



Giuliana Pasquini

July 21, 1924 - January 10, 2021

Giuliana was a friendly, vivacious, exuberant woman who had an extraordinary life until her passing on January 10, 2021. Born July 21, 1924, in the small village of Santa Lucia in the Tuscany region of Italy, she was the first of five children born to Guido Pagni and Alma Bianucci. As the eldest, she was expected to contribute to the household, and, by age 12, was working at her father's hat-making business.

A few years later, the family moved to Spazzavento, where Giuliana caught the eye of Ferruccio (Fred) Pasquini, and they eventually married. It is doubtful they had any idea of the adventure that lay ahead of them. Post-WWII Italy was a difficult place to find work. An ocean away, in Argentina, however, labor was in short supply. So Giuliana and Ferruccio set sail in June 1947 while Giuliana was 9 months pregnant. On their third day at sea, she gave birth to their first son, Enrico (Henry).

They soon settled in their new country and found friends among the many other Italian immigrants. When work was over, fun began in a social-club atmosphere where they held parties, had dinners and danced. Everyone knew that Giuliana and Ferruccio were the smoothest on the dance floor.

As much as they enjoyed their years in Argentina, the possibilities in America were their real goal. Under the sponsorship of an uncle living in the Bay Area,

the family was able to immigrate and arrived in Visalia in January 1958. The Pasquinis joined the Sons of Italy, which provided ample opportunities for Fred and Giuliana to find community and dance. With most of their family still in Italy, they made lifelong friends who became their "second families," and with whom they shared many holidays. Giuliana's family grew by one more child when Mark, her second son, was born in 1962.

Giuliana's passions were family, food, and faith, all of which she put into service to others. She was an excellent cook who always had biscotti at the ready should an unexpected guest arrive. She wanted her dinner guests to have their fill, often scooping more food onto their plates before she asked if they wanted more, but seconds were seldom refused. Giuliana was active in her church, volunteering for many years with the St. Mary's Altar and Rosary Society. She found the perfect job for an energetic lady who loved to cook: she worked in the Visalia Unified School District Central Kitchen, preparing meals for students. In the summers, she volunteered for St. Mary's Vacation Bible School, where she again prepared meals for children. When she retired from VUSD in 1992, she began volunteering as a Pink Lady for Kaweah Delta Hospital and especially loved the opportunity to wheel out discharged mothers with their newborns. In between time, she knitted countless afghans and lap robes which were donated to patients and others sold in the gift shop.

In the spring of 2014, nearing her 90th birthday, she had a fall that forced her to retire as a Pink Lady and finally take a rest. Even then, as Giuliana herself needed help, she would continue to ask from her wheelchair how she could help her caregivers when it came time to cook.

Giuliana was predeceased by Fred, her husband of 70 years, in 2017, and her brother Sergio. She is survived by three siblings in Italy, sisters Mara and Grazziana, and brother, Liberio. She leaves behind her two sons, Henry (Susan) and Mark (Kim); four grandsons, David (Monica), Daniel (Yvonne),

Giancarlo (Rosalinda) and Luca; and three great-grandchildren, Michela, Dominic, and Louis.

We are grateful to the dedicated caregivers who for nearly seven years provided care and companionship: Lou, Zenaida, Lourdes, Carmen, Maria, Teresa, Lupita, and Cora.

A Mass of Resurrection will be held outside, at Holy Family Church on Saturday, February 6, at 9am, followed by private burial.

Services have been entrusted to Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel. Memorial Tributes and condolences may be offered by logging onto www.salseranddillard.com.

Previous Events

Mass of Christian Burial

FEB 6. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (PT)

Holy Family Catholic Church
1908 N. Court St.
Visalla, CA

Tribute Wall

BM

“ *Stephen and I are both very sorry to hear of your Mom's passing. Stephen has been so fond of your family (families) with times and memories since grammar school. I remember so fondly when she worked at Royal Oaks cafeteria. I enjoyed daily conversations as I brought my class in for lunch. She will be remembered by many so fondly. Best to you,
Beth and Stephen McAuliff*

Beth and Stephen McAuliff - February 18, 2021 at 01:02 PM