



Beatrice R. Blake

March 1, 2024

Beatrice “Bea” (Beatriz Rodriguez) Blake, 94, of North Syracuse, NY, passed away peacefully Friday, March 1, 2024, at her home. Born in El Paso, Texas, to Augustina Rodriguez, she was raised by her Grandparents Martin and Cecilia Rodriguez who were instrumental in her upbringing and shaped her drive and outlook on faith and life.

Married for 46 years to William A. Blake (Lt Col, ret.), he predeceased her on March 31, 2003. Her son, Charles Martin Blake, also predeceased her on February 3, 2019. Bea is also predeceased by three siblings Gavino Rodriguez ('58), Cecilia Castillo ('95) and Carol Rodriguez ('17). She also had a large loving family of in-laws from Texas and Virginia, many of whom are deceased.

Surviving are her children, Gloria M. Blake-Stirton and her husband Thomas Stirton IV, William A. Blake II and John Andrew Blake and his wife Breda Ryan-Blake; daughter-in-law, Sheri Blake; grandchildren, Allison Beatrice “Sonni” (husband Sami) Hage, Carly (fiancé Ryan Martin) Blake, William “Will” Blake, Thomas Stirton V; great grandchildren, Jameson Hage, Sebastian Hage, Charles Jett Martin and Willow Martin; sisters, Maria Dolores “Lola” Rodriguez and Guadalupe “Lupe” Sceppe and several nieces and nephews. Bea graduated from the Texas Western College of the University of Texas in 1952 with a Bachelor of Arts and in 1971 Bea completed her Master of Education at the University of Texas at El Paso. This is emblematic of Bea’s drive as less than 5% of women had a college education in 1950.

Mrs. Blake retired from the North Syracuse Central School District in 1997, having taught at Bessie Riordan, KWS Bear Road Elementary and Roxboro Road Middle Schools. Devoted to her faith, she was a communicant of St. Rose of Lima Church, North Syracuse, and a member of Bishop Curley Columbiettes.

Beatrice loved life and lived it fully defying nearly every stereotype associated with aging. Although she lived a simple life, she had a flair for stylish clothes and would be decked out in orange on game days. Still driving her Cadillac, exercising and sporting a stylish hat when she went out right through to the evening of February 11th, when she suffered a stroke while watching the Super Bowl at home.

Bea greatly enjoyed watching and attending sporting events, especially her beloved Syracuse University football and basketball programs attending games in person right up through the 2023 season. She was an avid reader enjoying historical fiction novels and was a supporter of the performing arts and was a patron of the Landmark Theater, Syracuse Stage, and the Syracuse Orchestra. Bea traveled the world over, she wanted to see "all the places I've taught my students about" including Egypt, Peru, China, the Caribbean, Europe, and the Holy Land. Beatrice loved to keep active and truly valued her membership at the North Area YMCA she stayed healthy and active with Yoga, group classes and the friendships she developed.

Calling hours will be from 4 to 7 pm on Monday, March 11th, at Fergerson Funeral Home, 215 South Main Street, North Syracuse. Funeral services will be Tuesday at 9:30 at the funeral home and at 10 am a Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at St. Rose of Lima Church, 407 South Main Street, North Syracuse. Burial will be at a date later in Arlington National Cemetery. Donations, in lieu of flowers, may be made to St. Rose of Lima Church (renewal fund), 407 South Main Street, North Syracuse, 13212.

Cemetery Details

Arlington National Cemetery

Previous Events

Calling Hours

MAR 11. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Ferguson Funeral Home, Inc.
215 South Main Street
North Syracuse, NY 13212
(315) 458-1970
<http://fergersonfuneralhome.com/>

Mass of Christian Burial

MAR 12. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Rose of Lima Church
407 S Main St
Syracuse, NY 13212

Tribute Wall



“ *Fergerson Funeral Home created a Funeral Service in memory of Beatrice R. Blake*



Fergerson Funeral Home - March 12, 2024 at 10:05 AM

TO

“ *So sorry to hear of Bea's passing! It was always a pleasure seeing her smiling face at the Wetzel Road YMCA group classes. Sincere condolences - Toni & the Zumba Gold class.*

Toni - March 12, 2024 at 12:57 PM

SD

“ *We will surely miss Bea in our classes at the North "Y". She was very memorable and a lovely woman. Remarkable for her age. RIP - Bea*

Susan Douglass - March 11, 2024 at 01:03 PM

JS

“ *Jameson, Seb, Sami purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Beatrice R. Blake.*



Jameson, Seb, Sami - March 10, 2024 at 08:47 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Beatrice R. Blake.*



March 10, 2024 at 11:05 AM



“ *Your Rentokil Terminix Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Beatrice R. Blake.*

Your Rentokil Terminix Family - March 10, 2024 at 11:05 AM



“ *Shirley (Melvin) Blake & Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Beatrice R. Blake.*



Shirley (Melvin) Blake & Family - March 08, 2024 at 12:56 PM



“ *Rose, Sean and Prince yonkers NY. purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Beatrice R. Blake.*



Rose, Sean and Prince yonkers NY. - March 07, 2024 at 09:11 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Beatrice R. Blake.



March 07, 2024 at 11:52 AM



“ Duke and family from Nashville purchased the Fiery Lily and Rose for the family of Beatrice R. Blake.



Duke and family from Nashville - March 06, 2024 at 12:32 PM



“ Duke and family from Nashville planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Beatrice R. Blake.

Duke and family from Nashville - March 06, 2024 at 12:32 PM



“ Martha and Ron Helco purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Beatrice R. Blake.



Martha and Ron Helco - March 04, 2024 at 07:05 PM