



Eleanor Fucci

September 17, 1927 - March 6, 2014

Eleanor Ledogar Fucci

Eleanor Fucci, 86, died on March 6, 2014 at Mountainside Hospital in Glen Ridge, N.J.

A memorial service will be held at the Bloomfield Presbyterian Church on the Green (Parish House) on Saturday, March 15 at 11 a.m., followed by the interment of her ashes at Hollywood Memorial Cemetery in Union, N.J.

She was born Eleanor Ledogar in Belleville, N.J., in September 1927, the youngest of five children of Raoul Ledogar and the former Louise Schuppel.

She was raised in Belleville and Newark, N.J., and graduated from Central High School in Newark in May 1944, shortly after learning that her dear brother, Ralph, had been reported missing from his bombing squadron after an air raid on Northern Germany. (His remains were not found until after the war.)

She was employed immediately after high school by the Prudential Insurance Company in Newark, working to help support her mother and family, and served in many positions at Prudential from 1944 to 1959. In 1954, she met Victor Fucci of East Orange, N.J., who was a minor league baseball player during the baseball season and a letter carrier during the off-season. The two were married in February 1956.

She continued to work and supported her husband as he earned a bachelor's degree in accounting from Upsala College in East Orange.

Her first son, Fred, was born in July 1959 and her second son, Victor Jr., was born in April 1961. She devoted herself to raising her children in the family's house on Delaware Avenue in Bloomfield and after 1971 in Glen Ridge, and also cared for her mother and her husband's parents.

When her children were in high school, she went back to school for training as a bookkeeper. After her son, Victor Jr., left to attend Guilford College in Greensboro, N.C., she was employed in the offices of Dr. Anthony J. Boni, an optometrist in West Paterson, N.J., until retiring in 1994.

She and her husband, Victor, moved to Greensboro, N.C., in 1995 and she lived there until her husband's death in October 2013.

After that, she moved to an assisted living facility in West Orange and was residing at the Job Haines Home for Aged People in Bloomfield at the time of her death.

Eleanor touched the lives of many people. She was a longstanding member of the Bloomfield Presbyterian Church on the Green, working in the thrift shop and delivering meals-on-wheels to shut-ins, and also actively participating in the church's fellowship programs. She continued at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Greensboro after moving there. She was a creative person who knew how to sew very well. She made many clothes, costumes and furnishings for her family and friends. She greatly enjoyed crafts.

She also had a keen eye for value and made something of a profession out of shopping for the best sales and bargains at stores; she knew almost every factory outlet in northern New Jersey when the outlet stores actually were attached to factories. Her shopping prowess was so appreciated that she even took calls from a radio station in Greensboro as "Aunt Eleanor" over a period of years advising on what the best shopping values in town were.

Eleanor was an excellent cook, making the hearty German dishes from her family and also happily learning how to cook Italian food after marrying Victor.

Eleanor had a lifelong association with a lake community in Jefferson Township, N.J., called Longwood Lake. She began going there as a child of five when her mother purchased a cabin on the lake, and spent all or part of nearly every summer of her childhood and adult years at the lake, enjoying swimming, outdoor activities and bonfires with her children. The lake had a special place in her heart and she returned in the summer even after moving to Greensboro.

Once in Greensboro, she became a charter member of the Albert Spears YMCA and taught water aerobics classes there.

In 2000, Eleanor was diagnosed with carcinoid cancer and had extensive surgery with an uncertain prognosis. With great determination, however, she learned how to make use of e-mail and the internet, joined carcinoid support groups, attended conferences on treatment options and learned to manage her illness, which allowed her to live far longer and with a higher quality of life than was ever thought possible at the time of her diagnosis. This allowed her to spend significant amounts of time with her grandchildren, which she greatly looked forward to and enjoyed.

In her later years, she struggled with memory loss and was in the end afflicted with Alzheimer's disease.

Eleanor is survived by her sons, Fred and Victor Jr.; and three grandchildren, Robert (19), Sonya (15) and Victor (12). She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Victor; brother, Ralph; and three sisters, Hortense, Louise and Mathilda.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the Bloomfield Presbyterian Church on the Green, 147 Broad St., Bloomfield, N.J. 07003.

Cemetery Details

Hollywood Memorial Park & Cemetery

1621 Stuyvesant Avenue
Union, NJ 07083