



Loretta Ann Zsido

July 3, 1945 - April 24, 2026

Loretta Ann Zsido, 80, of Elizabethtown, entered into eternal rest on April 24, 2026 after a sudden and courageous battle with cancer. She was the beloved wife and best friend of James Zsido for 45 years, the loving and awe-inspiring mother of Georgann Azzalina (Scott) of Elizabethtown and Matthew Clarke (Jill) of Bellmawr, NJ, and the cherished grandmother of Samuel, Benjamin, and Zoe. She will be greatly missed for her incredible strength, overwhelming compassion and selflessness, as well as her many “pearls of wisdom” and strong sense of humor. She was the heart of her family.

Born in Philadelphia and the eldest of six, Loretta was no stranger to hard work and hard times. As a single mother for many years, she held a multitude of jobs and never faltered in creating a nurturing and secure home for her children. One of her jobs landed her the greatest reward – her husband, Jim. Together they created a beautiful life filled with love, laughter, and memories for the whole family.

Additionally, Loretta enjoyed reading, writing about her experiences, preparing new dishes in the kitchen, watching mysteries or anything on British TV, and exploring new places with her husband – whether it was an eventful road trip, a great restaurant, or an adventurous cruise. She was so pleased and proud to achieve two of her personal goals: earning her college degree from Ursinus College in 1994 and finally completing her first draft of her very own novel in January 2026. Loretta was blessed throughout her life with many amazing, supportive friends for whom she was always so grateful. She was

overwhelmed by the warmth and kindness from the incredible “6th Floor Angels” at Hershey Medical Center these last few weeks.

As a devoted and lifelong Catholic, Loretta’s later years centered around daily prayer, the Holy Rosary, and learning even more about the Bible, Catechism, and the Saints. She treasured her parish family at MMOC, and Jesus was her rock and refuge right up until the end of her beautiful life.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at Mary Mother of the Church Parish, 625 Union School Road, Mount Joy, PA 17552 on Monday, May 4, 2026 at 11 AM. Family and friends will be received at the church before the service from 10 AM to 11 AM. Interment will be private at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Mary Mother of the Church for the St. Vincent de Paul Society (address above) or to Hospice of Central Pennsylvania, 1320 Linglestown Rd, Harrisburg, PA 17110.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 4. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Mary Mother of the Church
625 Union School Road
Mount Joy, PA 17552

Mass of Christian Burial

MAY 4. 11:00 AM (ET)

Mary Mother of the Church
625 Union School Road
Mount Joy, PA 17552

Tribute Wall

MF

“Loretta was a member of the Rehoboth Beach Writers Guild for as long as there was a guild--over two decades. She was a participant in the Ocean View Free Writes and was also part of the original "bootcamp" group that used to meet in Ocean View in 2005 and 2006. It was there that she began brainstorming a novel that she worked on for the next twenty years, finally finishing a draft this past January. Even from afar (Loretta moved to PA over a decade ago), she participated in Guild projects and anthologies, and regularly sent upbeat, happy, always encouraging emails to Guild members about things she read in our newsletter. She loved the Guild—and we loved her.

Maribeth Fischer - May 02 at 06:30 PM

TH

“I attended FreeWrites with Loretta while she lived here and exchanged emails with her after she moved to Pennsylvania. In a sense, she was always just next door.

Tom Hoyer - May 02 at 09:12 AM

JB

“How very Blessed we are to had met this beautiful woman and to have had her in our lives, even for 4 short years. We were touched by her faith, her humor and her love and so very fortunate to have Loretta and Jim as our dear wonderful friends. She will forever live in our hearts and pray we can be as prayerful and devout as she was. We picture Loretta in the loving arms of our father and we will all be together someday soon. God bless you our dear friend! We will be there for your wonderful husband, Jim, until your one heart is reunited again. Love has no boundaries! 🙏. We love you, Jay and Joyce Bauer

Joyce Bauer - April 28 at 08:21 PM