



Rosemarie A. Roesch

October 20, 1942 - May 22, 2025

Albany, NY - Rosemarie A. Roesch, age 82 and lifelong resident of Albany, died peacefully on May 22, 2025, at Our Lady of Mercy Life Center. Rosemarie was the daughter of the late Albert C. and Helen G. (Denahan) Roesch.

After graduating from Academy of the Holy Names, Rosemarie earned bachelor's and master's degrees in education from the College of St. Rose. Rosemarie taught kindergarten and 2nd grade for most of her career at School 19, now New Scotland Elementary, her neighborhood school. She was a beloved and dedicated K-6 teacher in the Albany school district for 36 years. Gardening, reading and following the political scene were her avocations and she was a member of a teachers' bowling league at Del Lanes.

She enjoyed many vacations on Cape Cod and trips to Italy and Sanibel Island, FL with friends as well as trips to Massachusetts and the Pacific Northwest to visit her sister's family. Friends and neighbors enjoyed her Halloween and Christmas porch displays as well as her beautiful flowers. They will always remember her for her kindness, intelligence and helpfulness and her generosity to neighborhood children.

Rosemarie is survived by her sister, Marilyn G. (Roesch) Colliton and her nieces Valerie J. Colliton and Kimberly A. (Colliton) Oakes and her nephew

Terrance C. Colliton and lovingly remembered by her many grand-nieces and nephews.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit Wednesday, June 4, 2025 9:30 am to 10:30 at the Parish of Mater Christi, 40 Hopewell Street (Rev. Kenneth J. Doyle Way), Albany, NY 12208. Her Funeral Mass will follow at 10:30 am.

The Rite of Committal will be held at Our Lady of Angels Cemetery immediately following the Mass.

To leave a message please visit www.McveighFuneralHome.com

Donations in memory of Rosemarie may be made to the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society, 3 Oakland Ave., Menands, NY 12204

Cemetery Details

Our Lady of Angels Cemetery

1389 Central Ave
Albany, NY

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 4. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Parish of Mater Christi
40 Hopewell Street (Rev. Kenneth J. Doyle Way)
Albany, NY 12208

Funeral Mass

JUN 4. 10:30 AM (ET)

Parish of Mater Christi
40 Hopewell Street (Rev. Kenneth J. Doyle Way)
Albany, NY 12208

Tribute Wall



“ *McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Rosemarie A. Roesch*



McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc. - June 03, 2025 at 03:02 PM

“ EULOGY BY BETTY AND MARY BETH SULLIVAN PART 1

I am Betty Sullivan, a former neighbor and friend to Rosemarie for 46 years. The family asked me and my daughter, Mary Beth Sullivan, to speak about Rosemarie's life. Rosemarie moved to 45 Ramsey Place in 1952, when she was 10 years old. She moved there with her father's twin sisters, Frances and Marie, and her father Albert. I never learned much about Rosemarie's mother and Rosemarie always said her aunts were like a mother to her. By 2025, Rosemarie spent 73 years in her home and never wanted to move from it. It was the house and neighborhood where she grew up and the neighborhood where she taught Kindergarten and second grade. It was her world, and she was the queen of Ramsey Place. She was an avid flower gardener in her front yard with beautiful hanging petunia baskets and lovely crocuses, daffodils, tulips, pansies and mums. Her back yard vegetable garden had to be abandoned due to the shade of the neighbors' trees, but she soon became a fan of the Bethlehem Farmers Market for fruits and vegetables, and especially crepes from Four Corners Luncheonette.

Rosemarie lived alone for about 45 years. Her sister, Lynn, brother-in-law, Ron, two nieces, Valerie and Kim, and a nephew, Terry, lived in eastern Massachusetts. Kim later married and moved near Seattle, WA. They lovingly called Rosemarie, Rosa. However, if anyone called Rosemarie Rosemary, she vehemently corrected them stating that her name was Rosemarie.

Rosemarie's greatest professional love was teaching kindergarten. She showered neighborhood children with Halloween treats and Christmas presents, not to mention presents for special occasions. The children and their families became her local family as she celebrated many milestones with them. Rosemarie retired in 2002 after 36 years of teaching. There is a song by Frank Sinatra called My Way. Whenever I hear that song, I will always think of Rosemarie.

“EULOGY BY BETTY AND MARY BETH SULLIVAN PART 2:
Mary Beth will now relate memories from Rosemarie’s two nieces,
Valerie and Kim and her nephew, Terry:

Rosemarie was our Aunt, the only sibling to our Mom, and our “only” aunt.

Our earliest memories of Rosemarie at 45 Ramsey were visits for Christmas and Thanksgiving. Valerie recalled her grandfather Albert, “Poppy,” smoking his pipe in the family room chair, and his two twin sisters, Frances and Marie (grand aunts), rushing about getting the Christmas dinner. For summertime visits Terry said they would trek to Thatcher State Park for picnics, Lake George and get saltwater taffy and sometimes Hoffman’s Playland. Rosemarie had two feline companions that she loved dearly. One was a beautiful large, long-haired white cat named Princess and later another cat, Jo-Jo, a short-haired black cat. Rosemarie also had tropical fish, a bunny and a guinea pig! Terry would love to sneak into Rosemarie’s room, go through the closet and climb the stairs to the attic and explore, until he was caught.

Christmas was a magical time for Rosemarie. Her indoor tree was meticulously decorated and her outdoor trees always had white lights.

She did not live extravagantly, but she did spend generously on her family spoiling everyone with mountains of gifts throughout the year.

At Christmas time she would send 3 huge boxes stuffed with carefully wrapped and labeled gifts and yummy treats for Kim’s entire family including gifts for the dog and cats! There was always so much excitement on Christmas morning when it came time to open the boxes from Rosemarie.

Terry remembers that she was consistent with great presents every Christmas, sometimes the same gift to him and his two sisters. He still uses the Vitamix blender that they ALL got in order to make

smoothies.

Rosemarie drove to visit the family in Massachusetts for holidays, birthdays, graduations, weddings, and Mother's Day. Halloween was one of her favorite holidays. Valerie remembered one time, we were trick or treating on our street, and Rosemarie joined in and wore a metallic silver space suit costume. She also loved a good horror movie, and took delight watching us scream at the scary parts. That would make her laugh!

Once we became adults, Rosemarie celebrated Christmas with her friends. For Thanksgiving she would drive to Massachusetts. She enjoyed seeing all of us cooking up a storm. There was always too much food for our small family. Rosemarie insisted on bringing many of her favorite "traditional" dishes such as marshmallow sweet potatoes, and a ham. She brought pies from Grandma's in Albany.

She also joined the family on several vacations. Our Mom and Dad bought an oceanfront condo in Florida, decorated in white and purple. We called it the Purple Spa and Rosemarie thought it was so beautiful. She loved the ocean in general. Her other favorite ocean destination was Orleans in Cape Cod. She would rent a place there in the summer to share with us and her friends. She enjoyed going out to the nearby restaurants and the sandy beaches. When Kim and her family moved from Massachusetts to the state of Washington, Rosemarie "encouraged" Valerie to arrange for a family visit. So, she did, and once there, rented a minivan to travel from Kim's home in Washington down the Oregon coastline. Rosemarie was glad to have had the experience with the family.

We will miss our "only aunt" Rosemarie's visits and think of her fondly on the holidays that she cherished so much. Valerie said she will think of her when she is tending to her own garden and enjoying the flowers in bloom. Terry said that he imagines Rosa looking down at them and smiling as she reflects on her full and joyful life, enhanced by her giving and empathy for others.

Elizabeth Sullivan - June 27, 2025 at 01:38 PM

“ EULOGY BY BETTY AND MARY BETH SULLIVAN PART 3:

Memories from other friends:

Dana Mahoney knew Rosemarie from the time they went to the Academy of Holy Names together. She said that Rosemarie was always ready for fun and was ready to try anything new. In her thirties Rosemarie fell in love with Cape Cod. She loved local church suppers and at one time could tell you when each church held their supper and what was being served. She did not like to cook but would entertain friends. She once carved a turkey on a VERY SHAKY TV table. She finally got someone to hold it steady for her! She loved live theater and had season passes to Capital Rep.

Joan Kehoe knew Rosemarie for over 30 years. She, Dana Mahoney, Barbara Urban, Marc Lustick and Peter Kehoe had many good times together, especially at Marc's vacation home at Brandt Lake. In her younger days, Rosemarie was a great lover of the outdoors and camping. She owned a tent and went horseback riding. Some of her favorite local things to do in summer were to go swimming at the Kenholm Pool in Delmar and go for ice cream at the Jericho Drive In. Each Christmas time, many of us received a very beautiful specially ordered Christmas Card with a painting of the Blessed Virgin Mary on the front. I think Rosemarie had a special devotion to our Blessed Mother because she always wore a gold Miraculous Medal and had purchased one for her sister, Lynn. She also carried rosary beads in her purse. Prior to COVID, she regularly attended Mass and especially liked Father John Tallman because he was "brief and to the point." After Rosemarie's hospitalizations in February, March and April, her main goal was to return to her house no matter what. She fought very hard to continue her independent life in her own house on her terms. This was the house she had known for 72 years, and this was the house of family love, most especially from her father. In closing, I will read an entry in her own handwriting which I found in her very special blue address/notebook:

9/3/2008 Cape Cod

This morning, I walked into town (E. Orleans). After stops at Dory's and Fancy's, I started back to the cottage. About halfway there, I noticed two rose pink asters growing by the road-side, one large and one small together. I stopped and glanced back at them and felt comforted because they were a favorite flower of my father. He always called them China asters, and I have always planted some in my garden each spring. I really believe they were a message from my father since I had been feeling depressed lately and thought of him often – and here they were, in my favorite color, rose/pink, one big, one little – me and my dad: Big Dutch and Little Dutch!

I believe that Rosemarie was called to our heavenly home by Jesus and that she will be pain free and happy by being reunited with her father, aunts, her friend Vivian Golub and others whose love she enjoyed on earth.

Elizabeth Sullivan - June 27, 2025 at 01:35 PM

ES

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Elizabeth Sullivan - June 25, 2025 at 04:24 PM

KK

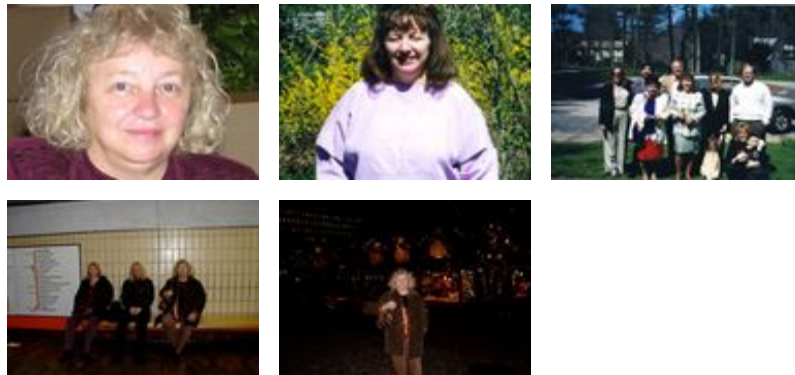
“ *Deepest sympathy and prayers to all of Rosemarie's family. Rosemarie was such a sweet woman. She was an active member in our local College of Saint Rose alumni chapter, attending many events - including our final luncheon at the College. May she be at peace in Heaven.*

Kathy Kieffer, former President of the Capital District Alumni Chapter

Kathy Kieffer - June 04, 2025 at 11:06 AM



“ *160 files added to the album LifeTributes*



McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc. - June 03, 2025 at 02:58 PM

MK

“ *Sending loving condolences to Rosemarie's family- and to her many friends and former students.*

We've been neighbors for 42 years, and her lovely flowers and decorations have always brightened up the block.

She will be missed.

Margaret Lamar King - June 03, 2025 at 07:14 AM

DK

“ Rosemarie was a lovely neighbor. She was very pleasant and we had interesting conversations. We will miss her. We wish her a peaceful eternal rest. Sincerely, Dolly and Sally Kipper

Darlane C Kipper - June 02, 2025 at 04:32 PM

JV

“ The St. Teresa of Avila class of 1954 offers sincere condolences to the family of our classmate Rosemarie. RIP

Jim Venter - June 02, 2025 at 02:38 PM

LL

“ We remember well and fondly our children's kindergarten teacher.



Leo and Martha Levy - June 02, 2025 at 12:44 PM

AK

“ Ms. Roesch was my Kindergarten and 2nd grade teacher at School 19. Great teacher and sad to hear about her passing. May her memory be a blessing.

Andrew M Katz - June 01, 2025 at 08:04 PM

TC

“ 29 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Terry Colliton - June 01, 2025 at 07:15 PM

HO

“ Rosemarie was my best friend when we were in high school and we remained friends over all these years. She and I both loved our cats and an occasional horse back ride. I wish I could have been there for her these last few months. Helen (Goes) O'Donnell

Helen (Goes) O'Donnell - June 01, 2025 at 12:12 PM

TC

“ 25 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Terry Colliton - May 31, 2025 at 08:44 PM

MG

I met Rosemarie through the Capital District Chapter of the College of St. Rose Alumni Luncheon Series. Enjoyed our conversations which could get deep into subjects including topics on which Christmas tree she should get. The photo of her tree is quite spectacular. She will be missed.

Midge Consler '63, G'67 - June 01, 2025 at 09:51 AM

TC

“ 79 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Terry Colliton - May 31, 2025 at 01:55 PM

VC

“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Valerie Colliton - May 31, 2025 at 01:14 PM

DD

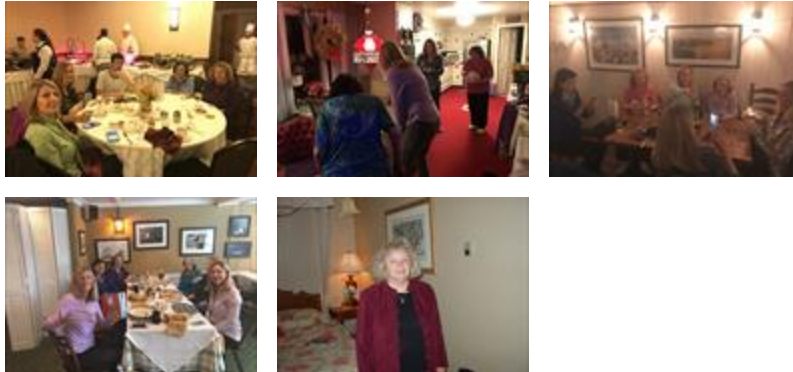
“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Deborah Dennis - May 31, 2025 at 08:44 AM

TC

“ 24 files added to the album Life Tributes



Terry Colliton - May 31, 2025 at 08:34 AM

VC

“ 1 file added to the album Life Tributes



Valerie Colliton - May 30, 2025 at 08:52 PM

TC

“ 4 files added to the album first_album



Terry Colliton - May 30, 2025 at 04:27 PM