



## Laverne Marie Willits

February 26, 1927 - March 1, 2018

Laverne Marie Willits passed away peacefully Thursday, March 1st at John Muir Hospital with her loving family by her side. She was born in Vallejo to Milo & Louise Passalacqua. Laverne was raised in Benicia and has called Oakland her home since 1952.

Laverne was a graduate of St. Vincent High School, Class of 1945. She worked several years as a medical secretary for Kaiser Hospital. Laverne was an active parishioner at St. Jarlath Church for 63 years as well as a member of the Ladies Sodality. Laverne volunteered her time with the Providence Hospital Guild, St. Mary's College Guild and Mercy Retirement Center. Her most rewarding job, however, was being a mother to four children, seven grandchildren, and great-grandson. Laverne was a devoted, loving and caring wife of 38 years to Richard Willits, who preceded her in death.

Laverne is survived by her children, Gail Willits, Brian (Linda) Willits, Laurie (Ray) Gaudinier and Jeannine (Jim) Songey; grandchildren Christina Willits, Lauren (Joe) Barsotti, Brianna Willits, Scott Gaudinier, Katie Gaudinier, Stephanie Songey, Ryan Songey and great-grandson Luca Barsotti.

Laverne was a mentor and role-model to many who crossed her path. Her home was her castle on the hill that she filled with grace, beauty and love. Laverne's faith, generosity and kindness shined through her and is her legacy.

Visitation will be at 4pm Wednesday, March 7th, at St. Dominic's Catholic

Church, 475 East I Street, Benicia, followed by a Vigil at 6pm. Mass of the Resurrection will be held at 10am Thursday, March 8th, at St. Jarlath Catholic Church, 2620 Pleasant Street, Oakland. Burial will be at 11am Friday, March 9th at St. Dominic's Cemetery, East 5th Street, Benicia. Family prefers donations to The Alzheimer's Association, Mercy Retirement and Care Center of Oakland and Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose.

# Previous Events

## Vigil services

MAR 7. 6:00 PM (PT)

St Dominic's  
475 East I Street  
Benicia, Ca 97510

## Mass of Christian Burial

MAR 8. 10:00 AM (PT)

St. Jarlath's Catholic Church  
2620 Pleasant Street  
Oakland, CA

# Tribute Wall



“ *Laverne Marie Willits*

November 29, 2022 at 08:20 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Laverne Marie Willits.*



March 07, 2018 at 02:04 PM



“ *Mrs. Willits has been in my life for over 35 years now. I have never seen her cross or in a bad mood. I have truly been blessed to have known her and her lovely family. May she rest peacefully.*



**Carolyn Finnegan** - March 07, 2018 at 01:21 PM



“ *Divine Light was purchased for the family of Laverne Marie Willits.*



March 06, 2018 at 09:53 PM

MF

“ *Magarian and O’Brien Families purchased the Laverne Reflections Spray for the family of Laverne Marie Willits.*



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**Magarian and O’Brien Families** - March 05, 2018 at 03:38 PM

LA

“ *Love, Tim, Elizabeth, Ashley and Amber purchased the Rose Garden Heart for the family of Laverne Marie Willits.*



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**Love, Tim, Elizabeth, Ashley and Amber** - March 03, 2018 at 01:20 PM

EW

“ *Elizabeth Willits lit a candle in memory of Laverne Marie Willits*



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**Elizabeth Willits** - March 03, 2018 at 12:38 PM

EW

“ We love you Aunt Laverne. You will always be in our hearts.  
Love, Tim, Elizabeth, Ashley & Amber



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**Elizabeth Willits** - March 03, 2018 at 11:51 AM