



# Frances L Canto

AUG 15, 1920 - FEB 18, 2021



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## **Frances L Canto**

AUG 15, 1920 - FEB 18, 2021

**C**anto, Frances LaRussa passed away peacefully after 100 years of a wonderful life on February 18, 2021 with her children by her side. Born August 15, 1920 to parents, Augustino and Rosalia Giglio Castellano, who predeceased her as did siblings Peter Castellano, Angie Maggio, and Nancy Midulla. A lifelong resident and third generation Tampanian, she grew up in Ybor City, attended local schools and graduated from Hillsborough High School and Brewster Tech.

She is predeceased by first husband, Ciro LaRussa, and second husband, John Canto. Frances is survived by children Santo "Sonny" and Augustine "Gus" LaRussa; daughter Jeanette LaRussa Fenton (George); Frank (Linda) Canto, Phillip (Julie) Canto and Terry Canto. Frances was Nana to 10 grandchildren: Robert John "Bobby" Fenton (Chelsea); Anthony, Mark (deceased), Christopher (deceased) LaRussa; Christina LaRussa Calero; John Canto; Natalie Canto Aprile (Jason); Phillip Canto (Angel) Laura Canto Ferrer (Will) and Jason Canto; 17 great grandchildren; 1 great-great grandchild. She is also survived by Goddaughter Velia Parrino (Rick) and a large extended family.

Frances spent her entire 30-year career working for the Hillsborough County Clerk's Office. Her name appears on many local marriage licenses that she issued, and she also performed marriages at the office and in her home. She was a working mother throughout her career before that was common, coming home every night to prepare delicious meals for her family and taking care of their needs.

Frances was an excellent cook of Italian, Cuban, and other cuisines and hosted countless family dinners and parties. She was happiest surrounded by her family and friends, babysitting her grandchildren, nights out dining and dancing with her beloved John and enjoying their beach condo.

A devout Catholic, Frances was a member first of St. Joseph's and later of St. Lawrence Catholic Church. She was also a long-time member of the Sons of Italy and the Italian Club.



## Obituary

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Frances personified the American Dream and the Greatest Generation. She is dearly loved and admired for the values she lived and instilled – devotion to family, faith, hard work, grit, determination, making the best of difficult circumstances, enjoying life and many more.

The family extends our deepest thanks to Visiting Angels caregivers, Lisa and Marie; very special caregiver, Teresa; and the Lifepath Hospice Plum team.

A Funeral Mass will be held on Friday, February 26 at 9:30 a.m. at St. Lawrence Catholic Church with entombment following at the Italian Club Cemetery. Family and friends are welcome. The service will be live streamed at: <https://youtu.be/leuXenleVWE>. Those wishing to honor Frances may donate to: Italian Club Cemetery, 1731 E. 7th Ave., or Meals on Wheels, 550 W Hillsborough Ave. 33614 or the charity of your choice

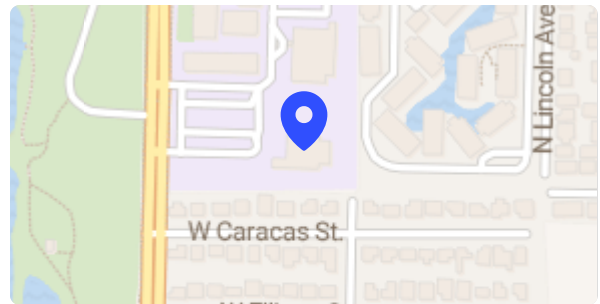


# Events

**Frances L Canto**  
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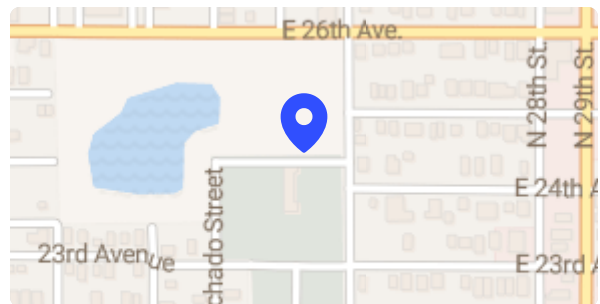
## Funeral Mass

- Friday**, February 26, 2021
- 9:30 AM ET
- St. Lawrence Catholic Church**  
5225 N. Himes Ave, Tampa FL 33614



## Cemetery Details

- L'Unione Italiana Cemetery**  
2520 E. 24th Ave, Tampa FL





## Tribute Wall

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RA

**Rev John Abrahams** posted:

Entirely grateful to Lynn for word of her "beautiful Frances" I joined the Masses streamed amazed by the grace flowing throughout the liturgy: wonderful priest & his lovely homily--hankering for meatballs & all; all those who shared the Eulogy flowed with Grace and heartfelt Family Love. Both the photo on this page and the older at the altar combine to convey your Beloved's strength & beauty of soul. Your priest caught the essence by citing Your Frances' victorious Faith in Christ Risen in all the Baptized no matter what our tumbles across our years. Had I been her pastor making that final visit, I am sure we would have embraced and kissed and sung "Amazing Grace" together. In a word, I will love and belong to your family both on earth and in heaven. Here's a P.S. Yesterday -2/25- was my 42nd Anniversary Ordination. Yes, I offered my Mass for Frances who visited our Joyce at the end. Padre Giovanni

February 26 at 2:12 PM

CC

**Christina Larussa Calero** March 7 at 3:19 AM

Fr. John, Thank you for your thoughtfulness and kind words, but most of all for all of the masses you have said for our family through the many years of your friendship with Joyce. She often spoke so lovingly and fondly of you. We miss her so very much as we do all our family members who have already gone to be with God. God bless you on your 46 years of service to God's people. A rosary will be said in Thanksgiving for you and your priesthood. Again THANK YOU and God bless.

AC

**Anthony Craparo** posted:

Tony and I are very sorry for the loss of your beautiful mother. She always very stylish and pleasant to everyone. Our prayers are with your entire family to ease your grief at this sad time. Betsy and Tony Craparo.

February 25 at 2:45 PM

PF

**Paul Fernandez** posted:

Dear Jeanette and family, I am sorry we can't make your mom's service tomorrow. I remember your mom from our days at St. Joseph. I know she will be missed, but God's promise remains sure that you will see her again. God bless you. I hope I will get to see you again possibly at a Tampa Catholic reunion. Your Friend, Paul Fernandez

February 25 at 1:10 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Frances L Canto**  
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**Anonymous** sent an Arrive in Style to the Canto family.



February 24 at 2:15 PM



**Steve Farley** posted:

So sorry for your loss, I know she will be missed greatly !

February 24 at 9:10 AM



**Jim Caron** February 25 at 3:11 AM

Very sorry for the loss of your mother.....we will keep you and your family in our prayers...



**Anonymous** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Canto family.



February 23 at 4:21 PM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

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



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