



Julia Kerelejza

November 7, 1908 - June 13, 2005

Julia Kerelejza, of Kensington, died unexpectedly Sunday, June 12, at Andrew House Health Center in New Britain at the age of 96. She was the oldest parishioner at St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church in New Britain, and had been an active participant in the life of the church for many years. A choir member for over fifty years, Julia was also active as a member of St. Olga's Sisterhood, and the weekly Doll Workshop group of the Cultural Organization. She had also served as Secretary for the Women's Club for many years.

Julia was born in Pittsburgh, PA in 1908 to John and Josephine Paslowski. Julia met her husband, Joseph B. Kerelejza, through membership in Ukrainian church choirs. After their marriage in 1928, the couple lived in Pittsburgh and Detroit before moving to New Britain in 1933. In her younger years, Julia was heavily in demand as a soloist in the greater Pittsburgh area. Her rich, lyrical soprano voice earned her an invitation to join the world-renowned Koshetz Ukrainian Choir.

Julia retired after many years of service as administrative assistant to the Principal of Smalley School in New Britain. She and her husband enjoyed spending the summers at Green Hill Beach in Rhode Island, traveling extensively throughout Europe and the Far East, and cruising throughout the Caribbean.

Julia's husband died in 1995. She was also predeceased by two sisters, Rose Paslowska and Josephine Kramer, and a brother, Albert Paslow, all of Pittsburgh. Surviving are Julia's daughter, Dr. Joan Kerelejza of Kensington, and her son, Joseph Kerel and his wife, Dorothy, of Newington, and her grandchildren, Christopher Kerel of Newington and Alisa Kerel of New Britain. Also surviving is a sister, Dorothy Bodnar of Pittsburgh; sisters-in-law Helen Ausanka of Southington, and Catherine Kerelejza of Kensington, as well as several nieces and nephews. In addition, she leaves her beloved cat, Lucky.

Julia managed to retain her sharp wit and sense of humor, along with her warmth, positive attitude, and sincere interest in others. Most of all, she was a tender, loving, and devoted mother and grandmother who was loved deeply by her family. She will be sorely missed.

The family expresses its sincere thanks and appreciation to the entire staff at Andrew House. They all deserve much credit for their caring attitude toward their patients. Special thanks to Debbie, Carmen, and Ramon, CNA's of the West Wing, and to Dee Carriere and Ann Papini.

Calling hours at the Carlson Funeral Home, 45 Franklin Square, New Britain, are on Wednesday, June 15, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., with a Panakhyda service at 6:15 p.m. You may also pay your respects at St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 54 Winter Street, New Britain on Thursday, June 16, from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., after which the funeral service will immediately follow. Burial will be in St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Cemetery on Osgood Avenue, New Britain.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations in memory of Mrs. Kerelejza to St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church Elevator Maintenance Fund.

Please share a memory of Julia with her family on our online guestbook by clicking on "GUESTBOOK" at the bottom of this page.

Tribute Wall

AP

“ *She was my long lost aunt Julie.*

I have not been in contact with her since my aunt Rose Paslow a.k.a.Paslowski died in 1984.

I live in Bethel Park, PA with my wife Adele, and my children Brett, Josh & Stormie.

Other relations in the Pittsburgh area include, Stephen Paslow and Carol Elaine Paslow.

She will always live on in memory.

Albert J. Paslow - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SP

God bless the soul of Julia Kerelejza.

Stephen Paslow - March 05, 2021 at 07:39 PM

SP

God bless the soul of Julia Kerelejza.

Stephen Paslow - March 05, 2021 at 07:40 PM

MD

“ *Dear Joan and Family -*

I am so sorry about the passing of such a wonderful woman. She was so sweet. I enjoyed hearing her funny stories about her beloved cat. She had a tremendous amount of love in her heart, which was so easily felt by others. Joan, take care and please know that you and your family are in my thoughts. Love, Maria

Maria Davoodi - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM