



Antonia Swinney

JAN 16, 1936 - JUN 12, 2020



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Events	Page 6
Tribute Wall	Page 7
Media	Page 11



Antonia Swinney

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Antonia Swinney, 84, of St. Petersburg, died on Friday, June 12, 2020. Born on January 16, 1936, in Trieste, Italy, Antonia immigrated to the United States in 1953 and within two short years would meet and then marry the love of her life, John Swinney. She worked in Rockford, primarily in manufacturing/factory work but through the years she worked in other fields, often taking second jobs along with her primary work. She worked in Tampa Florida and later, in St. Petersburg Florida, until she fully retired. She was married to John for over 6 decades and had 4 children with him. Her husband predeceased her in 2019. She enjoyed cooking, tending to her home, volunteer work, and crafts. She loved playing Bingo, working at flea markets and having garage sales. She was extremely family focused and everything she did was with her family in mind. Nothing made her happier than to see everyone during the Holidays. She loved to sing, especially hymns and could play the harmonica. Toni loved to yodel and was quite good.

Antonia loved to laugh and was always seeking humor in everyday life. Each morning she got up with a strong purpose and a positive attitude. People who met her liked her instantly and she had vast numbers of friends. They were drawn to her warm demeanor, her sense of humor and the way she deeply respected and listened to people. She was very devoted to Our Lord Jesus Christ and to Our Lady, the Blessed Virgin Mary. She attended Holy Cross, Sacred Heart and also Transfiguration Catholic Parishes. She was an endearing person in the lives of so many. She was an excellent wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, daughter, niece and cousin. Antonia was a natural born leader and she inspired confidence and courage in others. She will be deeply missed. Special recognition to Antonia's Cousin Mario R. Ghinazzi, (POW), 38th Infantry Regiment. When just a teenager, he arranged to bring my Mother and her family to the United State from Italy. He couldn't bear the thought of his family suffering greatly in Post World War II Europe. It took many years to properly immigrate the family to the U.S. Before Mario could finish the process and to see his family arrive here safely, he was captured and killed as a POW in the Korean War at the tender age of 21. If not for his efforts in time, funds and paperwork, the Arpini



Obituary

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family would never have been able to immigrate to America. He never got to meet Antonia and her family that he so badly wanted to help. They were allowed to enter the States 2 years after Mario's death. Thank you, Mario, for your deep and abiding love for your family and to the ultimate sacrifice you paid for our Country. You inspire us all.

Preceded in death by her husband John D. Swinney, Parents, Giovanni and Albina Arpini, Sister Alda Dufek, infant brother Antonio Arpini and infant Great-Granddaughter, Trinity Leanna Chavez, cousin Amelia, (Millie) Critchlow and most recently, her sister-in-law and very good friend, Evelyn Swinney, among other cherished family members gone before her.

Survived by son, John Douglas Swinney Jr. (spouse; Nancy Joann Swinney), daughter Mary Louise Reilly (spouse; Keith Alfred Reilly), son David Albino Swinney and daughter Linda Lucia Swinney, (partner; Robert Jan Glas). Two sisters, Mary Fiorenza (spouse; William Fiorenza) and Rose Ann Cimino. Sister-in-laws Corine Swinney and Shirley Swinney Johnson.

Antonia's Grandchildren include Jonathan Darrell Swinney, (partner; Melissa Nicole Thomas), Jessica Marie Swinney, (partner; Daniel Chavez). Kelsey Lynn Fornoff, (spouse; Christopher Alexander Fornoff), Nicholas David Swinney (partner; McKenzie Anne Hester).

Great-Grandchildren, Richard Glenn Harrington Jr., Trinity Leanna Chavez, (deceased), Tristan Levi Chavez, Braxton Aaron Fornoff, Oaklee Kade Fornoff and two newly born Great-Grandsons, Theo Landyn Chavez and Noah Aiden Swinney. Also Kayla Renee Mabesoone, Kyle Robert Jacob Mabesoone and Donald Michael Parks, Jr. and Great-Great Children, Steven Anthony Petros, Ryan James Petros, and Logan Michael Petros.

In addition, Antonia was a very proud Aunt and much like a second Mom to Edna, Shirley, Sharon, Fred, Pam, (deceased), Priscilla, Julie, Susan, Lisa S., Lisa J., Michael, Jennifer, Jacques, Jean-Paul, Billy, Laura, Peggy, Phillip, Aldo, Patrick Sr. She also had many Great and Great-Great Nieces and Nephews. Cousin Joe Critchlow, Family members, Laurie Swinney, Anissa Swinney, Brandy Foster and Melvin Harrell. All were in her heart.

Special recognition to her many friends. Toni was very social and she valued her friendships immensely. The family wishes to thank Sister MaryAnn who was a special confidante to her.

Thanks to Sandra, with Holy Cross Parish, who brought my Mom The Holy Eucharist when she was home bound. Her friends, Father Tony, Richard and Cheryl, Beverly, Denise, Senada and family. Recognition to all of her friends at the Fraternal Order of Eagles. Special mention to the Ladies Auxiliary of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, where Toni was a volunteer. Antonia had many more friends, both lifetime friends and those she knew for some years. Special recognition and thanks to Dr. Thomas Mathias and to her friends in the Medical Field who helped care for her. You all made a difference in her life.

Wednesday, June 24th. Family viewing at 11:30a.m., Friends of the family Viewing at 12:30p.m.



Obituary

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followed by the Memorial Service at 1:30p.m. and graveside services at Memorial Park. 5750
49TH Street, St. Augustine, FL 33709.

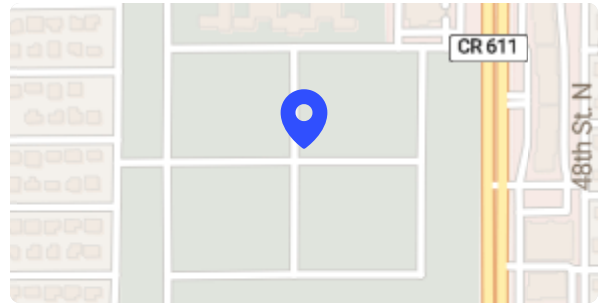


Events

Antonia Swinney
JAN 16, 1936 - JUN 12, 2020

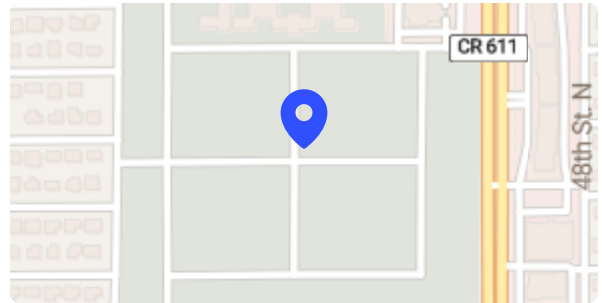
Visitation

- Wednesday**, June 24, 2020
- 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM ET
- Memorial Park Funeral Home and Crematory**
5750 49th Street North, St. Petersburg FL 33709



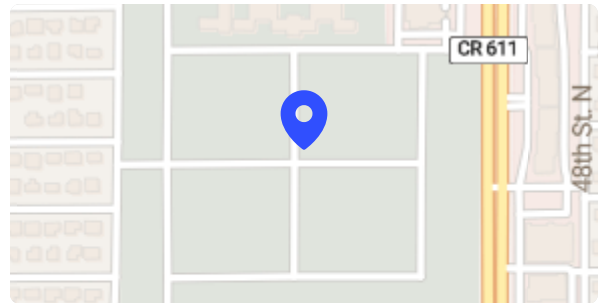
Funeral Service

- Wednesday**, June 24, 2020
- 1:30 PM ET
- Memorial Park Funeral Home and Crematory**
5750 49th Street North, St. Petersburg FL 33709



Cemetery Details

- Memorial Park Cemetery**
5750 49th Street North, St. Petersburg FL 33709
- (727) 369-8228**





Tribute Wall

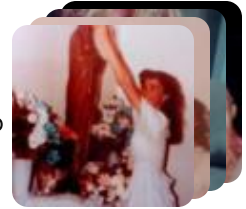
Antonia Swinney

JAN 16, 1936 - JUN 12, 2020



Linda Swinney shared 9 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Mom, I am sorry I have not posted here on obituaries not only for you but even the rest of our love ones, Dad, Johnny, Keith and Mary. It has been too hard in grief to come to this website and post messages. I love you and our family who passed on. All these deaths have put me in a longterm trauma shock which has been so painful to deal with. Visiting you all in person has been better for me because it connected us better on personal levels. We were very bonded close Mom you and I. The baby of 4 kids mom I know you loved all your kids. You have two sons and daughters and I viewed us daughters, sisters Maru and myself as your princesses and not only me. You did treasure your daughters Mary big princess and Linda little princess. No favoritism shown by you mom.. I do love Dad but our connection was not close. I realized cannot have everything in life not all family members will be close to one another. Some is different personalities and interests, etc. We love each other in our own ways. I sense the care is from a distance and pretty much with limited contact. There has been things in the ways the distance between each other as well as some deep rooted hurt said and some done between each other that has caused trust to be broken limiting expressing love between each other. Sad but true but still love them. I learned to see them and things said, done for what it is loving from a distance, pray for them and forgive them. I had to learn about setting boundaries and why its vital to set up boundaries with people and things. They do not define as an individual or control my life. Only allow what I want and what I do not want, I set boundary in place and is no. Truth is Mom I gave it to all to God handle. Learning anyone person's no matter how there related to you can hurt you. Mom I miss you more than you ever know. Our times we spent together. You was the closest person in my life not only my mother but my very best friend to me than any of my friends, family members. Easy to come to you to talk about anything and you was not judgemental towards me but your honesty you gave at times was not so pleasant but do appreciate your honesty even though was painful. I know your looking over all of me and love ones. Someday we will reunite with you and love ones. I miss the times we went to bingo, shopping and just hanging out together and they were good times we had. Love you Mom Toni, RIP ~ Daughter Linda Swinney ❤️



June 15 at 1:49 AM



Linda S. planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Antonia.



June 15 at 1:02 AM



Tribute Wall

Antonia Swinney
JAN 16, 1936 - JUN 12, 2020



Lisa Jacobson posted:

Toni was such a wonderful, loving lady, who always put her family first. She truly was a lady. The way she lived her life was an example to all of us. She was kind and generous and accepting of everyone. I do not remember a time when she didn't have a smile on her face. I have many great memories of time spent with my cousins at their home. We always had so much fun. She was a fantastic cook and had a wonderful sense of humor. Aunt Toni would take us to Bingo and church. I always admired her devotion to her faith. How much I wish I would have been able to see her one more time. Our hearts are heavy right now, as we miss her so much. We can find comfort knowing that she is with Uncle Dud again in heaven. I can picture them dancing together again. They are happy and their hearts are light. Aunt Toni, you are so very loved and so very missed. Give Uncle Dud a hug from me. Love and prayers, Lisa

June 24 at 5:54 PM



Mary Reilly June 26 at 8:41 AM

Hi, Lisa, thank you so very much from us all. Your Tribute for our Mother is beautiful. Yes, I agree, Toni and Dud are dancing in Heaven right now!



Priscilla Swinney Miller lit a candle in honor of Antonia.

My Aunt Toni was such a loving, kind hearted soul. I remember growing up & her including me for her Italian family outings. She was the best. I am deeply mourning for the loss of both my Mom & Aunt Toni. I know they're all together & rejoicing. Can't wait to see them all again. May God guide you all. She is sadly missed. I Love you all. She meant the world to me ❤️



June 24 at 12:20 AM



Mary Reilly June 26 at 8:44 AM

Hello Priscilla! Thank you so much. Your Tribute is wonderful and brings us comfort. Aunt Toni loved you so much! Now are parents are in Heaven together.



Anonymous sent a Sweet Tenderness to the Swinney family.



June 23 at 3:44 PM



Tribute Wall

Antonia Swinney
JAN 16, 1936 - JUN 12, 2020



Anonymous sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Swinney family.

June 22 at 10:12 AM



Joe And Denise Critchlow. sent an Arrive in Style to the Swinney family.

June 22 at 6:56 AM



Anonymous sent a Strength & Solace Spray to the Swinney family.

June 21 at 1:05 PM



Mary Reilly shared a photo to the **Antonia through the Years** album.

June 20 at 9:58 AM



Mary Reilly shared a photo to the **Antonia through the Years** album.

June 20 at 9:58 AM



Mary Reilly shared a photo to the **Memories Album** album.

June 20 at 9:55 AM





Tribute Wall

Antonia Swinney

JAN 16, 1936 - JUN 12, 2020



Anonymous sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Swinney family.



June 20 at 9:38 AM



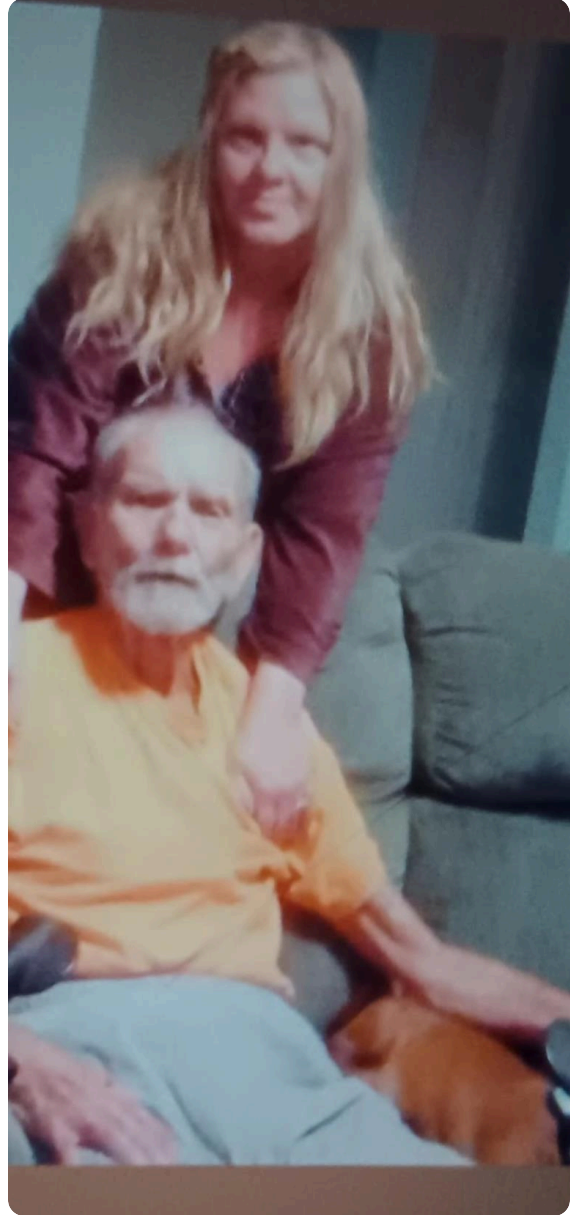
Media

Antonia Swinney
JAN 16, 1936 - JUN 12, 2020



Linda Swinney shared 9 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

June 15 at 1:49 AM

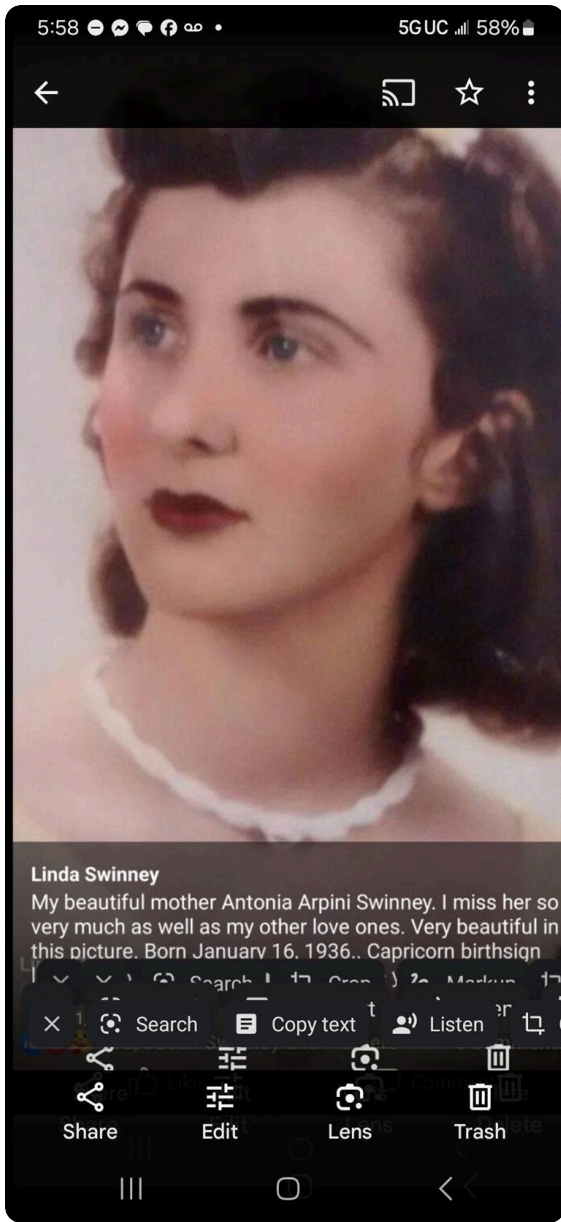






Media

Antonia Swinney
JAN 16, 1936 - JUN 12, 2020





Media

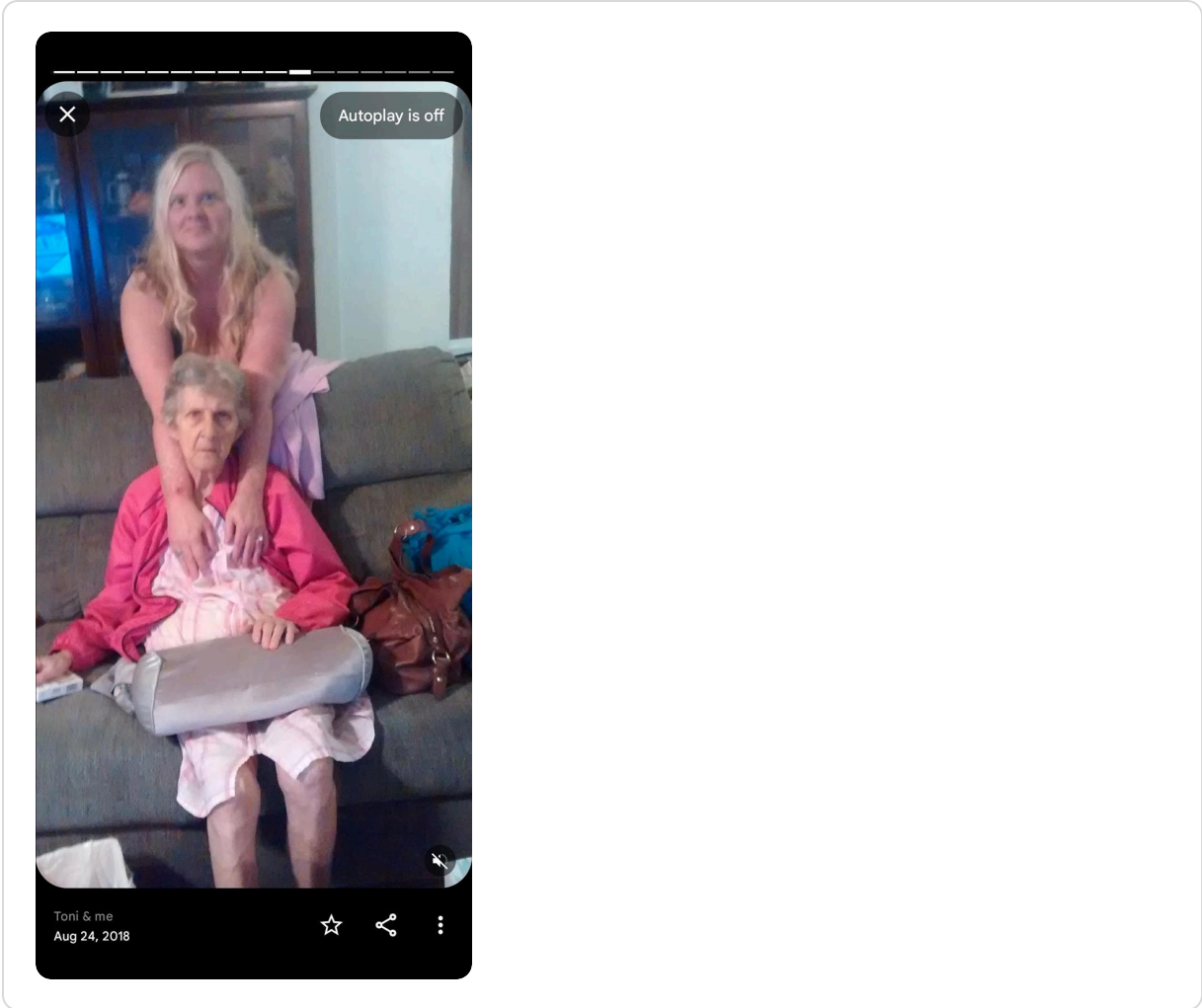
Antonia Swinney
JAN 16, 1936 - JUN 12, 2020





Media

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Mary Reilly shared a photo to the **Antonia through the Years** album.

June 20 at 9:58 AM





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Mary Reilly shared a photo to the **Antonia through the Years** album.

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Media

Antonia Swinney
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Mary Reilly shared a photo to the **Memories Album** album.

June 20 at 9:55 AM



Antonia at 19.



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Antonia by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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