

FRANCES SHIRLEY DIFRANCO JONES MONACO



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Frances Shirley DiFranco Jones Monaco passed away September 28,

2006 in Tempe, Arizona, after a valiant battle against Lymphoma. Shirley was born in Niagara Falls in 1936. An important part of a large extended family, she had many cousins and friends to grow up with in downtown Niagara Falls, and later in LaSalle. After graduating from LaSalle High School, she worked for the local telephone company. She married Mirl Jones of Niagara Falls in 1954, and had four children. Between being a den mother for the Cub Scouts, a "neighborhood Mom", as well as a parent volunteer at 79th Street School, Shirley ran a day care in her home (Susie's

Playroom), before moving on to Weber Oil, Robert Tavano Insurance, and Buffalo Pumps. She was active in local and state Republican politics in the 1960's and 1970's, and eventually retired and delighted in maintaining a beautiful home while entertaining friends and family in the Town of Niagara with her husband, Gino Monaco. Part-time work then included two retail stores where she enjoyed keeping up with local news and events. The couple moved to Tempe in 1997, where the warm climate of Arizona made for a pleasant retirement, with the added bonus of living near three of her children and two of four grandchildren. In these later years, Shirley especially enjoyed being a grandmother. Whether it was meeting her Arizona grandchildren at the after school bus, or taking her California grandchildren to the beach, she treasured each moment. Shirley also had a passion for using technology for fun and communication. She was an e-mail legend in the family, and urged others to buy personal computers and utilize e-mail to keep together our large geographically dispersed extended family. She loved attending her weekly Mac Users meetings, and touted the advantages of Macs over PCs to anyone that would listen. She particularly enjoyed cooking, with an emphasis on Italian food, and passed that love on to each of her sons, and a daughter who bakes from scratch! She was always the first to volunteer her cooking for bake sales and potlucks, and she turned even the shortest coffee break into a feast. Predeceased in 2002 by her husband Gino, Shirley is sadly missed by her children Tom Jones of Tempe, Rich Jones (Donna) of Scotts Valley CA, Bill Jones (Laura) of Paradise Valley AZ, and Sue Jones of Tempe; four grandchildren (Tyler and Vanessa in AZ, Sequoia and Canyon in CA), her mother Eleanor Cicero of Chandler AZ, her brother Vincent DiFranco of

Tempe, and her sister Patricia Law of Bay Village OH, two nieces, one nephew, and many other relatives and friends in Niagara Falls, Arizona, and all across the US. A memorial service will be held on Wednesday, October 11th, from 5-8pm in Phoenix. Friends and family in the Niagara Falls area will gather at a mass in LaSalle. In lieu of flowers, donations to Hospice of the Valley, 1510 E. Flower St., Phoenix, AZ 85014 (www.hov.org) are encouraged.

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