



## Nancy Golen

September 15, 1955 - March 23, 2025

Nancy Ann Golen

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With deep love and profound sadness, we announce the passing of Nancy Ann Golen, a cherished resident of Forest Park, Illinois, who departed this life on March 23, 2025, at the age of 69.

Nancy was born on September 15, 1955, in Toledo, Ohio, to William J. Golen and June R. (Motter) Golen. She was a woman of great intellect, creativity, and boundless kindness, dedicating her life to faith, service, and the people she loved.

Nancy was deeply devoted to her family, especially her beloved brother, John W. Golen, who survives her, along with his wife, Annette Cito Golen, and their son, James H. Golen, whom Nancy adored as her nephew. She also leaves behind her dear cat, Sweet Pea, a loyal companion who brought her joy.

A gifted student, Nancy earned her bachelor's degree from Eastern Michigan University and a master's degree from Duquesne University. She followed her faith with dedication, spending time as a member of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth and later the Cenacle Sisters. Even after leaving the convent, Nancy remained committed to the Catholic Church, dedicating her career to ministry. She worked with the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart

of Jesus as Director of the Cabrini Retreat Center in Des Plaines, Illinois, and most recently as Facilities Manager for The National Shrine of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini in Chicago. Her work was not just a profession but a calling, and she embraced every task with unwavering dedication and grace.

Nancy was a beacon of light—selfless, intelligent, and endlessly creative. She had a rare gift for making those around her feel valued, always putting the needs of others before her own. A talented graphic artist and program organizer, she used her skills to enrich the lives of many.

Nancy was blessed with a wide circle of friends who became family. She will be profoundly missed by Jackie Eckholm, who stood by her side with unwavering support during her illness, along with Jackie's husband, David Wilson, Anna Glielmi, Roxane Bloomfield, Mary Peters, and Yvonne Waite. She is also survived by her first cousins: Robert (Sandi), David (Sophia), and Bruce Golen.

A viewing will be held at Coyle Funeral Home in Toledo, Ohio, on Saturday, April 12, 2025, from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM, followed by a funeral service from 11:00 AM to 11:30 AM. A graveside service will take place at Keller Cemetery, north of Jenera, Ohio, from 2:00 PM to 2:45 PM.

Nancy's light and love will continue to shine in the hearts of those she touched. May she rest in eternal peace.

In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to PAWS of Chicago <https://www.pawschicago.org/>

# Cemetery Details

**Inactive - Keller Cemetery**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

APR 12. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Coyle Funeral Home  
1770 S. Reynolds Road  
Toledo, OH 43614

### Funeral Ceremony

APR 12. 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Coyle Funeral Home  
1770 S. Reynolds Road  
Toledo, OH 43614

### Graveside Service

APR 12. 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM.

Inactive - Keller Cemetery

# Tribute Wall

BT

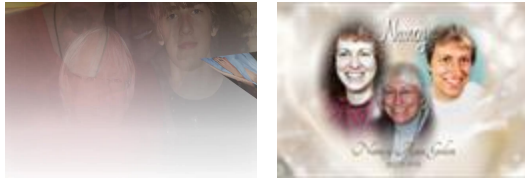
“ I met Nancy at the National Shrine of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini in Chicago. She was so kind and welcoming to me and everyone she encountered. She also joined me as part of the first cohort of Shrine Docents last year. In particular, I remember her being very welcoming to me and my peers from AGLO Chicago, the Archdiocesan Gay and Lesbian Outreach ministry, when we met to discuss a retreat hosted at the Shrine. She was not only present in those planning conversations, but also attended the retreat alongside us as we mediated on the life of Mother Cabrini.

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**Brent Taghap** - April 16, 2025 at 04:34 PM

CV

“ 2 files added to the album VIDEO TRIBUTE



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**COYLE FUNERAL HOME VIDEOS** - April 11, 2025 at 01:45 AM

RK

“ I was honored to be Nancy's colleague during her time as a member of the staff at Old St. Patrick's Church. Her commitment to the mission of Old St. Patrick's and its Crossroads Center for Faith & Work was clearly evident in her work, work that impacted the lives of so many people in important and meaningful ways.

*Nancy's spirit of generosity, service, and compassion was a gift to me and all those who came to know her through Old St. Patrick's.*

*Bob Kolatorowicz*

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**Robert Kolatorowicz** - April 08, 2025 at 12:30 PM

CG

“ It was truly a gift for me to get to know and work with Nancy during my years in Chicago. Her gentle spirit and quiet determination were outstanding. She worked with tireless determination at Cabrini Retreat Center. Recently, when I thanked her for this dedication she simply replied " Serving has been nothing but joy."

*Nancy ,may you now find that deep joy with the Sacred Heart of Jesus in heaven.*

*Sr. Catherine Garry, MSC*

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**Catherine Garry** - April 04, 2025 at 04:29 PM

SF

“ 1 file added to the album main



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**Sr. Cathy Fedewa** - April 04, 2025 at 12:02 PM

SF

“ Nancy was a blessing to me in so many ways, especially giving me the opportunity to become more immersed in immigration concerns while working for her at Cabrini Retreat Center. Although I knew her previously as a former novice in our congregation and as a Director of Religious Education in the parish where I lived, it was her work at Cabrini that will live on in my memories of her. She touched so many young people in that ministry and was so dedicated to providing loving hospitality for them to experience God in the numerous Kairos Retreats held there. Thank you, Nancy for your many gifts shared with so many. Thank you, John and Annette for your loving care for her.

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**Sr. Cathy Fedewa** - April 04, 2025 at 11:58 AM

MC

“ As a recent board member of Mother's Cabrini Shrine, I only shared with Nancy some few meetings. However, these interactions gave me the opportunity to experience a wonderful human being, full of compassion for others, in particular the migrant communities, eager to serve, and utterly committed to a more equitable world. Nancy embodied the charisma of Mother Cabrini and was a model of a congruent Christian. She will remain in my heart as a source of inspiration and hope.

*Mauricio Cifuentes*

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**Mauricio Cifuentes** - April 02, 2025 at 11:11 AM

NC

“ I was blessed to have been a Cabrinian colleague of Nancy's for many years. Nancy was thoughtful, faith-filled, creative, hard-working and fun! She had a way of making people feel welcome and special. Nancy was a wonderful listener. She was genuinely interested in all you had to share. She was practical and pragmatic, always able to offer sage advice and insights when asked. Although we lived a great distance apart, we would often call and text one another. When her texts would pop up on my phone, her messages would make me smile. She brightened my day with her optimism and positivity. She became a dear and trusted friend. I miss her. ~ Nancy Costello

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**Nancy Costello** - April 01, 2025 at 10:03 AM

DO

“ On behalf of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (Cabrini Sisters) I want to give tribute to the life and witness of Nancy. She was courageous and passionate. She loved her ministry of introducing people to God's love active in their lives. She had a deep and profound life of faith. We were so gifted to have Nancy lead Cabrini Retreat Center for many years and to transition the Retreat Center to the current owners. Nothing was too much to ask Nancy. We were gifted with her witness, and we offer our most sincere condolences to John and Annette. Thank you, Nancy - continue in prayer for us. With love and gratitude, Sr. Diane Olmstead, MSC

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**Diane Olmstead** - March 31, 2025 at 04:04 PM

SA

“ Nancy has gifted so many of us in ways that cannot be named; they are too numerous. Over these many years, she has been a friend, a partner in mission, a sister. Her gifts and skills transformed every mission and work in which she was engaged. Her dedication, insights, and creative resolve helped to extend our outreach possibilities; her teamwork was invaluable.

Since the first time we met, Nancy impressed me with her openness and generosity of time and interest. Her faith life fueled the direction of her life. She has left a legacy that inspires all who knew and loved her.

John and Annette, thank you for all the ways you cared and supported Nancy. She was ever grateful for your presence and love.

Along with all our Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Cabrini Lay Missionaries and Partners in Mission, we celebrate Nancy's life and thank God for the gift she has been to all of us.

Sr. Bernadette Anello, MSC

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**Sr. Bernadette Anello** - March 31, 2025 at 11:47 AM

PK

“ John may you and your family feel peace in knowing that Nancy is now in the presence of God. You all loved and cared for her so well and she greatly appreciated your love and dedication. Thank you for sharing your wonderful sister with us—she had a huge impact on all of us! Pat from Arizona

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**Patricia Kirk** - March 30, 2025 at 06:13 PM

TH

“ 1 file added to the album main



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**thegolens** - March 30, 2025 at 12:02 PM