



# Cecilia Bertini

MAY 16, 1934 - FEB 28, 2025



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## **Cecilia Bertini**

MAY 16, 1934 - FEB 28, 2025

**C**ecilia B (Hoffee) Bertini, 90 of Pleasant Hills passed away suddenly February 28, 2025 in her home. She was born May 16, 1934 in Martin's Ferry, OH. In 1938 she and her parents moved to Clairton, PA. She graduated in 1952 from Clairton High School. She was a faithful member of (the former) St. Paulinus Catholic Church where she received a partial scholarship to Duquesne University. She graduated from the D.U. School of Education (Bachelors in Secondary Ed.) in 1956 and after her student teaching accepted a position at Clairton High School, where she soon after met her husband Richard A. Bertini. The two married in 1960 and moved to Pleasant Hills where they both resided for the rest of their lives. She retired from Clairton High School in 2000, where she was honored for many years as Teacher of the Year.

She was preceded in death by her brother Eugene Hoffee, son David Bertini, Mother, Elizabeth Ann Celia (Husvar) Hoffee, father Virgil J. Hoffee, and husband Richard A. Bertini. She is survived by her son John F. Bertini, grandchildren Isabella Grace Bertini & Jacob Aaron Bertini, nephew Richard (Tina) McMonagle, Nephew Keith (Kathy) McMonagle and Goddaughter (Niece) Trudi (Ken) Sandri. Grandnieces Kelly(Scott) Winovich, Merissa (Rick) Hayden, Katy (Zack) Puskar, Mira Cunic and Calista Hayden. Grand nephews Kevin McMonagle, Brendan (Kristen) McMonagle, Lee Timko and Petros McMonagle, as well as many other family and friends.

Her passions were her husband, children, grandchildren and family. She loved knowledge, reading, music, history, the US Legal system and learning. She was a strong advocate of higher education. She was small in stature but feisty and determined in life. A devoted wife, mother, grandmother, aunt, and friend, she will be deeply missed.

Friends and family will be received on Friday, March 7, 2025 from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm at the Jefferson Memorial Funeral Home, 301 Curry Hollow Road, Pittsburgh, 15236. A Blessing Service will be held on Saturday, March 8 at 10:00 am in the funeral home's chapel. Burial to follow in Jefferson Memorial Park.



## Obituary

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In lieu of flowers please send donations to the Salvation Army, Amvets, or the charity of your choosing.

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



## Tribute Wall

**Cecilia Bertini**

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SF

**Sonia (Gallaway) Ewell And Family** sent a Medium Dish Garden to the Bertini family.

March 7 at 8:56 AM



DK

**David And Angella Kerns** sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Bertini family.

March 6 at 5:18 PM



FF

**From Lisa Ferer** sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Bertini family.

March 6 at 12:44 PM



**Mary Cisco** posted:

I had the great fortune to be a student of hers. She was truly my favorite teacher at CHS and I learned so much from her. I think that the greatest gift she gave me was the appreciation of the English language. Because of her I learned how to complete a term paper from start to finish. She took the time to break it up into manageable sections and gave us guidance and feedback during every step. I truly appreciated this so much when I took my English class in college. I remembered the process that she taught me and it made it so much easier. RWG Mrs. Bertini. Thank you for your dedication to me, as well as all of the other lives you touched at CHS.

March 5 at 3:40 PM



**Tammy Dell** lit a candle in honor of Cecilia.

March 5 at 11:22 AM





# Tribute Wall

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**Tammy Dell** posted:

She was more than a teacher. She was a very friend. When I was a senior in high school we had to do a report to graduate. I didn't want to because I was so nervous it was a lot of directions and information. She took me under her wing and step by step showed me how to research what I needed and taught me how to put into words with my research. I graduated with. B+ because of her Patience and time. My husband said she was patient and understanding with him too. She was his neighbor and welcomed him and his family anytime. My mom and all of us kept in touch with her. She will definitely be greatly missed. She has a special place in Heaven with her husband and family. Rest With GOD. 🙏😭

March 5 at 11:19 AM



**Jana, Andy, Annmarie & Katie Graham** sent a Small Garden Dish to the Bertini family.



March 4 at 10:11 PM



**Jana, Andy, Annmarie & Katie Graham** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Cecilia.



March 4 at 10:11 PM



**Ruth Walters** posted:

Cecilia Hoffee began her career at CHS while I was working in the school district's administrative office. I remember her as being a petite, beautifully dressed woman with the highest heeled shoes I had ever seen. She and Dick Bertini were courting at the time and then I lost track of them when I left my secretarial position to become a wife and mother. This was in 1962. It is heartwarming to read all the loving comments from her former students and what a great impact she made on so many young people's lives. Rest in peace, Cecilia, and say hello to husband Dick from an old high school band member. May they both be lovingly together now for eternity.

March 4 at 6:35 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Cecilia Bertini**

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BF

**Bobbie Gates Flagg** posted:

Mrs. Bertini was a very quiet neighbor. I want to point out that I called her Mrs. Bertini and her husband Mr. Bertini because our parents taught us that adults were "Mr. & Mrs." out of respect. I got to know her when I was a pre-teen so many years ago. (I'm now in my 70s, so I don't remember too many details of my visiting with her every Friday when Mr. Bertini would go off to play music.) I remember she loved to bake, and we would make treats, especially chocolate chip cookies-- which were my favorite. I also remember thinking what a beautiful, well-dressed woman she was. Our family lived across the street, and we were amazed at how she regularly mowed the lawn on her very steep hillside. Then she must have decided that was too difficult, and one by one placed rocks on the entire hillside. What a hot and tiring chore! (She was ecological before that became a thing.) My youngest sister knows her son, but I moved away in 1969. She came to our mom's funeral, and I saw that she was still a distinguished-looking woman. I know that she will be missed by many in the neighborhood. Bobbie Gates Flagg

March 4 at 5:58 PM

MR

**Michael Ramseur** lit a candle in honor of Cecilia.

I would go and visit Mrs Bertini at the start of my summer breaks in college and before HS was finished for the summer. She would make me sit in the seat that I had in her class and she would come and sit next to me and talk to me about life and things that were important for success. I last saw her in 2014 when Mr. Bertini passed away. She told me that she was proud of my accomplishments, and I told her that nothing could've happened without her and the education and support that she provided. I'm glad she was able to see the finished product that she helped create. 10th grade English 11th Grade Creative Writing 12th grade English and Creative Writing RIP Mrs Bertini.....job well done.



March 4 at 5:45 PM

SC

**Sam Capane** posted:

Deepest condolences on your loss

March 4 at 5:11 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Cecilia Bertini**

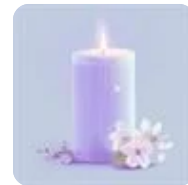
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MB

**Mavis Booker** lit a candle in honor of Cecilia.

I saw her in Giant Eagle about a month ago and we talked for about 30 minutes. I am so thankful I got to hug her that day and tell her I loved her and how she (and Mr. Bertini) impacted my life!! She was one of the BEST teachers at Clairton High School, and my favorite teacher!! Rest well Mrs. Bertini!! You will never be forgotten!! 😭💔. Prayers to her son and grands!! 🙏🙏

March 4 at 1:51 PM



RD

**Robert Drnach** lit a candle in honor of Cecilia.

What a wonderful teacher and friend who really impacted my life. You will be missed.

March 4 at 10:59 AM



BS

**Barbara S.** sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the Bertini family.

March 4 at 10:36 AM



LS

**Laurel Smith** lit a candle in honor of Cecilia.

She was definitely one of the very best teachers Clairton ever had. Thank you for all you have given us, Mrs. Bertini. You will be missed.

March 4 at 10:24 AM



GC

**Greg Cheez** posted:

As a student with learning disabilities she was one teacher who never put me down, she built me up and made me believe in myself. I remember her standing me up in front of the class and doing nothing but complimenting me. Truly thankful for her she was a wonderful blessing in my life. And I know she didn't only bless me she blessed many others. Thank you rest easy now and know that you've touched many people in such a positive way.

March 4 at 12:50 AM



## Tribute Wall

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DM

**Debra A Maurizio** posted:

Mrs. Bertini was one of my high school English teachers. I reread the line in her obituary a few times about her being small in stature. I definitely do not recall this as she always commanded the presence, respect and attention of her students. She was firm, but fair and I loved to see the occasional smile she bestowed upon us during class. My deepest sympathy to her family and friends. Debra (Gergley) Maurizio, Class of 1984

March 4 at 12:33 AM

GW

**Gena White** posted:

I remember how impeccable she looked every single day she taught. She would walk into school in a pair of tennis shoes, and change into her heels. She was always very professional, rarely breaking away from that demeanor. Every once and a while, she would chuckle at the shenanigans. One of my fondest memories is when she chased my friend down the hallway in her high heels, and dragged her into the room because she was going to be late for class. I remember it like it was yesterday. She was a tremendous asset to Clairton Education Center. I always admired her quick wit and querk sense of humor. She will held forever in my heart as one of my favorite teachers of all time.

March 4 at 12:08 AM

RG

**Robert Gallaway** posted:

She was one of the best teachers I have ever had in high school. Thank you for your knowledge and wisdom. You will be missed!

March 3 at 9:37 PM

TG

**Thera Gallaway** posted:

What a fabulous educator who always believed in us, telling us we could be who we wanted to be and go to college wherever we wanted to go. She pushed us to excel and reminded us that being from Clairton didn't make us less than. Thank you for the Centerbury Tales, Julius Caesar, and explaining all the words in Lauryn Hill's songs that we didn't know.

March 3 at 7:28 PM



## Tribute Wall

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SM

**Shandrea Mitchell** lit a candle in honor of Cecilia.

Mrs Bertini, one the greatest teachers to teach at Clairton Highschool. My English teacher 10th and 12th grade. She will be missed.

March 3 at 7:20 PM



RW

**Ruth Walters** March 4 at 6:31 PM

Cecilia Hoffee began her career at CHS while I was working in the school district's administrative office. I remember her as being a petite, beautifully dressed woman with the highest heeled shoes I had ever seen. She and Dick Bertini were courting at the time and then I lost track of them when I left my secretarial position to become a wife and mother. This was in 1962. It is heartwarming to read all the loving comments from her former students and what a great impact she made on so many young people's lives. Rest in peace, Cecilia, and say hello to husband Dick from an old high school band member. May they both be lovingly together now for eternity.

KP

**Kristen Powell** March 3 at 11:49 PM

One of my favorite teachers of all time. Truly the best ever! Some people are born to be educators but she was born to be a GREAT educator. I will miss you deeply and I'm sorry we won't get to have lunch with Miss Marzwell like we planned. Say hi to Mr. Bertini for me. Until we meet again. ❤️



# Memories only last if you share them

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



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