and I am still in shock. I know she is in heaven, in the Glory of God, and praying for her family and friends. I am so sorry for your loss. Jo touched my heart, as she did so many and I will miss her greatly..

Cathie Passero - December 02, 2018 at 03:30 PM

SL

“ Sandy Lee lit a candle in memory of Josephine Bernadine Cooke



Sandy Lee - December 02, 2018 at 10:15 AM

SL

“ My mother, Goldie, couldn't have asked for a better friend than Jo. I got to know and love Jo during the 13 years she lived next door to Mom and I always looked forward to seeing her when I came to Virginia. Her warm smile, welcoming hug and gentle manner never failed to warm my heart. She was always ready with a helping hand if needed, and would often walk the short distance between their homes to bring us baked goodies. As my mom's health declined I was increasingly grateful for their habit of checking in with each other every morning. Leaving Jo was one of the hardest things for Mom to accept when she moved to Charlottesville.

During my family's summer visits to Virginia we would put a sprinkler in the grass between their homes and Miss Jo, as the children called her, would come outside to laugh with us and watch the children (old and young) play. Jo very kindly invited me to stay with her for a couple of nights after we sold my mother's house. It was snowing heavily where I live in Connecticut and neither of us wanted me to drive home in that weather. We had a wonderful time together that I will cherish always.

I am enormously saddened by her sudden passing, and heartbroken for her family. Jo will be badly missed by everyone whose life she touched. Her light will continue to shine in all of us. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.

Sandy Lee

Sandy Lee - December 02, 2018 at 10:10 AM

SS

“ Our prayers are with the Cooke Family during this time. She was a wonderful person who was a good example of God’s Love to many. She will be missed but are comforted that a crown of glory awaits her....



*St. Michael Catholic School Community
Murrells Inlet, SC*

St. Michael Catholic School - December 02, 2018 at 07:28 AM

AN

“ Jo was a wonderful friend to my mother, Goldie! Only a small strip of grass separated their homes for about 10 years. She became Mom's best friend and would do anything for her. I couldn't visit my Mom without wanting to invite Jo over for "happy hour" to spend a little time brightening my life with her warmth and smile. I grew to care for her very much.

My heart goes out to Jo's family during this difficult time of her untimely passing. May the memories of the love she showered on everyone give us some comfort as we mourn her lose.

*Annette Jackson
Atlanta, GA*

Annette - December 01, 2018 at 06:50 PM

GN

“ From the very first moment we met her, Mimi made us feel like we had always been a part of her family. At our son's wedding to her granddaughter, she told us she made sure they knew that they needed Christ to be the center of their marriage. From that moment on we knew Mimi would always have them in her prayers and she was watching over them. This earth has lost a sweet and godly woman but we know where she is! She is rejoicing at the feet of her Father and wrapped in the arms of her Savior!

Gus & Carol Nelson

Gus & Carol Nelson - December 01, 2018 at 06:01 PM



“ *Love's Journey* was purchased for the family of Josephine Bernadine Cooke.



December 01, 2018 at 05:55 PM



“ *Arrive in Style* was purchased for the family of Josephine Bernadine Cooke.



December 01, 2018 at 11:19 AM

KK

“ *Kirsten Smith and Linda Kirr purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Josephine Bernadine Cooke.*



Kirsten Smith and Linda Kirr - November 30, 2018 at 10:20 PM

TF

“ *The Young Family lit a candle in memory of Josephine Bernadine Cooke*



the Young Family - November 30, 2018 at 08:43 PM

TF

“ *Jo was our neighbor and friend. Our hearts are broken at her untimely death. We will miss her sweet smile and kind words of encouragement. May God grant her family peace during this difficult time.*

The Young Family

the Young Family - November 30, 2018 at 07:46 PM

FF

“ I had the privilege of meeting Mrs. Cooke last February. She was such a joy and full of love for Our Lord, Blessed Mother and her family. She will be missed by many and will be spending this Christmas in Heaven, Prayers for her children and grandchildren. When I pray the Hail Mary Prayer, I will think of Mrs. Cooke.

*Fr. Fitzgerald
St. Michael Church
Murrells Inlet, SC.*

Fr. Fitzgerald - November 30, 2018 at 07:45 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Josephine Bernadine Cooke.



November 30, 2018 at 06:12 PM

ME

“ The Cooke Family ~

I am very sorry for your loss and i have you all in my prayers

I met Jo in 2004 just before we moved into our new homes. She was a wonderful woman, I loved her smile, and will miss her at our Bunco games

May "Our Sweet Jo" rest in Peace

Maggie D'Ercole

Maggie D' Ercole - November 30, 2018 at 04:52 PM

JP

I had the pleasure of meeting and working with Ms. Jo at St. James School many years ago. She was always kind, caring and joyful. Jo was truly a gift to know and will be missed. I am sure Ms. Jo will remain a great inspiration to us all.

Joan Preil

Joan Preil - December 03, 2018 at 01:30 PM