



Jacqueline B. "Jackie" Brien

September 23, 1924 - December 29, 2020

Jacqueline "Jackie" Bernice Schiefer Brien, beloved mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend to all she met, passed away peacefully in the Benicia home of her son, Joe, with all his family by her bedside on Tuesday Morning, Dec. 29th, 2020. She was born on September 23, 1924 to Thomas and Isabelle Schiefer in Rochester, New York and was the oldest living child of 8 children they had. Her parents, having been told she had been diagnosed with St. Vitus' Dance when she was a young child, thought Jackie would not survive her youth, but she lived a long and wonderful 96 years of life! Jackie married her High School sweetheart Gilbert "Gil" Patrick Brien on September 1, 1942. Her anniversary and birthday made September her "favorite" month! She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Gil in 1999, and 6 of her younger siblings and their spouses. She loved her family deeply and could not wait to have her own. She is survived by her son Joseph Brien, and wife, Blanche Hilman (Benicia), their children, Alexander, Arielle, and Gilbert; and her son Stephen Brien, wife Mary Brien; and her son, Daniel Brien and wife, Irene Oszip and Daniel's daughter Nicole (Brien) Hughes and her husband. She is also survived by her sister Molly Carbone, and many nieces, nephews, and their families. She was present for the births of her 3 Calif. Grandchildren, and stayed present and involved for their first steps, baby teeth, school events, sports, dance recitals, babysitting, graduations, and all other special and every day family events. She was the best "Noni" anyone could wish for. Jackie and Gil were inseparable and had many good times together. They

moved to South Florida and raised a family together. They also owned a laundromat and “Red Brick Grille” restaurant. Jackie’s love and deep appreciation of people grew both of her businesses. Her customers would come from miles around to see her. She was so happy to hear people’s stories and always saw the best in them. She made everyone feel special and loved and in return she was loved right back!

After Gil passed away, Jackie lived on her own for the first time at Casa de Vilarrasa in Benicia. She loved having her own cute little apartment and enjoyed the friends and social activities they had there. Going to St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Benicia with her family was one of her most favorite places to be. She sang in the choir for many years, and even had her own personal chair made to sit right next to the piano. From her “perch” she greeted all who entered with a welcoming smile and sparkling eyes. Everyone there became family to her. She also found great joy in seeing her dear friends at the Senior Center and playing chicken foot, doing crafts, making the coffee, and working the crowd at Craft Fairs.

In 2001, Jackie met Sam Piscatelli at the senior center. They would become great friends and companions, who would enjoy taking drives, eating out, and talking. The whole Piscatelli Family welcomed Jackie and she loved them dearly. They treated her with so much love and affection.

The Brien/Hilman Family hopes to have a “Celebration of Life” service and reception for Jackie at St. Paul’s when we able to have services in person. Please continue to look at the Passalacqua website for updated information <https://www.passalacquafuneralchapel.com/>

In the meantime, there will be a Zoom Memorial Service on Feb. 14th, from 2-3:30 p.m.:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88597341904?pwd=UkNPWUJhR0VocDVTeFNjNH RuMkYvQT09>

Passcode: 732657

In lieu of flowers, please send a donation to St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in

Benicia. <https://www.stpaulsbenicia.org/>

Previous Events

Memorial Service

FEB 14. 2:00 PM.

Zoom

Tribute Wall



“ *Jacqueline B. "Jackie" Brien*

November 29, 2022 at 08:20 PM



“ *Wonderful Mom*

Steve brien.and phouthalak Ounalom - February 14, 2021 at 05:49 PM



“ *Even though I only had but a few visits with Jackie when I was much younger, I never forgot her heart and warmth - and she, remarkably, never forgot me... always asking about me as if I was a grandson of her own, after years and years of distance. When I last got to FaceTime with Jackie and thanks to Auntie Bee, she lit up immediately even though I no longer look like the boy she remembered me as — and I felt the feeling as if I once again had a grandparent looking out for me in the way only they can. She'll be terribly missed by all that knew and loved her — and the world is short one of its angels on earth.*

Daniel T. Sullivan - February 14, 2021 at 10:52 AM

JS

“ I deeply admired Jackie for the love of her family and her beautiful warm heart. Jackie always had kinds words to say and a warm smile for everyone she met. Whenever I came out to visit, she would always take my hand and ask how I was doing and want to hear about all the family in Tn. I loved her stories and the way she would talk about all her kids and Grandkids. She had so much love for each and everyone of them. Kind, sweet, loving, happy, caring are just a few words that describe Jackie. I feel so lucky to have spent time with her and to be a small part of her family.

At times like this, words fall short but I hope Blanche and family know how much love I have in my heart for Jackie and that you are all in my thoughts and prayers.

Jaker Sullivan - February 13, 2021 at 04:41 PM

SC

“ There's not much I can add to the beautiful tribute written in dear Jackie's obituary. I guess I must simply say that she provided such a welcoming "glow" for all who could see her perched on her chair there beside the piano at Sunday services. That glow made me feel connected to the parish as much as if she'd been a grandmother I'd just traveled far to visit: open, happy, present in all and with all who interacted with her and those who simply nodded and smiled in return. It was easy to see in those moments that Jackie's life had been filled with her living among the Good Connections she so easily helped to build. May she rest in peace, and may her joy in engaging with others always be a treasured remembered.

Sandra Clark - February 07, 2021 at 04:15 PM