



Marie Marsalli

October 1, 1937 - December 16, 2025

Marie Marsalli, age 88 of Kankakee, passed away, Tuesday, December 16, 2025, at her home. She was born on October 1, 1937, in Kankakee, the daughter of Lorenzo and Maria Rosa (Lera) Marsalli.

Marie was a graduate of Kankakee High School.

Marie was a charter member of St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church in Kankakee and a former parishioner of St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church.

Marie was employed at Valspar Corporation (and its predecessor companies) for 47 years as a Regional Human Relations/Benefit Administrator.

She was a member of the Americo Vespucci Lodge #1722, Order Sons, and Daughters of Italy in America and served as President. Marie served as President of the Grand Lodge of Illinois/Wisconsin, Order Sons, and Daughters of Italy in America and President of the Illinois Sons of Italy Foundation. Marie was awarded the inaugural Spirit Award and the Leonardo da Vinci Award of Excellence by the Grand Lodge of Illinois/Wisconsin, Order Sons, and Daughters of Italy in America.

Marie volunteered at the YMCA and served as a Kankakee County Election Judge both at the County Clerk's Office and polling places. She received an Outstanding Volunteer in Kankakee County Award.

Marie enjoyed shopping with her sisters; having coffee at Starbucks; going to the casino and travelling on cruise ships. She enjoyed spending quality time with her family and friends. Marie visited relatives in Italy on several occasions and travelled to Italy, Spain, Portugal, Russia, Germany, Holland, Sicily, Egypt,

and Copenhagen. With her parents, she was able to visit their hometown in Italy (Lucca) for three months and meet 106 relatives (Aunts, Uncles, and Cousins) for the first time. She sailed on the Christopher Columbus ship of the Italian Lines.

Surviving are one sister, Theresa (Joseph) Giacchino of Bradley; four nephews, Michael Gierke, Joseph (Julie) Giacchino and Jerome (Sue) Giacchino all of Bourbonnais, James (Candace) Giacchino of Clarksville, TN: ten great nephews and nieces, Mason (Jennifer) Gierke, Mitchell Gierke, Jenna Marie (Matthew) Brooks, Juliane (Jonathan) Anderson, Justin (Kristin) Giacchino, Anne (Max) Diaz, Maria Giacchino, Nathan (Danae) Giacchino, Jarrett (Gretchen) Giacchino, Alyssa Rose Giacchino; thirteen great great nephews and nieces, Kello Brooks, Giabella Brooks, Veda Brooks, Avery Anderson, Harper Anderson, Isla Giacchino, Dominic Diaz, Luca Giacchino, Alexander Diaz, Irene Diaz, Vincent Giacchino, Gianna Giacchino, Juliana Giacchino; and numerous cousins in Italy, Denver, and Canada.

Marie is preceded in death by her parents; one sister and brother-in-law, Lola (Harold) Gierke; one nephew, Ronald Gierke; and one niece-in-law, Mary Gierke.

A funeral Mass will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, December 22, 2025, at St. John Paul II, West Campus, Kankakee. Interment will follow at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Kankakee.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, donors wishes, or Masses.

Cemetery Details

Mount Calvary Cemetery

2000 E. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

DEC **22**. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. John Paul II - West Campus
953 South 9th Avenue
Kankakee, IL 60901

Tribute Wall

JG

“ Our condolences to Marie’s family and friends. Marie worked along side our dad Ted Tusinski at the Kankakee Mobil/Valspar plant for many, many years. Dad always talked highly of Marie. She was such a regarded friend, and great help to our dad over the years. After our dad passed away, Marie called to personally comfort me. She was a very special person, and will be missed by many. 🙏🏻✝️

Judy Tusinski Grumish - December 20, 2025 at 12:32 PM

SC

“ I am going to miss this beautiful soul. She was my neighbor. She had the most beautiful smile 😊



Sylvia Cox - December 19, 2025 at 02:31 PM

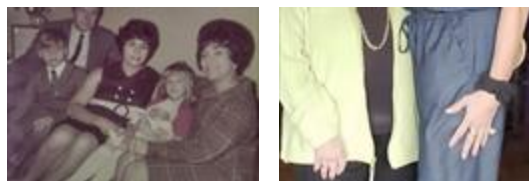
KM

“ Sending my love across the miles. Marie, my middle-namesake. My Godmother. One of the few people that made my 5'5" frame seem tall. Even though you always exhibited a calmness, you were a strong, independent woman that traveled the world and was in charge. My memories of Holiday visits to your home with Mom & Dad- first as a kid who always said that your tap water tasted so good and better than our tap water...and then as I got older and Marie making roasted chesnuts and frozen peaches as ice cubes in a sparkling drink--maybe Asti Spumonte. You never forgetting to send a Birthday and Christmas card--no matter where my new address would take me. I even got your Birthday card this Decmeber, about a week ago. I wish we could have had 1 more get together--maybe a cappuccino at Sbux. You were always the fan and collector of Angels. Now you will be among those Angels. And now I will have 1 more Guardian Angel looking over me. Sending love always, Kellie Marie xo

Kellie Marsalli - December 18, 2025 at 09:06 AM

KM

“ Sending my love across the miles. Marie, my middle-namesake. My Godmother. One of the few people that made my 5'5" frame seem tall. Even though you always exhibited a calmness, you were a strong, independent woman that traveled the world and was in charge. My memories of Holiday visits to your home with Mom & Dad- first as a kid who always said that your tap water tasted so good and better than our tap water...and then as I got older and Marie making roasted chesnuts and frozen peaches as ice cubes in a sparkling drink--maybe Asti Spumonte. You never forgetting to send a Birthday and Christmas card--no matter where my new address would take me. I even got your Birthday card this Decmeber, about a week ago. I wish we could have had 1 more get together--maybe a cappuccino at Sbox. You were always the fan and collector of Angels. Now you will be among those Angels. And now I will have 1 more Guardian Angel looking over me. Sending love always, Kellie Marie xo



Kellie Marsalli - December 18, 2025 at 09:06 AM

KM

“ Kellie Marsalli lit a candle in memory of Marie Marsalli



Kellie Marsalli - December 18, 2025 at 08:32 AM



“ Pam Gall lit a candle in memory of Marie Marsalli



Pam Gall - December 17, 2025 at 10:53 PM

KC

“ With love and remembrance we share in your sorrow.
Marie was our neighbor and we will miss her. She always made time for a soft hello and a big beautiful smile. A very lovely lady and delightful neighbor she will be missed.



Kelly Cooper - December 17, 2025 at 12:17 PM

JG

“ Jerome & Sue Giacchino lit a candle in memory of Marie Marsalli



Jerome & Sue Giacchino - December 17, 2025 at 03:31 AM

MD

“ I will surely miss her sweet smiling face at the Starbucks drive thru. She was so lovely, kind, and delightful! She is home with Jesus. What better place could she be? My sincere condolences and love to Joe, Justin, and all your family.

Marie Delabre - December 16, 2025 at 07:56 PM

JG

“ *Joseph Giacchino lit a candle in memory of Marie Marsalli*



Joseph Giacchino - December 16, 2025 at 07:23 PM