



## Margaret Ann Russ

June 22, 1943 - August 9, 2023

We honor and celebrate the life of Margaret Ann Russ, a cherished family member and respected educator, whose life was defined by her selfless commitment to others, both human and animal. She died peacefully in her sleep on August 9, 2023, at the age of 80.

Margaret is preceded in death by her parents, Joseph and Anna Marconi, and survived by her siblings Joseph (Anna) Marconi and Susan Hochanadel; nephews Joseph (Charissa) and Nick (Katie) Marconi, Paul (Patrice) and Dave (Alicia) Hochanadel; along with her six great-nieces and nephews.

A devout Catholic of St. Patrick of Heatherdowns, Margaret was driven in life by her unyielding faith, determination, and ambition. She was the first in her family to attain a college degree, funding her own tuition to attend Mary Manse College where she graduated in 1968. She dedicated an astounding 47 years of her life to nurturing the minds of young students in the Toledo area. She spent many of those years teaching second and third graders at the two schools that bookended her career - St. Clement Catholic School and Regina Coeli.

Her unwavering dedication to education played a significant role in influencing the lives of thousands - with her students spanning from the Baby Boomer generation to Gen X, Millennials, and Gen Z. The knowledge and inspiration she imparted thread through the tapestry of our community and beyond. She was passionate about helping all the children she taught reach their potential, looking after each of them and often purchasing supplies so underprivileged

students could have the same opportunity to thrive. A favorite among her pupils, she was delighted to encounter them as adults and hear of all they had achieved in life.

Margaret's legacy is also distinguished by her deep passion for the welfare of animals. The doors of her home were always open to rescue animals, each one finding a haven and new lease on life in her care. She worked tirelessly to trap and release stray cats, too, in an effort to control the pet population and give them a chance at a better life.

Margaret showered her extended family with limitless affection, support, and generosity. Though she never had children, many regarded her as a parental figure. She was always ready to offer advice, lend an ear, or lend a hand. Her quick wit and sharp sense of humor could lighten any room. Known for her tell-it-like-it-is honesty and a twinkle of mischief in her eye, Margaret had a knack for bringing smiles to faces even on the gloomiest days. Although she might have rolled her eyes at the thought of us sharing this, it's impossible to paint a complete picture of Margaret without acknowledging the feisty, rebellious spirit that made her so fun to be around.

While her death leaves a void that will be felt by all who knew her, Margaret's legacy of love, compassion, and education will continue to inspire and guide us. We will remember her not just for the life she lived, but for the lives she touched, the minds she shaped, and the animals she saved. We feel immeasurably blessed for the time we had with her. Seven-year-old great-niece Jacqueline put it best during her final visit, "Thank you, Aunt Margaret. You made our family better."

Margaret's ashes will be interred in a private ceremony on Saturday, October 6, 11 a.m. at the Catholic Diocese of Toledo's Resurrection Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, we encourage donations to the Toledo Humane Society or another animal shelter of your choice.

# Cemetery Details

## Resurrection Cemetery

5725 Hill Avenue  
Toledo, OH 43615

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

OCT 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

Resurrection Cemetery  
5725 Hill Avenue  
Toledo, OH 43615

# Tribute Wall

LN

“ I attended St Angela Hall and St Ursula Academy with Margaret. She was always a wonderful gracious friend in school and very positive to be around.  
My sympathy to her family and friends.  
I had always hoped that she would attend one of our reunions so that we could reconnect.

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**Linda Lehner Norwood** - September 10, 2023 at 12:54 PM

CA

“ Margaret Russ was a beautiful lady inside & out. A wonderful & fun sister-in-law with great laughs! She was a fabulous teacher inspiring so many children to love our Lord. Her rewards will be great in Heaven. I love you Margaret. Love Carol Earl

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**carol** - August 25, 2023 at 02:52 PM

JM

“ Sending our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Maggie. She was a well respected teacher and a favorite of many students, especially our son! Whenever I would see her through the years, she would ask about how he was doing. They shared a favorite subject.....politics.  
Thank you, Mrs. Russ, for your care and devotion to your students!  
Judy Miller

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**Judy Miller** - August 21, 2023 at 10:33 PM

MA

“ So sorry to hear of her passing. Sending condolences to her loved ones and family, may she rest in peace. Martha Marie Askins (Cousin)

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**Martha Marie Askins** - August 20, 2023 at 01:01 PM

PW

“ Maggie, you were loved by students & those who worked with you. You set a wonderful example by your faith & the care you gave to all. May you rest in peace.

*Pat Warner*

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**PAT WARNER** - August 17, 2023 at 10:40 AM

BT

“ Maggie was a great teacher and taught both of our sons second grade at St Clement School. She will be fondly remembered by all.

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**Betsy Tucker** - August 16, 2023 at 06:03 PM

BN

“ To Margaret’s family... I am so sorry for your loss. She taught me in 2nd grade at St. Clement almost 30 years ago. She was a great and devoted teacher. May she rest in peace

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**Brian Nowicki** - August 16, 2023 at 09:31 AM

TM

“ Margaret Ann was a beautiful woman inside and out! I was blessed to know her as my cousin and to remember looking forward to visits with her and family gatherings! She was a true friend and confident! There is a hole in our family where she she used to stand. The world is a better place because you were in it! Love Thomasine

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**Thomasine Marconi McGlynn** - August 15, 2023 at 10:31 PM