



Sophia "Sandy" (Sanzaro) Bickley

April 26, 1923 - January 3, 2018

Sophia (Sanzaro) Bickley, 94, devoted wife of Wallace A. Bickley, passed away peacefully on Wednesday (January 3, 2018). Born in Italy in Sortino, Sicily, she came to America as a one-year old and grew up in New Britain. She graduated from New Britain High School, class of 1940 where she was known as "Sanzy", which then became her lifelong name of "Sandy". After high school, she attended Morse Business College.

In 1955, she met a man on a blind date. After a three-month courtship, Wally and Sandy married and raised their family in Kensington, where they lived for over 60 years. They both recently moved to Arbor Rose in New Britain.

Sandy was an executive secretary for the Boy Scouts of America in Hartford for nearly 25 years. She later worked at the Hartford Insurance Group for ten years, retiring in 1987.

Sandy was a member of St. Paul's Church, Kensington, and the St. Paul's Ladies Guild.

Her family was the center of her life. She was a devoted mother who had enormous patience and strength to raise four children whose ages spanned only a four-year period. She also loved spending time with each of her grandchildren making crafts, reading or just being silly with them. She was a

lady in every sense and raised her family with those same values. She enjoyed sewing, cooking and baking. She loved trying new recipes at her many dinner parties, including the annual New Year's Eve party.

Besides her husband Wally of 62 years, she leaves her four children, Alan Bickley of Manchester; Tracey Eck and her husband, Bill of Wethersfield; Robin Burns and her husband, Tim of West Hartford; and Barry Bickley, MD and his wife, Janice of North Andover, MA.

She was dearly loved by her eleven grandchildren; AJ, Melissa (Garfield) and Nichole Bickley, Katie and Kyle Eck, Tom, Libby and Lexie Burns; and Brianna, Michael and Jaime Bickley, along with several nieces and nephews. Sandy was predeceased by a sister, Josephine Reiche and her parents, Sofia (Giardino) and Giuseppe Sanzaro.

The family would like to thank the staff at both Arbor Rose and Jerome Home for the superb loving care they provided to Sandy during her time there.

Calling hours are Monday from 4-7 PM at Carlson Funeral Home. Funeral services are Tuesday at 9 AM at Carlson Funeral Home, 45 Franklin Square, New Britain followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10 AM at St. Paul's Church, 479 Alling Street, Kensington. Burial will follow in St. Mary's Cemetery in New Britain. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in the name of Sophia Bickley may be made to "Arbor Rose at Jerome Home", 975 Corbin Avenue, New Britain, CT 06052. Please share a memory or note of sympathy at www.carlsonfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

St. Mary Cemetery

1141 Stanley Street
New Britain, CT 06053

Previous Events

Calling Hours

JAN 8. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Carlson Funeral Home
45 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051
(860) 225-6361
carlsonfh@aol.com
<https://www.carlsonfuneralhome.com/>

Calling Hours

JAN 9. 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM (ET)

Carlson Funeral Home
45 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051
(860) 225-6361
carlsonfh@aol.com
<https://www.carlsonfuneralhome.com/>

Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 9. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul Church
485 Alling Street
CT 06037

Tribute Wall

LD

“ Wally, this is La Nae Duchesneau, Daughter of Bob Duchesneau and niece of June Duchesneau. My Aunt told me Sophia had passed. I am so sorry for your loss. My prayers are with you and your family at this difficult time.

La Nae Duchesneau - January 10, 2018 at 10:06 PM

RB

“ I have knoe Sandy and Wally for many years She was a master sewer as well as a wonderful wife, mother and grandmother. She will be dearly missed by her husband, children grandchildren and all that came to know her. Mu personal sympathy to heer family as they morn during this time of sorrow. Sandy you will be missed by all that knew you and may the good Lord hold you in his arms.

Rita H. Beaulieu

Rita H. Beaulieu - January 06, 2018 at 07:40 AM

LM

“ Many fond childhood memories of growing up with you all on Butternut lane. My mom and dad will be at heavens gate to greet your mom. May she Rest In Peace

Louise Anne Colamussi Mercadante - January 05, 2018 at 10:46 PM