



Rochelle Wesley

SEP 17, 1938 - MAR 23, 2020



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Rochelle Wesley, 81, of East China, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her husband and six children on March 23, 2020.

She was born on September 17, 1938 in Detroit to the late Michele and Genevieve (Wojtas) Palazzolo of East Detroit. As a young child, Rochelle and her family accompanied her father's traveling band, "Don Michele and the Don's", as they performed in major cities throughout the United States. A short stay in Las Vegas afforded her the opportunity to meet famous acts of the time, such as, Lucille Ball & Desi Arnez and Blondie & Dagwood.

After attending 28 different schools Rochelle's family settled back in Detroit where she graduated from Southeastern High School. She attended Burrough School of Business and soon after, met and married the love of her life, Gerald Wesley on October 4, 1958.

Having out-grown their first home in St Clair Shores, they decided to move their family to Anchorville and quickly adapted to country living. Without any experience they farmed 27 acres, raised a variety of farm animals and bred White German Shepherds. Helping to feed and clothe their family of eight, Rochelle mastered the art of canning, cooking, sewing and home renovating as Jerry continued to work full time at Jennings and Port Huron Hospital.

She also became actively involved in various ministries at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church and participated and supported many local organizations including; 4H, Scouting, Boosters, PTA and Perch Point Conservation Club.

Second "mom" to many, she enthusiastically embraced the Marine City Sports Community and beyond, but her greatest joy came from hosting and feeding large family gatherings. She also enjoyed camping, gardening, flea markets, garage sales, casino's, antiquing and collecting cookie jars.

She is survived by her loving husband of 61 years, Gerald; children, Gerald (Anita),



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Albert (Christine), Don (Julia), Jeannie, Ronald and Robert (Julie) Wesley; grandchildren, Gerald, Joseph, Victoria, Elizabeth (Troy), Jack (Ashley), Christopher, Madeline, Don, Charles, Erica, Michael, Antonino, Zoe, Robert, Grace, Anna, Mary, James; great-grandchildren, Kaelyn, Conner; siblings, Antoinette (Tom), Rose Marie (Lorne), Michele (MaryLou), Veronica (William), (Carol), twenty nieces and nephews and a slew of great nieces and nephews. She is preceded by her siblings, Jeanne and Gene.

The family would also like to extend their gratitude to all Healthcare Professionals, Caregivers and extended family and friends, who provided comfort, moral support and care these last few years. A special thanks to Pat and Cherylynn, next door neighbors, that have gone above and beyond.

Due to current circumstances, a full Mass and celebration of her life will be scheduled at a later date. Until then, please continue to keep Rochelle and Gerald in your prayers. God Bless you, our leaders and America!

In lieu of flowers memorials are suggested to the wishes of the family. Arrangements by Young Funeral Home, China Twp. To leave a message of comfort visit

www.youngcolonial.com



Events

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Cemetery Details

 Cremation



Tribute Wall

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VD

Veronica Dory lit a candle in honor of Rochelle.

I will forever feel so blessed to have had Chelle as my sister and my friend. I can't envision life without her in it. Sisters are forever and never apart, I love you so very much Chelle. You will truly be missed. ❤️ "The body is but an outer covering for the soul. The reality is the soul which never dies, but just changes form. So, we know that in some way, you will always be there around us." Rest well!♥ Your little sister, Veronica (L'll Moe)



March 29 at 6:24 PM

MW

Marilyn Wojtas posted:

May we all celebrate the life of Rochelle Wesley, a wife, a mother, a daughter, a relative and a friend. Who has left us all with very special memories to treasure. May God Bless us one and all. Condolences. Aunt Marilyn Wojtas, Richard S. Wojtas, Nancy J. & Micheal Lane, Diana L. & Andrew Newbery, Christine E. & Jerry Girard

March 28 at 6:49 PM

MM

Maria May posted:

So sorry to hear that Chelle has passed. We had a lot of good times years ago. I don't even know if you knew Dave passed last November. Things certainly are different now. My prayers to all of you. Love Maria May and family

March 26 at 12:09 PM

RW

Rich Wojtas posted:

Rochelle always a kind word and always welcomed everyone (the more the merrier). She made her way in the world. Rochelle was one to figure life out as she went. Once Rochelle, Jerry and my folks woke us kids in the middle of the night and drove us all, in our pajamas, to Cedar Point. Life is perfectly imperfect as it is. Love you, dear Rochelle

March 25 at 9:11 PM



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WH

Wendy Heid posted:

I had the privilege of being one of Rochelles home care nurses. I always looked forward to seeing her because she had the best stories, biggest hugs, and, early on when she was still able to cook, her house smelled of best home made food- which led to the nickname "pasta momma". Even though I was there to help her with her health care needs, she would ask how me how I was doing and was genuine with her concerns. She spoke about her family fondly, and beamed with pride about their accomplishments- they were the center of her universe. I am so honored to have met her and will always cherish the time I was able to be part of her amazing life.

March 25 at 6:22 PM

ID

Ilene Dubay posted:

Such a sweet and caring lady. Heartfelt condolences to the family and may God bless you in this time. 🙏🙏🙏❤️❤️

March 25 at 3:39 PM

SW

Stacey Westrick posted:

I love Chelle/Jerry and will always keep her in my heart! She made me laugh and I'd like to believe I made her laugh lots as well!! I will definitely do things that we talked about and think of you. Prayers for the family during these difficult times! Love to all! ❤️❤️❤️

March 25 at 3:24 PM

RW

Rob Wesley March 27 at 11:14 AM

Thank you Stacey, my mother and father absolutely loved the time you have spent with them. What you have provided is more than just a service it was a true friendship. Please know they mentioned you every time that we spoke. Julie and I are so thankful for our friendship over the years with your entire family. Rob, Julie and the entire Wesley family.



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Yvonne Calahan posted:

YvonneAs Easter is fast-approaching, two thoughts come to mind in regard to my dear Godmother. The gift of eternal life she is now experiencing in all of its unspeakable glory, AND my memory of her dressed as an Easter bunny hopping around the farmyard throwing colored eggs everywhere. Back in the day, any event would be recorded as memorable if Aunt Rochelle was in attendance. I also truly believe she is responsible for my lifetime pasta addiction. When visiting as a child, I recall numerous times she would make some kind of soup with something that looked like little BBs in it. I once asked her "What are those white things in this soup? " and she replied with an Italian drawl "Paaaastina". I've been hooked ever since. In so many ways, she reminded me of my grandma Palazzolo. Even if I hadn't seen her for a while, she was always up-to-date on what was going on in my life. That familiar greeting "Hi baby" and the heartwarming kiss made me feel so loved by her. She really cared and that was never more evident than her being at my mom's side after I had kidney cancer surgery as a child. She entered my room with my mom at her side and saw me stand for the first time ever. When I was 35 and diagnosed with liver cancer, I recall waking up seeing Aunt Rochelle and Uncle Jerry in my room. This meant more to men than either of them will ever know. My dear Wesley family, we have a history together through the years and through the years. I love you all and send you the Peace and Comfort of God that surpasses all understanding.

March 25 at 12:02 PM



Michael And Micki Schichtel posted:

She was always so delightful to be around at the various parties and events at Don and Julies house.

March 25 at 10:48 AM



Toni posted:

My dear sister Chelle, There are many memories which I will always treasure. My thanks to her entire family, from her husband Jerry to all the children for their care, patience and love over these last few years especially. Chelle was a bigger than life person, her heart was open to everyone and her concern was real. I will remember our long conversations as we tried to fix our family and world problems, she always had a solution. I will miss her very much. Toni (AKA "Nannie") "Vita Fugit Sicut Umbra" Life flees Like A Shadow

March 25 at 10:32 AM



Toni And Tom Stevenson sent a Heart Wind Chime - Personalized to the Wesley family.

March 25 at 10:19 AM





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Debbie La Pratt posted:

I have so many memories of the Wesley family the stories the fun times some We go way back and loved going to the farm hang out with the kids in the family the parties we had just so so many wonderful people and she will be missed so much but my best story first time! I met Rochelle and the family for the first time When I went to the farm with not even my husband Bill we were just dating . I walked into the kitchen and Rochelle was standing at the stove cooking spaghetti,She looked at me and said she can eat that much spaghetti and threw another handful of spaghetti in the pot to cook. I loved hanging out with the kids we had just an unbelievable time at the farm things we did. Hanging out with the family so many so many stories too many to write less you are she was a wonderful lady and will be missed by all. She's up in heaven celebrating with Uncle Bunkle and Jim and so many more. ❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️ hugs and prayers to all. Rochelle and Jerry unbelievable people to meet you feel so welcome like you were part of the family for legacy will live on with an amazing family ❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️

March 25 at 9:19 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Rochelle by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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