



## Rita L. Bapties

March 18, 2021

Rita L. Bapties (Dansereau) born August 8, 1925 in Providence, RI, and passed away peacefully at 95 years old on March 18, 2021. Her parents were the late Margaret (Finnegan) and Sherman Dansereau. She was also predeceased by her siblings Richard Dansereau and Eleanor (Geer) Patnode. She was the wife of the late George D. Bapties for 54 years. She is survived by her daughter Cynthia J. Bapties and husband George M. Beshers; Grandson Erik J. Fearing and husband Erik J. Gullard; Granddaughter Amy L. Cutting (Fearing) and husband Sean Cutting and great-grandchildren Tynan, Clare and Fiona; her niece Teresa Closterman (Geer) and family; and numerous other nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Rita worked for the American Red Cross in Cranston during World War II and held other business administrative positions until she became a mother. She also volunteered with the Parent Teacher Association in Warwick Schools and the Girl Scouts. She summered in Snug Harbor, RI for 37 years.

Rita was one of the founding members of the Warwick Figure Skaters (WFS) and volunteered for the organization for more than 46 years as a board member, coordinator for the Learn to Skate program and Basics competitions, and assistant for annual skating shows and regional events. Rita took up ice skating competitively in her 50s and was part of the first adult precision skating team of WFS, the Moonlighters. The team won a Silver in the Colonial competition and fifth at the Eastern competition in 1990. She stopped skating in her 70s, but continued to enjoy water aerobics and yoga and was a

member of the Warwick Senior Center and Sts. Rose & Clement Church. Rita was never comfortable in the spotlight for recognition of her contributions and accomplishments. She was a kind and generous caregiver for many years to both her parents and husband. She enjoyed being involved with family and particularly her grandchildren's lives. She appreciated seeing her great-grandchildren. She enthusiastically made family holidays memorable events for 4 generations. Mass of Christian Burial will be Thursday March 25th at 10:00 a.m. at Saints Rose and Clement Church, 111 Long Street, Warwick. Burial is private. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to Hope Hospice, 1085 North Main Street, Providence, RI 02904.

# Previous Events

## Mass of Christian Burial

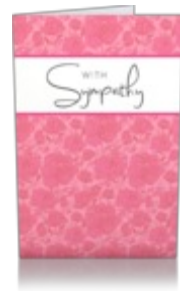
MAR **25**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Saints Rose and Clement Church  
111 Long Street  
Warwick, RI 02886

# Tribute Wall



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Rita L. Bapties.



March 25, 2021 at 10:29 AM



“ Cindy and Family ~ We are so very sorry for your loss. Your Mom Rita was a great spirit and such a wonderful and hard working person. I remember the early days of WFS when your parents and mine, along with many others got WFS up and running. Many wonderful memories we all shared. Years later when I started coaching at WFS I had the great privilege of working with her putting together the annual show. Rita had quite the system. We will all miss her at WFS and feel blessed to have had her in our life. May God Bless all of you during this difficult time. Our Deepest Sympathy to you and your family,  
David and Cindy Arling Brett ~

Cindy Arling Brett - March 24, 2021 at 04:33 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Rita L. Bapties.



March 24, 2021 at 02:26 PM

MS

*“ I was fortunate and blessed to have worked along side Rita at Warwick Figure Skaters. She taught me the ropes of the Learn to Skate program when I came onto the board. I learned so much over those years from her. She was such a wonderful woman. My deepest condolences to her family. Maureen Sundin*

**Maureen Sundin** - March 23, 2021 at 11:11 AM

GP

*I shall miss our ladies group luncheon/movie get togethers. Rita was so very special and so young in spirit.*

**Ginny Pietrantonio** - March 23, 2021 at 11:49 AM



*Ginny, Mom was missing that during the Covid year too. Thanks, Cynthia*

**Cindy Bapties** - March 23, 2021 at 07:09 PM



*I learned to skate because of that program and it always meant a lot to her.*

**Cindy Bapties** - March 23, 2021 at 07:10 PM

LC

*Cindy - I am so very sorry for your loss. Your mother was very kind to me when my grandmother died. My mother was very fond of your mother. I have photos of them in Little Compton on Briggs Beach. She was a lovely and accomplished person. It would be lovely (post-COVID) if we could get together the next time I get to Rhode Island (or if you are ever in Virginia). Please accept my sincere condolences. Liz Crowell*

**Liz Crowell** - March 23, 2021 at 07:43 PM

SM

*My sympathy to you and your family, Cindy. As a founding member of Warwick Figure Skaters, your Mom created an environment and culture for so many to thrive and learn to love figure skating. She was a generous woman, always giving of her time and talent. Thanks to Rita, so many kids had the best experiences of their lives and learned so much. May God Bless her and may she Rest in Peace. Sue McGuirl*

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**Susan McGuirl** - March 23, 2021 at 08:38 PM

AC

*My sympathy to Rita's family and friends. I had the pleasure of enjoying Ruth's company for lunch and movies. She will be missed.*

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**Arlene Cooney** - March 23, 2021 at 08:55 PM

DM

*Rob and I are so sorry for your lost. She was a wonderful woman and enjoyed being her neighbor for 44 years. She will be sadly missed*

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**Deb Mazzone** - March 23, 2021 at 11:49 PM

CI

*Cindy, I am so sorry for your loss*  
*-C Pereira*

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**Cindy** - March 24, 2021 at 08:28 AM

KH

*Dear Cindy and Family - I met Rita when my daughter started Basics about 15 years ago. My mom was a perennial volunteer and so I recognized a kindred spirit right away and she got me involved in Warwick Figure Skaters and I've continued that to this day. I wish I could have seen her skate, but I was always impressed and grateful for her dedication to the Club she helped found (such a wonderful achievement) and the enormous amounts of time and energy she gave to it. She was just one of those people whose kindness was visible right away. It was a pleasure and honor to have worked with her and known her.*

*Karen Hogan*

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**Karen Hogan** - March 25, 2021 at 10:16 AM