



Esther Zorzopian

June 29, 2016

Esther Zorzopian, 98, of Stevens, who died on Wednesday, June 29, 2016, was a beautiful Christian woman, very strong in faith. She never showed weakness. Even as her quality of life drastically deteriorated over the past decade, she didn't question God. Her belief was simply, "The Lord is just not ready for me yet". Her nightly prayers thanked God for all his countless blessings. She had the unwavering bravery, power and peace that can only be received from the Holy Spirit. Effortlessly she possessed that Fruit of The Spirit all of the time as defined in Gal 5:22-23 – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Also as described in the Bible, she was an exemplary wife. Not only deeply in love with her husband, but she demonstrated her vast love and devotion to him with honor and respect. She was never negative. It was a blessing to witness their beautiful, rich marriage.

She was an amazing definition of an ideal mother and grandmother. Esther always gave an abundance of unconditional love and God's grace. After a visit with her, one felt loved, her genuine concern, encouraged and never left hungry! She was a perfect hostess, cheerleader, always uplifting, making you feel very special and unique. She never talked about herself – completely giving and completely selfless.

Esther worked several positions – manager of her family’s grocery store, private secretary to multiple politicians in City Hall, a loan officer for a private lending company and retired as the main bookkeeper to a large New Jersey insurance company. Even though she was highly respected in each of these positions, she always put her family ahead of her career. She lived and was defined by her dedication to her family.

Esther was born in Philadelphia, PA. She was very involved with the Philadelphia Armenian community. Those social activities were the center of her youth. Her stories, her fond memories, were always such a source of great entertainment. She carried the Armenian Flag at the first AYF Olympics as a teen. She went to every Armenian Affair as possible, and of course, she had to be dressed in the most stylish of threads. She loved Armenian dancing and food. Her parents were married in St Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Apostolic Church, originally located on Oxford Ave. in Philadelphia in 1909. Starting with her baptism in 1917, following throughout all her immediate and extended family’s celebrations and losses, (including her marriage and her children’s christenings), she was very involved with this church.

Daughter of the late Marguerid Garabedian (born in Kharpert, Armenia) and Gabriel Kayajanian (born in Ayvos Village, of Kharpert, Armenia). Wife to the late John Zorzopian (born in Malatya, Armenia). Mother to the late Warren Zorzopian (born in Philadelphia, PA). Brother to Haig Kayajanian (born in Philadelphia, PA). Survived by nephew Gary Kayajanian, daughter Gale Zorian, son-in-law James Hagelgans, firstborn grandson Nicholas Pace, grandson Warren Pace. And lastly in her final days, Esther was most thrilled to learn of the newest addition to her family – her grandson Warren’s fiancé, Elizabeth Sollecito.

Whether known as Mom, Mimi, or Saint Esther...dear, humble, kind, Esther Zorzopian, you will be greatly missed and will live in our hearts forever.

A Funeral Service will be held at St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Apostolic Church, 8701 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19128 on Tuesday, July 5, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. Interment in Greenmount Cemetery, Philadelphia, PA.

In lieu of flowers, please send contributions to St. Gregory Armenian Apostolic Church, 8701 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19128.

Cemetery Details

Greenmount Cemetery

Philadelphia, PA

Previous Events

Service

JUL 5. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Apostolic Church
8701 Ridge Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19128

Tribute Wall



“ *Esther Zorzopian*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ *Gale, as an only child (as was I), there is very special closeness between mother and daughter. The time you spent and the love you shared with your mother was the most beautiful gift. Though I know you asked for no reward, you are to be commended, and along the way, probably as a little girl, your mother taught you it was the right thing to do. May the Lord bless your tears and give you peace and reflective joy in the memories of your mother. Love - Nancy Hamill*

Nancy Hamill - July 05, 2016 at 08:30 AM



“ *Just from seeing Mimi, it is clear she glowed in the presence of her family. It is very precious how you brought her into your life for her last days. Esther, it was a life well lived and cherished by many. With love and prayers to you, Gale, especially and to Jim, Nick and Warren.. from Nancy, Jim and Karen Hamill*

Nancy Hamill - July 05, 2016 at 08:26 AM



Thank you Nancy for these beautiful encouraging words, I look up to you as a fellow only child, you have always been a blessing and comfort to me

Gale Zorian - July 26, 2016 at 10:11 AM

JP

“ Dear Gale and Family,
May the life of your dearly beloved Esther be forever counted as gain. As she is remembered in sunsets of the Creator she adored, hearts of a family she inspired, and a legacy as long-lasting as the Etchmiadzin Cathedral. Loss cannot be fully comprehended, nor the continual blessings of her life. Of past, present, eternity, and future may the seeds she planted continue to bloom forth.
Sincerely in remembrance,
Joshua Putney
"For love is as strong as death; ardent love is as unrelenting as Sheol. Love's flames are fiery flames-- the fiercest of all." -Songs 8:6

Joshua Putney - July 04, 2016 at 11:14 AM

GZ

Josh, my dear, I admire you on so many levels. Your independence and strength in the Lord is powerful. May God bless you in abundance. Thank you so much for these precious words recognizing The Etchmiadzin. Thank you for sacrificing a day to support me at mom's service XO

Gale Zorian - July 26, 2016 at 10:14 AM

AR

“ Dear Gale and Family,
I am sorry to hear about the loss of your mother, I always enjoyed stopping in every Friday to bring her her meals, chatting with her, she was always kind and , I could tell she was a special lady----- every time I drove by the house I thought of her----
Peace, Prayer and Blessings,
Ann Rathman

Ann Rathman - July 04, 2016 at 07:54 AM

GZ

Thank you Ann for these words and for sending us love in Hospice. Mom and I both enjoyed your happy positive spirit on Fridays. It is a real gift that you give to the shut ins. May God continue to bless you with the desire and strength to continue with this mission XO

Gale Zorian - July 26, 2016 at 10:17 AM

RG

“ *Dear Gale and Jim,
Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this sad and difficult time.
Robert and Gloria Grossman*

Robert Grossman - July 03, 2016 at 03:26 PM

GZ

Dear Robert and Gloria, Thank you for your thoughts and prayers. You have always been so diligent to ask about mother when I would see you out socially. Your general love and concern was so sincere and touching. What authentic spirits, thank you for your shining lights XO

Gale Zorian - July 26, 2016 at 10:22 AM

TF

“ *Dear Gale, Jim, Nick and Warren,
Sending our deepest sympathy at this difficult time. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you.
Mark, Lisa and Dominic*

The Lyate Family - July 02, 2016 at 03:04 PM

GZ

Dear Lyate Family, this is so kind of you to extend your sympathies. Your family has a very special place in my heart. You taking the time to write these words is a testimony to that. Your family always supported us. You were there for me to help me belong. Dominic was there for me when I got my car. You were there for Warren encouraging him in his swimming days. Dominic was there for him his first night in our new home. What a special beautiful loving family, thank you XO

Gale Zorian - July 26, 2016 at 10:38 AM

LF

“*Esther will always be remember by me as the kindness lady I ever had the privilege of being an aide to! Enjoyed our time together. RIP Miss Mimi.*

Linda Foster

Linda Foster - July 02, 2016 at 08:01 AM

GZ

Dear Linda, thank you so much for your loving care toward mother. She never stopped talking about you. You were one of her first caregivers. Caregiving was new and awkward to her, but you put her at ease. She loved when you came to help her, your spirit was warm and comforting...you treated her like family. Thank you XO

Gale Zorian - July 26, 2016 at 10:42 AM

SB

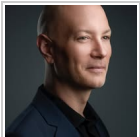
“ Dear Gale, Jim, Nick, Warren and your whole family. My prayers are lifted for each of you for your loss of this dear woman. She was as beautiful inside as outside. Her love and kindness was shown in all she did and that love continues to shine in each of you. May God bless and comfort you. He stands with arms wide open and the angels rejoice as they all welcome a new Saint to the family. Love, prayers and condolences to you.
Stephanie Benne and girls.

Stephanie Benne - July 02, 2016 at 05:34 AM

GZ

Dearest Steph, thank you for these beautiful prayers. I think of you often and gain strength from your words knowing how very real they are spoken from you. You are a pillar of light and love. I pray this note finds you, your girls and grandchildren basking in blessings. Thank you XO

Gale Zorian - July 26, 2016 at 10:48 AM



“ The Nugent family's thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time of grieving. May the memories of her best moments in life bring you warmth and peace.

Mitch Nugent - July 01, 2016 at 09:58 PM

GZ

Dear Nugent Family, Thank you of your thoughts and prayers. You are such a beautiful, beautiful family. You all radiate such glory. I am always blessed when I see your positive faces. The light of love shines abundantly. Thank you for "my" much needed gift. And thank you for introducing me to your new ray of sunshine! XO

Gale Zorian - July 26, 2016 at 11:05 AM

LS

“ *Linda Sauer lit a candle in memory of Esther Zorzopian*



Linda Sauer - July 01, 2016 at 08:23 PM

LS

“ *Gale and Family,
I just returned from vacation to hear of Mimi's passing. I'm so sorry for your loss. Mimi was not just my patient, she was a real Friend and inspiration to me. We had so much in common for our age difference. We would have the best talks and she would tell me stories about her past. She had such a great sense of humor and there wasn't a day that we didn't laugh at something! We really were "Soul Sisters!"
I just commented to my Husband on vacation that I need to see Mimi, but unfortunately I didn't make that visit. I will remember you always Mimi and some day we will meet again!
Love Linda*

Linda Sauer - July 01, 2016 at 08:20 PM

GZ

Dear Linda, what can I say... thank you, thank you, thank you. Mom absolutely loved you, yes loved you as the sister she never had. I know she shared and confided everything in you...more than to me at times. I am so grateful for your gift of caregiving, love and support to mom. All her days with you were special to her and very comforting to me knowing you were by her side. Thank you XO

Gale Zorian - July 26, 2016 at 11:10 AM

LG

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Lisa Groff - July 01, 2016 at 04:08 PM

JB

“ *Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this difficult time. Mimi was truly a very special, loving person. Find comfort in your happy memories and know that so many are holding you in prayer.*

Janice Ballenger - July 01, 2016 at 10:28 AM

GZ

Thank you for these kind words and sending us "angel" Sandy, who then sent us "angel" Jamey!

Gale Zorian - July 26, 2016 at 10:49 AM