



Florence V. Siopes

August 15, 1952 - July 23, 2020

Florence V. Siopes, 67, passed away peacefully at her home in Novi, MI, with her family by her side on Thursday, July 23, 2020. She is predeceased by her parents Grace and Nicolo Candela, and her brothers Joseph and his wife Margaret, and Vincent and his wife Vivian.

She is survived by her husband Keith M. Siopes, her son Keith D. Siopes and his wife Annie; her sisters: Patricia Battaglia and her husband John; Mona Tucker; Grace Bourcier and her husband David; Mary Wyckoff and her husband James; and her brothers: Nicholas; Christopher and his wife Nancy; and August; her aunts Joanne (Oliveri) Eagan, Petrina Candela-Blackmer and several nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews, cousins and friends.

Florence was beautiful inside and out.

She was a devoted wife, mother, daughter, sister, sister-in-law, niece, cousin, friend and neighbor.

She was friendly, loving, kind, gentle, non-judgmental, non-confrontational, considerate, selflessly charitable, and accommodative.

She was the primary caretaker for her mother for many years prior to her death, she helped raise a niece and nephew, she helped a friend provide daycare for children with working parents and she was a trusted confidant to family members and friends.

As a devoted mom, she thanked God every day for blessing her with a son. There's nothing that she wouldn't do for him and she was always worried about him when he was away.

She was always willing to help those in need, even if she wasn't certain that the need was genuine, as she knew that God would address any issues on judgement day.

One of Flo's favorite activities was shopping for and donating to needy families in the annual Adopt a Family program for Christmas at Holy Family Church.

Florence loved to cook. Some of her specialties which were passed on from her mother and grandmother included Sicilian style chicken or oxtail soup with "cassateddi" (ricotta and basil ravioli), gnocchi dishes and soups, stuffed peppers, Italian tomato, garlic, olive oil and basil based salsa for use as a topping for steak, chicken, fish, bread (bruschetta) or dipping sauce for tortilla chips, bread or potato chips and Italian cookies. Many friends

and work colleagues from around the world, especially China, would rave about her cooking, especially her chicken soup with cassateddi, even several years after their visit. She was quick-witted and a natural G-rated comedian. Most people who knew her commented on how they never knew what would come out of her mouth nor when, which would result in a range of responses from a smile, to gut-wrenching laughter. On many occasions people would spit out their food while they were eating as an uncontrolled response to something she said.

She was an avid walker. Many people in the neighborhood, even those who didn't know her name, knew her as "the woman who walks a lot." They would wave or greet her as she walked by their house. Many women asked her if they could walk with her.

Sometimes, the run across America scene from Forrest Gump would come to mind as crowds of women (aka "girl gangs") would walk around the neighborhood with her.

Flo openly shared her bright light with everyone.

She is greatly missed and loved.

May her memory be Eternal as God's Eternal Light shines upon her immortal soul in paradise.

Visitation will be held at the O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, 41555 Grand River Avenue, Novi on Wednesday, July 29, 2020 from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM & 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Instate Thursday, July 30, 2020 at Holy Family Catholic Church, 24505 Meadowbrook Road, Novi from 10:00 AM until time of funeral liturgy 10:30 AM.

For those wishing to participate in her funeral mass and are unable to join in person, you may participate remotely via the Holy Family Church, Novi YouTube Channel listed below:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrm_liGU2h-VTo88z0uRzPQ

At 10:00am a thumbnail will appear entitled "Florence Siopes Funeral" in the upper left-hand corner of the "Uploads > Play All" section at 10:30am you may click on it to view the Live-Stream.

For those wishing to make a charitable donation in Florence's honor, in lieu of flowers, then please consider donating via the Alzheimer's Association, Florence Siopes Tribute page at:

https://act.alz.org/site/TR/Events/Tributes-AlzheimersChampions?pg=fund&fr_id=1060&pxfid=639073

Cemetery

Oakland Hills Cemetery

43300 W 12 Mile Rd,
Novi, MI, 48377

Events

JUL **Visitation** 02:00PM - 04:00PM

29

O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home
41555 Grand River Avenue, Novi, MI, US, 48375

JUL **Visitation** 06:00PM - 08:00PM

29

O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home
41555 Grand River Avenue, Novi, MI, US, 48375

JUL **Liturgy** 10:30AM

30

Holy Family Church
24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI, US

Comments



“ 6 files added to the album Winter 2007



Keith Siopes - August 06 at 12:23 PM



“ Keith M Siopes is following this tribute.

Keith Siopes - August 05 at 08:53 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Florence V Siopes Prayer Card



Keith Siopes - August 04 at 12:50 PM



“ Eulogy of Florence Virginia Siopes 7/30/2020 (Part 1)
by William Siopes

Good morning.

For those of you I have not yet had the pleasure of meeting, I am Keith's brother Bill. And I am sure I speak for Keith when I say thank you all for being here today. I share in the grief, the sadness and the sense of loss we feel but I'm glad to be here to offer support and pay tribute in memory of my sister-in-law; our beloved Flo.

Florence Virginia Candela – Siopes. “Flo “.

There's an old saying or perhaps more of an open-ended philosophical question that asks; What's in a name?

The name “Florence” is derived from Latin “Florens” or “Florentius” which means “Flourishing”, “Blossoming” like a “Flower”

Also from Latin: “Virginia” meaning “purity” and in a sense “preserved”, “unchanged”, “innocent” and “true to oneself”.

“Florence Virginia”: Natural, beautiful, deeply rooted; happy to be a giving part of

something bigger; family, friends.

“Florence Virginia”: I can’t imagine a more fitting name.

Flo was, after all, a loving daughter and sister, a devoted wife and mother, a true friend who did, in fact, flourish through her giving, loving nature.

In speaking with Keith the other night, he told me how moved he was by the common themes in the expressed remembrances of so many friends and family members

“She loved everyone. Everyone loved her “. “She was so funny and loved to laugh”..

“There’s never been a negative thing to say about Aunt Flo”. “We loved her.” “She left a piece of herself in all of us”.

You may have noticed I didn’t say “Aunt” Flo. I said “Ant” Flo and for good reason; just ask any niece or nephew from Massachusetts.

Keith recalls what my son, Billy, told him years ago and my daughter, Elizabeth, too, recently said to Sue and I: “We grew up having several aunts but only one “Ant”. “Ant Flo”.

Sweet, lovable Flo. A natural in so many ways.

She didn’t have to work at being a good person, a caring person, a loving person.

She was a natural.

And talk about a natural cook; Flo was a fantastic cook. A reputation she humbly earned.

My wife, Sue, has said many times that one of her favorite pictures of Flo is the one of her in the kitchen wearing a white apron that says: “I don’t need a recipe. I’m Italian”.

And it was so touching to see that her son, Keith, had just a few days ago shared that same picture as part of a tribute to his mother in which he wrote:

“My mom was an angel on earth. She was the most pure and innocent person I've ever known. She was kind and caring to everyone, an absolute joy to spend time with, a comedic genius, and the best cook.”

I remember a quote I read somewhere once that stated: “Where a beautiful soul has traveled – beautiful memories remain forever”

Many of the beautiful memories of Flo that I personally have come from times when she, Keith and young Keith would travel east 800 miles to celebrate and dance at family weddings or spend summer vacations in Maine where;

I’ll never forget the time, years ago, when Flo was looking over a restaurant’s seafood menu and she announced:

“I think I’ll get the had’dock“. To which Keith, in playful laughter, said “the had’dock”? You think you’ll get the had’dock?”. “You know, I think I’ll get the had’dock, too. In fact, I think I’ll ask the waitress: How’s the had’dock here”?

The beautiful part was that Flo; gentle, easy-going, fun-loving Flo laughed along, too. She didn’t take offense. She knew it was all in fun; a time for us all to laugh and enjoy each other’s company.



“ Billy, I have never heard a more beautiful eulogy, and you delivered it beautifully as well. It was a most lovely tribute to a wonderful person.

Jill

Jill Belastock - August 06 at 05:55 PM



“ Eulogy of Florence Virginia Siopes (Part 2)

And the best part was that although she didn't say anything, I suspect she may have been thinking of the times when her fun-loving husband would find something so funny and he'd be laughing so hard and talking so rapidly with traces of a Boston accent that she wasn't really sure of what he was actually saying, but she laughed along with him anyway; knowing that no else understood him either. Just ask their son, Keith, if he has ever seen that happen.

Another beautiful, heart-felt quote that I find so fitting today is one that Annie shared as a daughter-in-law's tribute. It read: "When someone you love becomes a memory; the memory becomes a treasure". So beautiful. And so true.

Getting back for a moment to: What's in a name? :

Candela in Italian is a "candle". Siopes (Siopi) in Greek is "silence". Eiriniki siopi is "peaceful silence"

Florence Virginia Candela – Siopes. "A pure and natural, vibrant flower and a candle in peaceful silence". I just cannot imagine a more fitting name.

In closing:

Dear Flo:

Thank you for the love you shared and for the beautiful memories we will all treasure. May God bless you, hold you and keep you in His perpetual light, in the peaceful rest that you so deserve.

Keith Siopes - August 03 at 12:13 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Happy Birthday Video to Son Keith Aug 23, 2016



Keith Siopes - August 02 at 09:48 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Funeral Video



Keith M Siopes - August 02 at 09:30 PM



“ 12 files added to the album Additional Memories



Keith M Siopes - August 02 at 09:22 PM



“ Dear Keith,
I am deeply saddened about your loss. My sincere thoughts and prayers are with you and your entire family.
Suresh

Suresh shah - July 30 at 08:04 PM



“ Dear Keith - my deepest sympathy to you, Keith, and Flo's family. The service this morning was a wonderful tribute to a truly wonderful person. I regret not having enough occasions to spend time with Flo.
To know her was to love her and I count myself fortunate to have known her. You will probably never know how many lives she touched, but know that she will live on in the hearts of many. She is safe now in the arms of Jesus and will know no more suffering. Let God's will be your peace. With much love,
Your cousin Anita

Anita Alexander - July 30 at 05:49 PM



“ Dear Keith and family, what a beautiful service and wonderful tribute to Flo. God bless.

Cyndi Testa - July 30 at 11:42 AM



“ Uncle Keith, Cousin Keith and Annie:
We are thinking and praying for you. Aunt Flo left a lasting impression on my heart. She was always so kind to me. My memories of her are being at the beach during the summer months, her beautiful tan, and perfectly manicured hands. She always said something to make us all laugh or found something kind to tell someone. She made an impact on us all over the years. The Siopes family was lucky to have gained her as one of ours. May God give you strength and peace during your times of sadness.

Ali Shunamon



Ali Shunamon - July 30 at 10:13 AM



“ I have so many great memories of time spent with Aunt Flo! Lots of trips to 12 oaks mall to shop, eating lunch out and going to the pool in the subdivision. She was always laughing and joking, making me laugh constantly. She was always so thoughtful and giving, she would pretty much give me the shirt off her back if I wanted it. I will always cherish my fond memories of her. Rest in peace Aunt Flo, I love you and will miss you. We will all see you again someday xoxo

Bridgit Garrett - July 30 at 10:01 AM



“ Uncle Keith & Cousin Keith,

My thoughts and prayers are with you both at this difficult time. Aunt Flo was a shining soul, that gave lots of love to her family. She had a great sense of humor and a warm smile. She will be missed so much, but she is in a better place now with no more suffering. Jesus will take care of her now. Rest in peace my sweet Aunt, we will see you again soon. Love you forever and always.

Grace Millard.

Grace Millard - July 30 at 08:15 AM



“ Flo was the beauty queen of the neighborhood! Always tan, fit, well dressed, hair and make-up impeccable, yet friendly, up beat, and very funny! She will be sorely missed here in village oaks.

Yvette Rickel - July 30 at 12:05 AM



“ Keith,

I am deeply saddened and sorry about your loss. My sincere thoughts and prayers are with you and your entire family.

I am sorry my friend.

Nadeem Bokhari

Nadeem Bokhari - July 29 at 09:42 PM



“ I'm so sorry to hear of Aunt Flo's passing. Heaven gained one magnificent angel. Aunt Flo was a kind soul with an amazing sense of humor. I have great memories of the time I was able to spend with her. Huge virtual hugs to both Uncle Keith and cousin Keith. Keep the good memories close.



Bertelle Bunyard - July 29 at 09:19 PM



“ Keith,

Sending prayers of comfort for you and your family and friends today and in the coming weeks and months.

Many hugs my friend.

Marcie

marcie - July 29 at 10:52 AM



“ Jean Franks lit a candle in memory of Florence V. Siopes



Jean Franks - July 28 at 04:36 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this time of sorrow and loss.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.” | Matthew 5:4

JS & Janice

JS Lim - July 28 at 04:35 PM



“ Flo was my good friend for a long time. I have known her since little Keith was 4 years old. She lived in the same neighborhood as me right down the street. I have spent many days going out to lunch, going to the pool, gossiping on the porch, or walking the neighborhood with Flo. She was one of my best friends and I loved her like family. She was always someone I could always talk to and spend time with. The time without her will be dearly missed.

From all the memories I have of Flo she was always smiling, happy and laughing. She brought me laughter and smiles too as well as a great friendship. Flo was always a kind and loving person to be around. The kind of person that would brighten your day or at least fill it with smiles and laughs.

In these times it is best to remember Flo as the kind, happy, sweet woman she was. She was a good mom, to both her son and her dogs. She was an amazing friend whose memories with I will always cherish.

My prayers go out to Keith and her Son little Keith.

Jean Franks - July 28 at 04:34 PM



“ George K. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Florence V. Siopes.



George K. - July 28 at 12:44 PM



“ Keith and family - my Prayers are with you, asking GOD to grants you strength & comfort and guide you through this difficult time.

Hala Stevens

Hala Stevens - July 28 at 11:43 AM



“ 13 files added to the album Memories Album



Keith M Siopes - July 28 at 11:15 AM



“ 117 files added to the album Memories Album



Keith M Siopes - July 28 at 09:12 AM



“ 355 files added to the album Memories Album



Keith M Siopes - July 28 at 09:02 AM



“ Keith and family - Praying for you that God would give you strength, as well as comfort and guide you during this sad time.

Carol Murphy - July 27 at 09:25 PM



“ Florence was my mother's youngest sister . She was the most darling aunt , she was always so happy and fun to be around and the most naturally funny person I have ever met . I loved her so much and I will miss her forever . There will always be a hole in my heart just knowing I won't hear her darling voice again here on this side . Watch over us auntie until we are all united one fine day . Kiss Grandma Candela and everyone else for me . Your loving niece , Melina

melina Bologna - July 27 at 06:54 PM



“ Flo was my sister- In- law. She was the most beautiful person . She was sensitive to family and friends with challenges going on. Everyone loved Flo.She loved her husband and son. She is with our Lord God. May her light shine upon is.

bertelle.copley - July 26 at 06:23 PM



“ We are perplexed and vexed daily as we see so many we love and even those we do not know suffer and pass unexplainably. It seems unfair and unjust so many times. We are angry. We get confused. Aunt Flo, even with all of these temporary emotions, we thank God for his faithfulness to seek and save we who were lost. We do not lose hope or despair because Jesus conquered our death. Knowing you are with the Father is the peace that passes all worldly understanding. We shall see you soon.

Nick Candela - July 27 at 02:12 PM



“ Keith Siopes is my GE Plastics Brother. Flo was always a joy to be around at GE Plastics functions. Her salsa was to die for!
The GE Plastics Alumni mourns Keith's loss and stands ready to help any way we can. God bless you and your family Keith.

Richard Broo - July 27 at 04:48 PM



“ Cherishing the memories of Cousin Flo. Her Dad and mom, Sisters and Brothers. Much laughter and love. For her Nephew Nick. Flo was loving, painfully humorous witty and blunt. "lost" is word she often used as a term.

Flo was not much of a talker. Let me explain that. She would ask questions. Then after she set you up she would let you have it.

Her laughter was contagious. Life is better because of her and her family.

Tom Licavoli - July 27 at 07:24 PM



“ Uncle Keith and Little Keith ~ Keeping you both in prayer and remembering all of the fun times I had at your house with Aunt Flosey! When I spoke about her to friends I referred to her as my Aunt who was the Italian Joan Rivers (only kinder)! God definitely blessed her with a great sense of humor among many other things! Always laughing and having fun. We would speak frequently by phone prior to her getting sick and her last words would typically be "call me up I'm always here!" Missing her contagious laughter and our phone conversations. I know she has everyone in heaven laughing so hard they are crying. Rest in peace sweet Aunt Flosey. Love you so much

Kristine Junge

Kristine Junge - July 28 at 07:49 PM