



## Ruth Mary Mercandetti

January 8, 2025

Ruth Mary Mercandetti, 69, of Lancaster, PA, passed away on Wednesday, January 8, 2025 surrounded by her loving family. Born in Guam, she was the devoted wife of the late Rich A. Mercandetti for 37 years. She was the daughter of the late Ambassador Bartolome Umayam and Genoveva Samonte.

Ruthie graduated from the University of the Philippines with a Bachelor's Degree in English, taught in the University's English department, and maintained her high school connections by way of mahjong sessions with her Maryknollers. She ended her career serving as an educator, but her life's most cherished work was that of being a mother. Ruthie, also affectionately known as "Mama Merc", was a mother to everyone and always made others feel welcome in her presence and her home. Most recently she was a parishioner at St. Anthony of Padua. Ruthie was strong in her faith to the very end and had great devotion to the Rosary. Her motto was "Not to Worry", which she continued to embody throughout her battle with cancer.

Ruthie enjoyed watching the Hallmark Channel, anything on the Food Network, and rooting for the New York Rangers. Her kids were most important in her life. She enjoyed spending time with family and friends and loved gathering together for a good meal. She had a vast collection of takeout menus from restaurants near and far so she could always be prepared to

place her order.

Ruthie is survived by three children: Jennifer A. Mercandetti of Hackettstown, NJ; Christina F. Mercandetti; and Tim M. Mercandetti, husband of Christina L. Mercandetti, all of Lancaster, PA; four siblings: Jessie Eleazar and husband Gene Eleazar, Cristina Kho, and Elizabeth Evangelista; twin brother Benjamin Umayam and husband Michael Higgins; two granddogs, Benny and Charlie; and many nieces, nephews, and loved ones.

The family will receive friends at The Groff Family Funeral Home, 528 W. Orange Street (corner of W. Orange & Pine Sts.), Lancaster, PA 17603 on Wednesday evening, January 15, 2025, from 5:00–8:00 p.m. with eulogies shared at 7:00 p.m., and again on Thursday from 9:30 a.m. until time of departure for church. Relatives and friends are invited to the Mass of Christian Burial at St. Anthony of Padua Church, 501 E. Orange Street, Lancaster, PA 17602 on Thursday, January 16, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. with Fr. Matthew Morelli officiating. Final commendation and farewell will take place at St. Anthony of Padua Cemetery.

A live webcast of the Visitation will start at 5:00 p.m. and can be found at <http://client.tribucast.com/tcid/a25016129974606>

A live webcast of the Service will start on Thursday, January 16, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. Please join the service by clicking on this link: <https://client.tribucast.com/tcid/a25015728789913>

In addition to flowers, charitable donations can be made in Ruthie's name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Anthony's Catholic Cemetery

Ranck Mill & Grofftown Road  
Lancaster, PA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN **15**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc  
528 W Orange St.  
Lancaster, PA 17603  
(717) 394-5300  
admin@thegroffs.com  
<https://thegroffs.com/>

## Visitation

JAN **16**. 9:30 AM (ET)

The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc  
528 W Orange St.  
Lancaster, PA 17603  
(717) 394-5300  
admin@thegroffs.com  
<https://thegroffs.com/>

## Mass of Christian Burial

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JAN 16. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church  
501 East Orange Street  
Lancaster, PA 17602

# Tribute Wall



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ruth Mary Mercandetti.*



January 14, 2025 at 05:33 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ruth Mary Mercandetti.

January 14, 2025 at 05:27 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ruth Mary Mercandetti.*



January 14, 2025 at 05:27 PM



“ *From Maryknoll High School '72 friends. purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Ruth Mary Mercandetti.*



**From Maryknoll High School '72 friends.** - January 14, 2025 at 04:54 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ruth Mary Mercandetti.



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January 13, 2025 at 04:23 PM



“ L & P Nail - Leola staffs purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Ruth Mary Mercandetti.



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**L & P Nail - Leola staffs** - January 13, 2025 at 03:13 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ruth Mary Mercandetti.

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January 13, 2025 at 11:33 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ruth Mary Mercandetti.



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January 13, 2025 at 11:33 AM

ML

“ Marilyn Petite and Michael LaVaglia purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Ruth Mary Mercandetti.



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**Marilyn Petite and Michael LaVaglia** - January 13, 2025 at 09:07 AM

ML

“ Marilyn Petite and Michael LaVaglia planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ruth Mary Mercandetti.

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**Marilyn Petite and Michael LaVaglia** - January 13, 2025 at 09:07 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ruth Mary Mercandetti.

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January 11, 2025 at 09:26 PM



“ Forever Our Angel Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ruth Mary Mercandetti.



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January 11, 2025 at 09:26 PM

VI

“ Through my friendship with Jenny, I met her mom only once, but I felt like I knew what a wonderful person she was from my conversations and texts with Jenny. May her family find comfort in knowing she is at peace and may those treasured memories help ease any grief.  
Virginia

Virginia - January 11, 2025 at 01:39 PM



Thank you so much, Virginia. ❤️

Jenny Mercandetti - January 11, 2025 at 08:08 PM

LF

“ Love & Prayers From the 30 West Family purchased the Your Light Shines for the family of Ruth Mary Mercandetti.



Love & Prayers From the 30 West Family - January 11, 2025 at 12:01 PM

LF

“ Love & Prayers From the 30 West Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ruth Mary Mercandetti.

Love & Prayers From the 30 West Family - January 11, 2025 at 12:01 PM

MB

“ *Master Batters purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Ruth Mary Mercandetti.*



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**Master Batters** - January 11, 2025 at 11:51 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ruth Mary Mercandetti.*



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January 11, 2025 at 09:09 AM

TM

“ *Tim Mercandetti lit a candle in memory of Ruth Mary Mercandetti*



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**Tim Mercandetti** - January 10, 2025 at 07:13 PM

DC

“ *Wishing peace and comfort to all who loved Mama Merc! I know just how devoted a wife, mother sister, Auntie and friend she was. Hold onto all the good memories , Blessings  
Donna Carr*

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**Dinna Carr** - January 10, 2025 at 04:24 PM



*Thank you so much for your kind words, Donna. We really do appreciate you. ❤️*

**Jenny Mercandetti** - January 11, 2025 at 08:08 PM

AK

“ *Alyssa and Karah purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Ruth Mary Mercandetti.*



**Alyssa and Karah** - January 10, 2025 at 04:22 PM