



## Lillian (Pope) Wojtaszek

October 7, 1929 - February 27, 2023

Lillian (Pope) Wojtaszek entered eternal life on Feb. 27, 2023, in her home in North Tonawanda surrounded by many loving family members.

Lillian Mary Pope was born Oct. 7, 1929, to Italian immigrants, Enrico and Anna (D'Amico) Papi in Medina, New York. She was the fifth oldest in a family of seven children and spent her formative years during the Great Depression. She attended St. Mary's Grade School and graduated from Medina High in 1947. Always the successful scholar, Lillian attended D'Youville College on a full Regents Scholarship, graduated with a B.A. in history in 1951 and was certified to teach. She worked for the Corps of Engineers in Buffalo and attended graduate school in the evening at Canisius College, where she met her husband, Thomas Wojtaszek. They were married in 1953 and became parents to twelve children over the next 15 years. Since 1956, she resided in North Tonawanda, where her generous spirit and hospitality earned her many friends.

Lillian devoted herself to the role of mother. Known as a "baby magnet," she delighted in caring for infants and toddlers. She spent many summer afternoons refereeing backyard kickball games for her older children and neighborhood kids while tending to an infant and toddlers at the same time. She was very involved in the Mother's Club at St. Joseph's School, where her homemade pizza was always a big hit at bake sales. She became a substitute teacher there after all her children were in school. Years later, providing childcare for her local grandchildren gave her the chance to enjoy caring for

another generation of Wojtaszeks.

Preceded in death by her beloved husband Tom, her parents, her siblings Angeline Porto, Onorina Pope, Boniface Pope, Antoinette Pope and Francis Pope, her siblings-in-law Arline Kusmierz, Tom Porto and Mary Pope, she is survived by her sister and brother-in-law, Anne Marie and Tom Rozek, her children Anne (Rich) Lee, Madonna (Jim Healy) Wojtaszek-Healy, Joan (Eric) Ludewig, Mary Kaufman (Keith Kofod), Thomas Wojtaszek, Jr., Pauline (Don) Wojtaszek-Evans, Antoinette (Paul Pearson) Wojtaszek, Henry (Caroline) Wojtaszek, Maureen (Matt) Leffler, Paul (Colleen) Wojtaszek, Kathleen (Tommy Gariano) Wojtaszek-Gariano and James (Ann DuHamel) Wojtaszek. She also is survived by her 25 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be at Wattengel Funeral Home, 533 Meadow Drive, North Tonawanda on Thursday, March 2, from 1 to 9 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered on Friday, March 3, at 11 a.m. in Our Lady of Czestochowa Church, 64 Center St., North Tonawanda. In lieu of flowers, donations to Niagara Hospice, 4675 Sunset Drive, Lockport NY 14094, would be appreciated.

# Cemetery Details

## Mt. Olivet Cemetery

4000 Elmwood Ave  
Kemore, NY

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 2. 1:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Wattengel Funeral Home (Meadow Drive)  
533 Meadow Drive  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120  
(716) 693-0440  
wattengelfh@gmail.com  
<https://www.wattengel.com>

## Mass of Christian Burial

MAR 3. 11:00 AM (ET)

Our Lady of Czestochowa Church  
626 Oliver Street  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120  
(716) 693-3822

# Tribute Wall

MJ

“ *Henry and Caroline,  
We are sorry to hear of your mom's passing. Please accept our  
condolences and prayers for her and your family.*

*With our love,  
The Lapers*

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**Mary Joan** - March 02, 2023 at 06:26 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for  
the family of Lillian (Pope) Wojtaszek.*



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March 02, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the  
family of Lillian (Pope) Wojtaszek.*



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March 02, 2023 at 08:56 AM



“ *In our thoughts and prayers, we will forever keep the beautiful memories of Lil & Tom in our hearts. Our deepest sympathies to everyone in the family at this time of loss. There is no doubt Aunt Lil is in a glorious place free of harm, relieved of any form of sickness. and watching over each and everyone one of us from above, eternally.*



*With love and many blessings, Crystal, Julien and her nephew Lawrence*

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**Crystal Hewitt** - March 02, 2023 at 01:10 AM

CL

“ *Crystal, Julien and her nephew Larry purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Lillian (Pope) Wojtaszek.*



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**Crystal, Julien and her nephew Larry** - March 02, 2023 at 01:00 AM

CM

“ *Our sincere condolences to you, Paul, Colleen and your entire family. Sending love and prayers. Love Catherine and Russ Imbesi*

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**catherine mancuso-Imbesi** - March 01, 2023 at 08:07 PM

MK

“ To my beloved Mombo, you will always be remembered as the most beautiful, kindhearted soul I ever knew, and proud to have called you MOTHER. You beautiful smile and demeanor could never be duplicated, nor could all of the life's lessons you instilled in your children. May you rest in peace alongside your beloved and dearly missed Tommy, and that you enjoyed your long awaited dance together after 5 years apart. Until we meet again, please watch over us, and give us strength to carry on your legacy. Sleep peacefully, beautiful Mombo! I love you forever and ever!

Mary Kaufman - March 01, 2023 at 08:04 PM

AW

Mary, the depth of your devotion to your Mother is beautiful. I know you kept her laughing when she needed it most! The extent of her influence is far-reaching. Our lovely Aunt Lily who lived with her arms stretched out to keep us close. Love, Angela

Angela Watts - March 01, 2023 at 09:51 PM



“ 235 files added to the album LifeTributes



Wattengel Funeral Home - March 01, 2023 at 04:41 PM

GR

“ From Vincent Family, we are all deeply saddened by the loss of your beloved mother Lillian. We always knew her as Aunt Lil, and we will always remember her as Aunt Lil. She was the most welcoming, loving, and generous lady anyone could ever want to know. Her life was great, and your loss is great also. Aunt Lil will be remembered by so many people that she has touched in her lifetime... what an inspiration for your children to follow in her example. Aunt Lil will be missed, and she will still be loved... she cannot be replaced... Greg, Cris, Danny, Cecilia, and Leonardo...”

Gregory - March 01, 2023 at 12:36 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Lillian (Pope) Wojtaszek.”



March 01, 2023 at 09:18 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lillian (Pope) Wojtaszek.”



February 28, 2023 at 07:10 PM

RD

“ The joy Lillian brought to our lives will not be forgotten.”

Rosemary & Rich Dever - February 28, 2023 at 04:07 PM

NO

*I am glad I got to meet her. She was very welcoming and had a kind, loving heart. Grand son Nixon Omollo*

**Nixon Omollo** - March 01, 2023 at 10:19 AM

GB

*My family was so fortunate to have this amazing woman as a lifelong friend. May she rest in eternal peace.*

**Gail Barsky** - March 01, 2023 at 09:22 PM

PP

“ *Paul & Chris Pellicano purchased the Divine Light for the family of Lillian (Pope) Wojtaszek.*



**Paul & Chris Pellicano** - February 28, 2023 at 02:27 PM



“ *Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lillian (Pope) Wojtaszek.*



February 28, 2023 at 01:24 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Lillian (Pope) Wojtaszek.*



February 28, 2023 at 01:07 PM

RB

“ So sorry for your loss...with our thoughts and our prayers...Rocky, Nancy, Steve, Marc and Rocco...”

Rocky Bruno - February 28, 2023 at 12:20 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Lillian (Pope) Wojtaszek.



February 28, 2023 at 11:07 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Lillian (Pope) Wojtaszek.



February 28, 2023 at 10:38 AM