



## Nena Kowalski

March 25, 1930 - December 18, 2017

Nena Montero Reed Kowalski went to be with her Lord and Savior on December 18, 2017. Nena was born on March 25, 1930 in Vertientes, Cuba. She bravely emigrated to Philadelphia with her Mother in 1943 without knowing a word of English. She completed her public schooling at Penns Grove High School, NJ. There she met, fell in love and married her high school sweetheart, Robert T. Reed Jr. They married in 1952 and soon had two children, Robert T. Reed III and Dori Ellen Reed. Nena was a loving, generous, resourceful woman who made everyone around her happy. Her warm hugs made you feel as if you had been lifelong friends. Nena, Mom, Grandmom, Mom-mom, Tia Nena will be remembered and treasured as a unique person who always added to your life, not subtracting from it. She was always so much fun and had many friends at Victorian Towers in Cape May, NJ. Nena was a fabulous cook and baker, whether it was for her children's friends after school before a basketball game at her house, for 200 plus campers at the YMCA Camp in Greenville, SC, or baking birthday cakes for her family and friends at the "Towers." Nena later married William Kowalski and enlarged her love and family to also include his daughter, Susan Boehm. Nena was preceded in death by her parents, Miguel Montero and Dora Montero Groeber as well as many family members in Cuba and the United States. Nena is survived by her sister, Deborah Groeber DeGroff, husband, Trip and her 6 nieces and nephews. Also surviving are her son, Robert T. Reed, wife Maura and daughter Dori Ellen Mueller, husband Garry. She is also survived by 9 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in memory of Nena to The Wounded Warrior Project. A Memorial Mass will be celebrated at Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Cape May, NJ on Friday, January 12, 2017 at 1pm where friends will be received prior to Mass from 12:30 pm until 1pm.

# Events

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**JAN**   **Visitation**   12:30PM - 01:00PM

**12**

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Our Lady Star of the Sea Church  
525 Washington Street, Cape May, NJ, US

**JAN**   **Service**   01:00PM

**12**

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Our Lady Star of the Sea Church  
525 Washington Street, Cape May, NJ, US

# Comments

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“ My love and deepest condolences to Debbie, Bobby, Dori and family.

Nena was one of a kind. Growing up She was my sister as the sister to my sister! Deb, Mima and Nena were my other family. She opened her home and family to me unconditionally in Carneys Point and Townsends Inlet! She was a fixture at SJHS while we were there! We have many lovely memories and I shall treasure them always.

I truly regret that I cannot join you on Friday but my heart & thoughts will be with you all.

With Love

Carol Molinari Monks

**carol Molinari Monks** - January 10, 2018 at 10:44 PM

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“ Nena was one of the most loving, grace-giving people I ever met. Her life story is remarkable, and speaks volumes about her character and spirit, which will live on in those who were blessed to know her. Tom

**Thomas Fries** - January 05, 2018 at 12:24 PM

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“ Nena and I shared the same birth date 3/25 together. Nena and my father Bob would hand each other the same birthday card each year because they were the same age. Nena was my Cuban mama and I was happy to send her pictures from Cuba last year I have a picture of Nena and my mom Gert on my kitchen counter now I can talk to both of them. Nena is truly missed Dora and you brother and the rest of the family may God bless you all.  
Patti Marinaro

**patti marinaro** - January 04, 2018 at 07:34 PM



“ Nena and I were like sisters,we had so much in common!  
When we Nena myself & my husband Bernie would go places we had so much fun. We often went shopping together & tried on clothes that were really different for us just so we could laugh & have a good time.

Spoke to Nena 3 days before she died & we had a lot to talk about ,our time at the towers & the party's that were so much fun.We spoke about all of our friends,Gert,Jenny,Mary & Joan,Kitty & Judy.

I really miss talking with her on a daily basis!!!

Rest in peace my Cuban sister.

Your Italian sister

Joanne

**joanne bonifazi** - January 06, 2018 at 05:22 PM



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With Love

Carol Molinari Monks

**carol Molinari Monks** - January 10, 2018 at 09:07 PM



“ The sweetest lady. Loved seeing her when ever I visited my mom at Victorian towers RIP  
Nina

**Bettyanne Buckley DeBlasio** - March 29, 2018 at 09:21 PM