



Therese Rita Hughes

March 3, 2026

Therese Rita Hughes of Warwick, Rhode Island passed away peacefully on Tuesday, March 3rd at the venerable age of 98. She was the loving wife of William Francis Hughes for 47 years, a devoted mother to her four children, a loving grandmother to 11 and great-grandmother to 12. She was born on July 6th, 1927 to Camille and Yvonne (Vanasse) Arcand in West Warwick.

Therese was a 1945 graduate of West Warwick High School. She graduated from Pembroke College at Brown University in 1949 with a Bachelor of Science in Biology and worked as a lab technician at Rhode Island Hospital after graduation. She married Bill in 1952 and transitioned to the full time career of raising their four children. After her marriage, she spent time in upstate New York as an IBM wife, volunteering at Vassar Hospital. She also lived in Windsor, Connecticut and Winchester, Massachusetts before returning to Rhode Island in 1974. She lived in Warwick for 50 years. She was an active member of St. Catherine's Parish and the Kent County Brown Alumnae Club. She volunteered for many years at the Rhode Island Community Food Bank.

Later in life, Therese returned to work as a librarian at Saint James School in West Warwick and Saint Mary Academy in East Providence. After retiring, she enjoyed gardening, birdwatching and babysitting her grandchildren. She had a lifelong love of music and played the piano well into her 90s. She delighted in giving the grandchildren and great-grandchildren their first piano lessons. She

loved tiny tupperware containers and folding paper really small.

Therese is survived by her daughter Kathleen (Vahan) Mikaelian of Scituate, Rhode Island; a daughter-in-law; 11 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. She also leaves her sister-in-law Clare Hope Hughes, RSM and two nieces. She was predeceased by her husband, and sons John Michael Hughes, William Francis Hughes and Thomas Edward Hughes.

Funeral will be held Monday, March 9th at 8:45 AM from the Winfield & Son's Funeral Home, 571 West Greenville Road, Scituate, with a Mass of Christian Burial at 10:00 AM in St. Joseph Church, 144 Danielson Pike, Scituate. Burial will be private. Visitation will be held Sunday, March 8th from 12:00-2:00 PM.

In lieu of flowers, the family invites you to donate to the Rhode Island Community Food Bank. <https://rifoodbank.org/donate/> or a charity of your choice in memory of Therese.

Cemetery Details

Saints Peter & Paul Cemetery

Corner of Brown Street and Hill Street
Coventry, RI 02816

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 8. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Winfield & Sons Funeral Home and Crematory
571 West Greenville Road (Route 116)
Scituate, RI 02857
(401) 647-5421

Mass of Christian Burial

MAR 9. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Joseph Church
144 Danielson Pike
Scituate, RI 02857

Tribute Wall

SL

“ My condolences to the Hughes family and friends. My mother was a childhood and high school friend. They were in the HS band together. Your mother was a bridesmaid in my parents double Wedding in 1948. She often mentioned your mom. My sincere condolences. Susan (Powers) Lague WestWarwick,RI

Susan Lague - March 09 at 08:21 AM

RG

“ My sincerest condolences to the entire family. She was my most loving godmother and I was blessed with her for over 73 years. I know she has gone home now to be with my godfather after a live of love and giving.

Royal A Govain - March 06 at 04:17 PM

TH

“ As Anne mentioned, Therese was my mother Barbara's best friend, even though Therese would frequently mention they were on different sides of the political spectrum, that didn't stop their love for each other. I recall fondly many visits from Therese and Bill to what we called the Shack, in Portsmouth. My wife Maureen recalls Therese bringing her grandchildren there to play with our two young sons. She was a beautiful soul who enjoyed a long and healthy life, and I thank her for being there for my Mom.

Please accept our condolences at this difficult time.

Tom and Maureen Harrington

Tom Harrington - March 06 at 08:17 AM

KM

Thank you, Tom. Such a wonderful friendship they shared for their whole lives. Treasured memories. ❤️

Kathleen Mikaelian - March 06 at 03:43 PM

AH

“*My brother Tom and I were very sad to hear of Therese’s passing. She and my mother were best of friends. I remember many a visit to her house throughout my childhood years. I even stayed with her for a few months while attending college. She was always so sweet and kind. I cherish the Christmas stocking she made for me when I was a little girl. I hang it up every Christmas.*

I send prayers of love and peace to the family during this difficult time.

Anne Harrington Hipwell

Anne Hipwell - March 05 at 08:36 PM

KM

Thank you, Anne. How wonderful that you have the stocking! She made one for every new addition to our family. 😊 I always loved the fact that my mom had a group of best friends that she’d known since childhood, including your mom. I take comfort knowing that they’re together again. ❤️

Kathleen Mikaelian - March 06 at 03:49 PM

BF

“ *Therese, Barbara and Peggy were lifelong friends, no matter where their journeys took them. I remember Therese from my youth as someone who shared her knowledge, experiences and wisdom freely. She made a difference for many in so many ways during her life.*

Our deepest condolences;

Bob and Paulette Francois

Bob Francois - March 05 at 03:57 PM

KM

Bob, thank you so much. I've been going through Mom's albums and you probably know that your mother was the maid-of-honor at her wedding. So I've been reminiscing about all the good times we had with your family growing up. Amazing that those ladies were lifelong friends. ❤️

Kathleen Mikaelian - March 06 at 03:37 PM