



Darlene Pelura Maxwell

January 11, 1941 - October 16, 2022

Darlene Pelura Maxwell, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her family on Sunday October 16th 2022. Daughter of James Pelura Sr. and Rose (DiFerdinando) Pelura, Darlene was born on January 11th 1941 in Salem, NJ. She was a graduate of St. James High School class of 1959. She attended St. Francis Hospital School of Nursing in Wilmington DE, where she earned her RN degree.

She was employed for 40 years at Memorial Hospital of Salem County. Where she was the nursing manager of the ER and for the Home Care / Hospice Departments. She retired in May 2006 and later enjoyed her position as a part time school nurse for local school districts. She received many recognitions during her nursing career, including Nurse of the Year and Salem County Commission on Women's Women of the Year.

Darlene was an active member of the St. James RC Church, St. Gabriel's Archangel RC Church, The Penns Grove Historical Society, The Women's Club of Penns Grove/Carneys Point, The Red Hat Society, The Emergency Department Nurses Association, The Washington Club and The American Heart Association. Darlene spent many years making us all laugh, telling jokes at many functions and gatherings, as the little Italian comedian 'Pasquale'. Darlene had a lifelong love for family and family tradition. She never missed a family event, her favorite being, the annual Pelura /

DiFerdinando Family Reunions. Darlene's nieces and nephews always took her to the local diners for a weekend lunch. She had a lot of love for her girlfriends "The Yaya's" and the many special nurses she worked with over the years.

She is survived by her husband of 60 years James N. Maxwell and three sons. Michael James (Vicky) Maxwell Sr. of Mannington NJ, Christopher (Monica) Maxwell of Carneys Point NJ and Steven Maxwell of Salt Lake City UT. She is survived by five grandchildren. Lindsay Marie Maxwell (Victor Simone) of St. Petersburg FL, Michael James (Katelyn) Maxwell Jr. of Pennsville NJ, Christopher James Maxwell of San Francisco CA, Livy Jay Maxwell of Salt Lake City UT and Maya Rose Maxwell of Salt Lake City UT. She is survived by one great grandchild, Vincent Michael Maxwell

She was preceded by her parents, James and Rose Pelura and her five siblings, Frances Merritt, James Pelura, Edith Macconi, Albert Pelura and Evelyn Inouye. Along with many cousins, nieces, nephews and friends. She also had many pets, especially Biscuit, Fritz, Boston and Rizzo.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to honor Darlene at Alzheimer's Association, chapter of your choice or online at alz.org. Donations may also be made to honor Darlene to the St. Gabriel's Archangel RC Church

Relatives and friends are invited to visitation for Jim and Darlene on Friday July 14, 2023 10am till 11am at St. Gabriel the Archangel located at 369 Georgetown Road in Carneys Point, NJ. Funeral mass to follow at 11am. Burial at the Salem County Veterans Cemetery will follow the funeral mass.

Cemetery Details

Salem County Veterans Cemetery

719 NJ-45
Pilesgrove, NJ 08069

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 14. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish- Corpus Christi RC Church
369 Georgetown Rd.
Carneys Point, NJ 08069
(856) 299-3833

Memorial Mass

JUL 14. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish- Corpus Christi RC Church
369 Georgetown Rd.
Carneys Point, NJ 08069
(856) 299-3833

Tribute Wall

AS

“ For Darlene's family: She was a ray of sunshine in a not so sunny world. I'm Mary & Joe Maconi's granddaughter. Became close with Dar thru cuz Jeanne. We had so many wonderful times together in our teen yrs. I kept in touch thru Facebook but haven't been there for a few yrs. Today, I accidentally learned of Dar's passing. Although I am saddened, she is reunited with much loved ones who predeceased her & that is a consolation. I keep Darlene and her loving family in prayer and thought. Anita Santucci, daughter of Eva Maconi

Anita Santucci - July 05, 2025 at 07:55 PM

DD

“ Love and miss you both. I love this picture when we were kids. I'll miss my Darlene namesake and my favorite, quiet, strong uncle Jim
💔💔💔



Darlene Davis - July 15, 2023 at 02:45 PM

JP

“ I did not spend much time with Darlene but she raised the shit out of 3 good men. I won't ever be in her shoes but when I die I hope someone can say the same about me and my son. All around her are blessings .

june piel - June 27, 2023 at 11:36 PM

JP

Plus she was an always smiling face around the Washington club. I know it's called different now...

june piel - June 27, 2023 at 11:38 PM

JP

Prayers to the family ❤️

june piel - June 27, 2023 at 11:39 PM

MP

“ *Marianne Pelura purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Darlene Pelura Maxwell.*



Marianne Pelura - October 26, 2022 at 06:46 PM

DB

“ *Oh wow. So sorry to hear it. Mrs. Maxwell was always such a nice, pleasant person. Always friendly and upbeat. My deepest sympathies to the family.*

Dan Bastrimovich - October 22, 2022 at 03:22 PM

RC

“ *My wife Lori and I both had the pleasure of working with Darlene at Salem Hospital. She was a kind caring person to those she worked with and the patients she cared for.*



Rick Clarke - October 21, 2022 at 03:43 PM

RB

“ My Brother John and I had the pleasure of working with Darlene when she worked the ER at Salem Hospital back in the 70’s. We were part of Fenwick Ambulance Crew. She was a very dedicated nurse and a caring person. I had the pleasure of working with her husband as a protection officer at DuPont Chambers works. Rest In Peace Dianne you were a great person and deserve your reward in heaven! May the peace of God be with you Jim and your family.

Rich Baese - October 20, 2022 at 09:17 PM

GM

“ My Wife, Kathleen Borhen Morris, worked with Darlene and is saddened by her death. Her husband, George.

George Morris - October 20, 2022 at 07:41 PM

WM

I went to school at St. James with Darlene and kept in touch by phone. I and my wife are very saddened to hear of her passing. May God bless you Darlene. I know that He has a special place in Heaven for you. Love, Walt and Sandy Moraski.

Walter Moraski - December 22, 2022 at 12:14 PM

CM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Chris Maxwell - October 20, 2022 at 01:20 PM

DC

“ *No words, just sadness...God Speed...*

*Love u Dar, (piggy lady)
Denise & Paige Cherry*

Denise Cherry - October 20, 2022 at 12:47 PM

SF

“ *Rest In Peace Dear Darlene, Class of 1959 !
A true Jimmie! A true Spartan*



Saint James High School Alumni, FB - October 20, 2022 at 10:07 AM

PL

“ *Special memories of our early years- you were a cousin who was
supportive and funny with a kind and caring soul. May God Bless
You. Our Condolences to your Family. Patty & Bill Lembo*

Patricia Di Ferdinando Lembo - October 19, 2022 at 07:38 PM

AD

“ *Darlene Pelura Maxwell portraying her mother Rosaria
DiFerdinando Pelura at the Penns Grove Historical Society on
March 15 2009.*



Al DeFino - October 19, 2022 at 05:19 PM

AF

What a wonderful walk down Memory Lane by Darlene. The mention of Rocco Martell and other First Families of Penns Grove bought tears to my eyes. I remember them all vividly. Rest in Peace, Darlene. You brought much joy & compassion to the world with your presence here.



Anita Santucci (Maconi Family) - September 15, 2025 at 03:33 PM

AD

“ Miss you already, Cuz.
-Al DeFino, WV



Al DeFino - October 19, 2022 at 04:34 PM