



Madeline Viaene

September 22, 1930 - June 25, 2024

Madeline Viaene (nee Sammut)

(September 22, 1930 – June 25, 2024)

Born in Detroit, Michigan, Madeline (at the age of 3) and her family left the US for an extended vacation on the island of Malta, to visit relatives and friends. As the Italian war and later World War II broke out, it became less safe for them to return to the US, and they became “stuck” in Malta, which was a strategic military location. After surviving bombings and severe rationing (to say nothing about sneak attacks by an aunt with lizards!), the family returned to the United States on July 26, 1947. After working at Charm’s Cafeteria and J. L. Hudson’s Department Store (doing alterations) she ultimately found her way to sewing interiors at Ford Motor Company. Though born in the US, Madeline spoke Maltese most of her childhood (ages 3 – 16), and eventually learned English through sheer strength of will and dedication to absorb what she could learn from soldiers during the war, Ford factory workers, radio, and television (especially soap operas). Madeline was a devout Catholic who loved her family more than anything and instilled that value in her own children. She raised four children (Denise, Lionel Jr., Anna, and Jeffery) with unconditional love, patience, and understanding, and retired from Ford in 1993, after 35 years. Madeline was always known for her incredible knitting skills, beautiful rose gardens, homemade soups, hard work, gentle kindness, and sense of humor. Known as Madeline, Mud-lin (to some), Grandma and Nanna (to others), and Buznanna (Maltese for great grandmother), she

always had time for her grandchildren and many great grandchildren. Madeline was preceded in death by her parents Louis and Phyllis Sammut; husband Lionel Cornelius Viaene; brothers George and Alfred Sammut; and sister Mary Melody. She is survived by siblings: Josephine Fenech, Charlie Sammut, Dolores Pace, Connie Barber, and Helen Tomaszewski; her children: Denise (Keith) MacBride, Lionel (Barbara) Viaene Jr., Anna (Donald) Bushbaker, Jeffery (Sharlene) Viaene; grandchildren: Michael (Gayle) MacBride, Ryan (Kelly) MacBride, Sean (Brooke) MacBride, Justin (Kaylee) Viaene, Alyse (Elias) Vasquez, Kaitlyn Bushbaker (Ricky Robbins), Dana (Omar) Qadah, Brendan Bushbaker, Ashleigh Viaene, Ethan Viaene, and Owen Viaene; great grandchildren: Dylan, Parker, Addison, Keegan, Madelyn, Owen, Finley, Ford, Annabelle, Jace, Jeremy, Nyelie, Elias, Isaac, and Julian. After almost 94 years on this earth, many fond memories and adventures, Madeline rests easily without pain. We all love her and miss her very much.

Family and friends may visit from 1:00 P.M. until the time of service at 3:45 P.M. on Monday July 1, 2024 at Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home. Deacon Christian Salata will officiate. Dinner to follow, beginning at 5:00 pm Saline American Legion Hall 320 W. Michigan Avenue, Saline. Her final resting place will be at St. Hedwig Cemetery, Dearborn Heights, MI.

To sign Madeline's guestbook, to leave a memory, or for directions, please visit www.rbfhsaline.com

Cemetery Details

St. Hedwig Cemetery

23755 Military Rd
Dearborn Heights, MI 48127

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 1. 1:00 PM - 3:45 PM (ET)

Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home & Cremation Services
301 E Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176
(734) 429-9760
rbfhsaline@hotmail.com
<https://www.rbfhsaline.com>

Funeral Service

JUL 1. 3:45 PM (ET)

Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home & Cremation Services
301 E Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176
(734) 429-9760
rbfhsaline@hotmail.com
<https://www.rbfhsaline.com>

Tribute Wall

DS

“ Deborah S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Madeline Viaene.

Deborah S. - July 01, 2024 at 09:59 AM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Madeline Viaene.



June 30, 2024 at 07:33 PM

RI

“ Ron Yurenka and Lori Imboden planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Madeline Viaene.

Ron Yurenka and Lori Imboden - June 30, 2024 at 07:33 PM

TE

“ My 1st memory was the smell of Lilly of the valley as you walked into her home; which brought such peace even as a wee little girl. Then around the corner came Auntie Madeline with a huge smile, inviting warm hugs filled with so much love ❤️ I never wanted to leave that embrace! And CHRISTmas time she would bless me with a beautiful soft flannel night gown that you could pull your knees up into and feel rose warm hugs as I drifted off to sleep 😴 Love Terri ❤️

Terri - June 30, 2024 at 05:29 PM

GP

“ *What a gift Madeline has been to all who knew her. She was truly a beautiful and kind person - THE HEAVENS ARE ENRICHED BY HER BEAUTY!*

Gary & Rita Pace - June 30, 2024 at 04:26 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Madeline Viaene.*



June 30, 2024 at 09:47 AM

BF

“ *16 files added to the album Family*



Bob Fenech - June 29, 2024 at 08:12 PM

GW

“ George W. purchased the *Fairest of All* for the family of Madeline Viaene.



George W. - June 29, 2024 at 01:47 PM

NS

“ Nicole and Matteo Simeoni purchased the *Full Of Love Bouquet* for the family of Madeline Viaene.



Nicole and Matteo Simeoni - June 28, 2024 at 06:06 PM

TF

“ The Qadah Family purchased the *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* for the family of Madeline Viaene.



The Qadah Family - June 28, 2024 at 04:10 PM

LF

“ Love, The Hill & Sutton Families purchased the *Serene Retreat* for the family of Madeline Viaene.



Love, The Hill & Sutton Families - June 28, 2024 at 01:41 PM

JE

“ John E. purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Madeline Viaene.



John E. - June 28, 2024 at 09:46 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms* was purchased for the family of Madeline Viaene.



June 27, 2024 at 09:39 AM



“ *Serene Retreat* was purchased for the family of Madeline Viaene.



June 26, 2024 at 05:13 PM

LF

“ Love Tommy, Suzy and the Leen Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Madeline Viaene.

Love Tommy, Suzy and the Leen Family - June 26, 2024 at 05:13 PM

BF

“ *Such a BIG part of our family and lives. So many good memories. Pretty sure the angels in heaven will be glad to see her to finally get their outfits properly fitted*

Bob Fenech - June 26, 2024 at 04:29 PM