



Patsy Govatos

June 25, 1920 - March 3, 2013

Patsy Govatos, 92, of Benton Harbor died Sunday, March 03, 2013, at the Willows in St. Joseph.

Services celebrating her life will be held at 12:00 Noon on Wednesday, March 6, at the Dey-Florin Chapel of Florin Funeral Service, 2506 Niles Ave., St. Joseph, with Fr. Paul Martin officiating. Burial will follow in Crystal Springs Cemetery in Benton Harbor. The family will receive friends from 5 PM to 7 PM on Tuesday at the Dey-Florin Chapel of Florin Funeral Service in St. Joseph. Memorial may be made to the Annunciation and Agia Paraskevi Greek Orthodox Church or Hospice at Home. Please share messages or memories at www.florin.net.

Patsy was born on June 25, 1920 in Hamilton, OH to Nickolas and Mary Kavouras. She married her husband, Michael A. Govatos in 1938 and he preceded her in death in 1998. Together they celebrated 60 years of marriage. Patsy and her husband, Mike, owned and operated the Fifth Wheel Café in Benton Harbor for 47 years. Before the Fifth Wheel Café, she and her husband were co-partners with John Govatos in the Candyland Restaurant in Benton Harbor. She was a member of the Greek Orthodox Church and a member of the women's group, Daughters of Penelope. She was active in charitable activities both through the church and in the community. Patsy was a business woman who loved being in her restaurant and being social with

everyone who came in. She also loved going to California to be with her son and her grandchildren whom she dearly loved.

She is survived by her son, Tony (Linda) Govatos, of Nipomo, CA; her 6 grandchildren, her 20 great grandchildren, her 1 great great grandchild and her many nieces and nephews. She was also preceded in death by her brother, George Kavouras.

Cemetery Details

Crystal Springs Cemetery

1655 E Napier Ave
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 5. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Dey-Florin Chapel of Florin Funeral Service - Closed 2013
2506 Niles Avenue
St. Joseph, MI 49085
(269) 983-1514
staff@florin.net

Service

MAR 6. 12:00 PM (ET)

Dey-Florin Chapel of Florin Funeral Service - Closed 2013
2506 Niles Avenue
St. Joseph, MI 49085
(269) 983-1514
staff@florin.net

Tribute Wall

MC

“ Dear Tony and Linda: On behalf of the Kavouras family, allow me to extend our deepest sympathy on the loss of your mother/mother-in-law, Patsy. Regardless of how old we get or the lives we forge for our selves, there is such a tremendous void associated with the loss of a mother's love. Maybe it is because a mother's love is so complete, pure, and without hesitation, regardless of our "warts and all". While words can never completely express our sadness over your loss, we pray that Patsy's memory is eternal and that she is at peace with the angels that were waiting to escort her as her soul left this clumsy, tiny human realm for that place of peace, love, and tranquility somewhere beyond the stars. I can almost hear her now, laughing and trading stories with Uncle Mike, Yiayia Felanthy, and our beloved George Kavouras.

With great love and a heavy heart, may her memory be eternal.

Sincerely, Maria S. Kavouras, on behalf of Rita Kavouras, Pete Kavouras, Philanty Kavouras Nichols, and Deanne Kavouras Wilhelm.

Maria S. Kavouras, cousin - March 06, 2013 at 05:16 PM

ML

“ Patsy was the most beautiful, loving and giving person in the world. She had an infectious, gutsy laugh; her smile lit up her whole being. What I will always carry in my heart is the fact that along with Elizabeth, Margie, and Presbyteria, Patsy made the pastries for our wedding when Bob and I got married in 1976. Rest in Peace Beautiful Lady.
Bob and Mariann Litznerski



Mariann Litznerski - March 06, 2013 at 09:46 AM

ES

“ Tony I was sorry to hear that your Mother had passed. I have very fond memories of her .I remember our first Christmas in Benton Harbor when she gave me my first cook book which started my fascination with cooking.. I still have that Betty Crocker in my collection and I still use it. No one could make the fabulous German Chocolate Cake like she did. I am sorry to say that over the years I have lost the recipe. I did see her two years ago when I was in BH for a reunion. seeing her brought back memories of being with your family at your home, at our house or at The Fifth Wheel .

If you are ever in Southern, Ca. come and visit.

Evangeline Moulas sharpe

Evangeline Moulas Sharpe - March 06, 2013 at 02:51 AM

BB

“ Bruce Bardaville purchased the Heavenly and Harmony for the family of Patsy Govatos.



Bruce Bardaville - March 05, 2013 at 07:28 PM



“ Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Patsy Govatos.



March 05, 2013 at 08:02 AM

RC

“ Tony : I'm so sorry to hear about your Mom. I worked at Producers Creamery after school and would get a bite at the Cafe. Your Mom treated me like family--never forgot that. We only get one and you had the best. You won't remember me; but you, John Andrews and myself had home room at BHHS.
Ron Cerecke Attalla, AL.

Ron Cerecke - March 04, 2013 at 05:06 PM

SO

“ My sincere sympathy to all of Patsy's family. When my father worked at the old Jewel store on Main Street, we often went to the 5th Wheel Cafe. Patsy always made us feel like family when we were there. May you all feel God's love surround you.

Susan McLaughlin-Oorbeck

Susan Oorbeck - March 04, 2013 at 07:22 AM

BE

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Beverly - March 03, 2013 at 09:47 PM

BK

Dear Tony, Linda and Family,

Our hearts are heavy tonight. We are going to miss this grand lady. She meant so much to all of our Kavouras family. George told us many stories about her. We wish we could have been together more than we were over the years. But we always kept in contact at Christmas time especially. Larry and I were so surprised to get a phone call from her last Christmas. We had the nicest visit. I will never forget visiting she and Mike at Easter time so many years ago (1973, I think). I drove with George, Charlotte and Patsy over from Minnesota. We had such a good time and had so much fun eating all the wonderful food of that season. I will never forget the table so loaded down with food and the lamb being grilled right outside of the church. She and Mike were so dear to little Nick and I. Nick was only 3 at the time and he called your dad, "The Candy Man".

May God be with you all at this time and always. She will be missed, but I'm praying that she, Mike, George and Charlotte are having a wonderful reunion tonight.

*Love from Kansas,
Larry and Bev Kavouras*

Beverly Kavouras - March 03, 2013 at 09:56 PM

JG

“ Tony & Linda:

Our deepest and heartfelt sympathy go out to you for the loss of our last great aunt. I am so glad that my wife and I came to visit her last September. It was a beautiful day, a good day for a drive, and for a visit. Since I heard where she was residing I just had that urge of wanting to see her, and I couldn't let it go. On that day I just said "let's go for it." She looked great!! Hadn't aged at all. We had such a wonderful visit, good conversation, shared memories, and she gave me some history of which I never knew about. She was with it. When it came time to leave, we said our goodbyes and said that one of these days we would visit again, but it never came to be. We could tell she enjoyed herself as well and was so thankful. It still brings tears to my eyes. And I've reflected back to the late 1940's when my mother and I would come to BH to visit Uncle Mike, Thea Patsy, yiayia (you mom's mother), and you. I remember my mom and yiayia had a tremendous affection and respect for one another. So, so long ago, but still etched in my memory. And they were and always will be good memories. My mother's mother and your dad were brother and sister, so we have the Govatos and the Apostolakis (Apostle) families. Just two left on the immediate Apostle side, leaving us, the second cousins, and those that followed.

I never knew the name of the restaurant they owned until it was printed today. I do remember on the outside a sign that said "EAT" and always thought that was the name of being as young as I was and subsequent visits as I got older. I regret that we will not be able to make either the visitation or church service, as previously indicated. If you plan on staying a while following the funeral, please do not hesitate in contacting us. I certainly would like make the drive to see you after all these decades. Our hearts and prayers go out to you and your family. I have memories of all of those of the Govatos family side of the family to this day. May her memory be eternal. Zoi se sas !!

Meh agape, your second cousins,

Jim & Janet Galanis
Grand Rapids

Jim & Janet Galanis - March 03, 2013 at 07:51 PM

JC

“ *Our deepest sympathies on the death of your mother. May Our Lord Jesus Christi bring you confort and support during this difficult time.*

Zoe se sas!

Jim and Chrisa Cazamias

Jim and Chrisa Cazamias - March 03, 2013 at 06:50 PM