



# Joan DeRosa

NOV 4, 1930 - JAN 9, 2022



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## **Joan DeRosa**

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**J**oan Kelly DeRosa, age 91, of West Mifflin PA (formerly of Donora PA), passed peacefully with her family on Sunday, January 9, 2022. Wife of 69 years to her beloved husband Nick DeRosa. Mother of Mary Ellen (Arnold) Rotruck, Debbie (Robert) Dukic, Lora (Ken) Rochester and preceded in death by her beloved son, A.J. DeRosa. Grandmother of 7 grandchildren, Megan (Alex) Poplawsky, Kelly (Greg) Huff, Dana ( Ben) Werner, Adam (Claire) Rotruck, Alex Rotruck, Sara Rochester, and John Rochester. Great-grandmother of 7 great grandchildren Scarlett, Eve, Brooks, Bennett, Nate, Jaxson, and Levi. Sister of the late Arthur Kelly and sisters in-law, Lois Kelly, and the late Norma (DeRosa) Rach. Daughter of her late Regis Kelly and Loretta Fesemeyer Kelly. Joan is also survived by many nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

Joan was a graduate of Donora High School in Donora, Pennsylvania. While there, she was a cheerleader and even landed the lead role in her class play. This is where she met the love of her life, Nick (Perk). She graduated from Mercy School of Nursing as an R.N. After marrying her high school sweetheart, they moved to North Carolina, where Nick was stationed as a Marine. Joan worked as a nurse at Mon Valley School, Head Start, and Family Practice. She often played the role of the neighborhood nurse, too. As one of the founding members of Holy Spirit Church, Joan has a strong relationship with God and dedicated a lot of her time as a CCD teacher and a Eucharistic minister. Among all of these things, she was also an active member of the Lebanon Women's Club, where she served on the Scholarship Committee. Other hobbies included playing cards in four different card clubs and golfing. Joan continued her passion for life during her retirement as she enjoyed traveling with family and friends. Some of their travel adventures landed them in Italy, Ireland, Hawaii, Alaska, Bermuda and the Caribbean. They also spent 15 years as snow birds in Florida during the winter months. Joan was involved in many wonderful activities, but time with her adoring family was her absolute favorite.



## Obituary

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Family and friends are welcomed on Wednesday, January 12, 2022 from 2 pm to 4 pm and 6 pm to 8 pm at the Jefferson Memorial Funeral Home, 301 Curry Hollow Road. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Thursday, January 13 at 10 am at Triumph of the Holy Cross Parish, Holy Spirit worship site, 2603 Old Elizabeth Rd., West Mifflin, PA 15122.

Interment at Lebanon Church Cemetery next to her dear son A.J.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in memory of Joan to UPMC Mercy School of Nursing, 1401 Boulevard of the Allies, Pittsburgh PA 15219, 412-232-7950.

Online condolences may be shared at [www.jeffersonmemorial.com](http://www.jeffersonmemorial.com)



## Tribute Wall

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JP

**Jo Ann Paradise** posted:

Joan was a faithful member of our Bible Study for at least 20 years. God's love and goodness poured out of her beautiful smile. Yet, it is her dedication to learning about God and his Word is what I will most remember. And that was always coupled to how this was being handed down to young people. Her concern that her grandchildren and great grandchildren would know our Lord and live as his disciples was driven by her love for them. The desire to give them a meaningful Confirmation or Fort Communion gift led to many discussions. We have missed Joan for a while know but are confident that she will be present to us in our Monday mornings and has found a group of members that have gone before her as she takes her place in the communion of saints. And we will hold her in memory and love always. Jo Ann Paradise

January 26 at 7:16 AM

RM

**Robert Moses** posted:

Our deepest sympathies to Nick and family on this tremendous loss at this time may she Rest In Peace Bob & Helen Moses

January 13 at 8:12 AM

SR

**Susan Restagno** posted:

Nick and family, My deepest sympathy for your loss. It was my pleasure to not only work with Joan at Family Practice, but to be a friend for many years. We shared many laughs and tears. Joan was loved by many and touched many lives. I'll always remember her smile and her kindness. Her memory will always be in my heart. Love and peace dear friend, Susan Restagno

January 12 at 8:30 AM

LR

**Lauren Robinson** posted:

When I first met Nick and Joan, being welcomed with Nick's huge smile and Joan's sweet little greeting \"Hello\", I knew I was blessed, being allowed into their loving family.

January 11 at 3:57 PM

BK

**Barbara Kahlson** posted:

Fond memories

January 11 at 10:51 AM



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BK

**Barbara Kahlson** posted:

We have so many wonderful memories of Joanie. For many years we lived down the street from DeRosas at 752. She will always be in my memories and prayers. I have many thoughts of spending time with her when AJ was so ill. Also as a fellow nurse, we shared many thoughts. We got to know each other's families well There are so many memories, it would take too long to recount them. Suffice to say, our whole family loved and revered Joanie. God bless her and her wonderful husband and family!!

January 11 at 9:51 AM

SM

**Stephen May** posted:

Sending love to Perk, and to the DeRosas, Kellys, Fesemeyers, and all of the many people whose lives were touched by Joan. (It's impossible for me to see a picture of Joan and not think of my grandmother, Rose Geraldine Fesemeyer Russell.)

January 11 at 8:44 AM

MM

**Mary Madelyn Miess** posted:

Always joyful, kind and caring. Exceptional mother and beautiful soul. We were all blessed to have her touch our lives! Love you (Cis Russell) AKA Russell, Ardisson/Huber/Miess 🥹

January 11 at 7:37 AM

AM

**Andy McGeever** posted:

Mr. Derosa I'm so sorry for your loss and pain you were was a great husband all the way to the end. I respect you very much for being there for your wife. She was a wonderful person and neighbor when I grew up. I spoke with her and yourself a few years ago and she treated me with love and respect. You and your family members have my deepest sympathy for your loss of a wife, mom and great grandmother. I believe you still have my phone number give me a call if you ever need someone to talk with. I'm sorry I won't be attending the service due to the Covid. Your neighbor, student, and friend. Andy McGeever 🙏

January 11 at 7:23 AM

TD

**Tessa, Maura, Emily And Dina** posted:

We are so sorry for your loss, Megan and family. You are all in our thoughts.

January 11 at 6:46 AM



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LD

**Lana Disalvo** posted:

Dear Nick, Mary Ellen, Debbie, Lora and families, Vito and I were saddened to hear about the loss of your beloved wife and mother. Although we cannot be with you, please know our prayers and sympathy are with you all. Joan had an infectious smile and twinkle in her eyes that made anyone who would come in contact with her smile immediately. All our love and prayers. Vito and Lana

January 11 at 5:10 AM

TS

**Tribute Store** posted:

With Our Love and Prayers, Ruth, Tom, Maribeth, Jane and Family

January 10 at 4:08 PM

TF

**The Art Fesemyer Family** posted:

We have such fond memories of Joanie. You have our deepest sympathy. Love, Your Ohio Fesemyer Cousins

January 10 at 12:19 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Joan by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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