



Rose Zakrzewski

August 14, 1927 - October 22, 2023

Rose (Raisa) Zakrzewski of Passaic, NJ (formerly of Garfield) passed into the arms of the Lord on Sunday, October 22, 2023.

Rose was born in 1927 in a small village along the Don river in Russian occupied Ukraine. Her first husband Gregory was killed in Italy just 9 days before the end of WWII. Their son, Gregory Mischenko, was born shortly after. After years of starvation deliberately inflicted on Ukraine by Stalin, her village was taken over by the Nazis. Life didn't improve; the hunger increased. In the dark of night, Rose, her parents and her brother Nick escaped, with everything they could carry in a horse-drawn wagon. Rose's older sister Vera remained behind with her husband, and the two sisters were never reunited. They wandered through several countries seeking refuge but were always turned away. Food during the war was scarce, and no one had enough to share with strangers. Eventually they ended their journey in Italy, where they were confined to an Internment Camp, spending almost 5 years behind barbed wire. Rose's sons Alex and Victor were born in that camp. In 1952, a refugee program for Displaced Persons brought Rose and her children to New Jersey. Rose's parents chose to emigrate to Argentina, taking Gregory with them. Rose settled in Paterson, where she met and married Edward Zakrzewski. Together they had two children, Edward and Isabela. Twelve years later, Gregory at age 17 was killed in an accident in Argentina, having never again seen his Mother.

Rose is survived by her children Alex Zak, Victor Zak, Edward Zakrzewski and Isabela Keys, and several grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her husband Edward in 1988.

No services are planned at this time.

Interment will be at the Calvary Cemetery in Paterson, NJ.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

58 McLean Blvd
Paterson, NJ 07513

Tribute Wall

JA

“ May she rest in Peace... Always a warm welcome, and of course an offer of food and " homemade Kielbasa" when her husband Ed was alive. Good childhood memories!!. My Condolences to her Family

jamie - October 28, 2023 at 08:00 PM

LB

“ Grandma, your contagious laughter, jokes and sayings “strong like bull” “I’m still kickin’ but not too high”... your strength from growing up in Russia/Ukraine then migrating to Italy then America will be missed. You almost hit your 100 year mark. So close. I love you! May you soar with the angels... 🙏❤️ It’s time to rest.



Lara Baldwin - October 27, 2023 at 07:23 PM

AZ

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Anthony Zakrzewski - October 25, 2023 at 07:42 PM

EI

“ Some of Grandma's favorite sayings..

"America"

"You no come by my house"

"Isa" our aunt

"Vicha" our uncle

My favorite she sang and danced to .. "who wear short shorts, my boykie wear short shorts" she was talking about my Dad's short daisy or how we called them daddy duke shorts lol

Grandma, love you so much! Thank you for being there for me thru all the years! Definitely the best Grandma a kid could have!

Edward Zakrzewski III - October 25, 2023 at 10:08 AM

LZ

“ 4 files added to the album Mom and Family



Linda Zak - October 24, 2023 at 11:19 PM

AZ

“ Grandma was always "STRONG LIKE BULL" up until the very end.
We Love You and Miss You, Grandma. May you Rest in Peace.

Anthony Zakrzewski - October 24, 2023 at 11:01 AM

LO

“ Rose was a very friendly person, was almost always outside waiting to talk to a neighbor & very kind. I remember sitting with her on the porch swing & having long conversations. She was a wonderful person. She will be missed. 🙏💜🙏💜🙏

Lorraine - October 23, 2023 at 11:20 PM

LZ

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Linda Zak - October 23, 2023 at 10:15 PM

LZ

Mom spent many years with Isa, being well cared for by her daughter.

Linda Zak - October 23, 2023 at 10:16 PM

LZ

“ Mom (my mother in law) made the best mashed potatoes in the world ! and she made them by the gallon ! Really, enough to feed an army.



Linda Zak - October 23, 2023 at 10:12 PM

LZ

Mom's 90th birthday

Linda Zak - October 23, 2023 at 10:17 PM

DE

“ *My condolences and prayers to the family. May God continue to bless you all.*

Deirdre - October 23, 2023 at 09:45 PM

NS

“ *Sending condolences to my childhood East Main Street friends who's mom I knew from a long time ago.
She is at ultimate peace now in the arms of the LORD! 🕊️
Nick Stefano*

Nick Stefano - October 23, 2023 at 09:34 PM



“ *To the family of rose you have my deepest sympathy I will miss her and always remember all the things I did with her and Isa her daughter sleep in peace much love Katie williams milton and family*

Katie Milton - October 23, 2023 at 08:37 PM