



Charlene G. Perri

December 10, 1958 - July 24, 2021

Charlene Gloria Perri, nee Speciale was born in Chicago on Wednesday December 10, 1958 and passed peacefully into eternal rest on Saturday July 24, 2021. She had a heart of gold, an infectious smile, and boundless joy, which she shared generously with her family, neighbors, friends, and all she met. Although she was born with a delicate heart, she proved to be an example of love and kindness throughout her life. As a young woman, she lived in Addison, IL and played sports at Addison Trail High School, where she lettered in badminton. She worked in hospitality and food service, and had a successful career in sales with Mary Kay Cosmetics. She was deeply devoted to her parents, Lena and Sam, as she was to all her family. She married the love of her life, Ralph, in 1991 and they lived happily together in Chicago's Dunning neighborhood. Char leaves behind a legacy of extraordinary gift giving, celebration, and the best brownies in the world. She is beloved by her sisters, Jo (Warren) Laufenberg, Victoria Sierra, and her brother Russell (Debra) Speciale. Her loss will be felt deeply by all the children in whom she so delighted, including her nieces, nephews, their children, and the children of friends and neighbors alike. All were blessed to count her as a second mother. Charlene was a prolific writer and remembered everyone's special occasions with carefully curated, hand written messages. In her memory, and to carry on this treasured family practice, please consider writing cards to your friends and family with messages of joy. She would really love that.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 29. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Schielka Addison Street Funeral Home
7710 West Addison Street
Chicago, IL 60634
(773) 625-3444

Funeral Mass

JUL 29. 11:30 AM (CT)

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
7122 W Talcott
Chicago, IL 60631

Committal Service

JUL 29 (CT)

St Joseph Catholic Cemetery
Belmont and, N Cumberland
River Grove, IL 60171

Tribute Wall

DM

“ My deepest condolences to you Ralph and all of Charlene's family. I pray your many wonderful memories give you peace and comfort until the day you and Char are reunited.



To Char,

After my mom died and we sold the house, we lost touch with you and Ralph...but no matter how much time passed I could never forget you or all the years we were 'neighbors'. Charlene you were one of the friendliest, most cheerful person I ever knew. There wasn't a person you encountered in an average day, who you didn't take a few minutes to chat with....from the mailman, to the store cashier, to just a passerby on the street....you talked to anyone and everyone and never failed to leave people feeling like they mattered. Family, friends, neighbors and strangers, it didn't matter. You regularly took your act 'on the road' to nearby nursing homes or neighbors' homes. Nothing pleased you more than checking in on seniors, helping them celebrate a birthday or just delivering a smile and a laugh. Children and seniors were your favorites and putting smiles on their faces was your mission. My mom and dad were two of those seniors and I was so grateful that you all became such good friends. You called my mom 'ma', gave her manicures, ran errands for her and often you two would just sit and kabitz over a cup of coffee, while Ralph and my dad talked over the fence. It is said that the best a person can do in their life is leave the world a little better than they found it. You did. A bright, 'colorful' light went out the day you passed and heaven got a little brighter. Give my folks hugs for me. Rest in peace Char and may perpetual light shine upon you.

Donna Marie - July 30, 2021 at 12:32 AM

MA

“ My condolences to Ralph and anyone who loved her, Char was one of the most beautiful souls I had the honor of meeting. Even just knowing her for a short period of time, I could tell she was loved by everyone that knew her. Sending love to you especially, Ralph.

Mariel - July 29, 2021 at 02:32 AM

SS

“ My deepest condolences to Ralph and the rest of Charlene's family. I'll always remember how she made everyone always feel so special. She was a bright spot in my parents' lives. They loved when she came to visit and I'm sure they are all chatting up a storm right now.

Sue Scalzo - July 26, 2021 at 06:57 PM

PK

“ We have all been touched by Charlene's kind heart and thoughtfulness throughout the years. Rest in peace Char we love you. Patty Scalzo-Kavanagh

Patty Scalzo Kavanagh - July 26, 2021 at 05:13 PM

LD

“ Love, Patty, Susan, John and Dan purchased the Your Light Shines for the family of Charlene G. Perri.



Love, Patty, Susan, John and Dan - July 26, 2021 at 05:05 PM

HS

“ When she was a baby she was always cute, cuddly, and cheerful, a very happy baby. When caring for her, I love to snuggle her. Whenever I would play the song Mack the Knife by Bobby Darin, I don't know why, she would always pucker up like she wanted to cry. I played it sometimes just so I could pick her up, cuddle, and snuggle her to see her laugh again.

Her loving but kinda nutty big sister - July 25, 2021 at 06:35 PM

ST

Ralph, with deepest sympathies for your loss of Char. I was so blessed to be her friend for so many years. May her loving spirit bring you Joy in your memories. My heart aches for all who loved her. Sue Termini

Sue Leidig Termini - August 25, 2021 at 06:40 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Charlene G. Perri.



July 25, 2021 at 06:26 PM



“ Touching Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Charlene G. Perri.



July 25, 2021 at 06:03 PM