



## Jean T Azzarelli

November 25, 1924 - April 20, 2017

Visitation for Jean Therese (LaGessee) Azzarelli, 92, of Kankakee will be from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Monday, April 24 at Schreffler Funeral Home, West Kankakee Chapel. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church, Kankakee, where she was a member on Tuesday, April 25 at 10:00 a.m., officiated by Fr. Sunny Castillo.

Entombment will be at Mount Calvary Cemetery Kankakee. Memorials may be made to St. Jude, Pro Life, or Community Cenacolo America.

She entered into eternal life on April 20, 2017 at Riverside Medical Center surrounded by her beloved family.

Born on November 25, 1924 in Kankakee she had fond memories of growing up in Bradley with her dear siblings Arlene (LaGessee) Mitchell, Ronnie LaGessee, Jerry "Buzz" LaGessee, Margaret "Muggs" (LaGessee) Frechette, Marilyn (LaGessee) Savoie, and Mike LaGessee. She treasured her parents, Paul and Mary, who provided their children with a loving home and a strong Catholic foundation. She credited them with passing their faith on to her and her siblings, which they treasured and passed on to their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Her family attended St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bradley and she graduated from St. Joseph School in 1938 and Bradley-Bourbonnais Community High School in 1942.

She married and loved Samuel J. Azzarelli on March 2, 1946. They raised their 7 children in Limestone Township and held dual residency in Kankakee and Tampa, FL. Mrs. Azzarelli devoted her life to raising her children (her greatest joy), honoring the memory of her husband Sam and son Ray, writing and speaking on various political causes, cooking and caring for her family, painting, being a committed friend to many, following the Chicago White Sox in her husband's memory, and being a devout member of the Catholic Church.

Surviving are her children: three sons and three daughters-in-law, Rick and Vicki Azzarelli, Jim and Mary Azzarelli of Florida; Greg and Julie Azzarelli of Kankakee; three daughters and one son-in-law Paula and Phil Czernik, Mary McGrath, and Jeanne James of Kankakee; 19 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren; brothers Ronnie LaGessee, Buzz (Gail) LaGessee, and Mike LaGessee; sisters Margaret "Muggs" (Harry) Frechette, Marilyn (Tom) Savoie, two special sisters-in-law Barbara (Joe) Azzarelli and Betty (John)

Azzarelli; many nieces and nephews, and special caregiver Ana.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her beloved husband Sam, her cherished son Ray, her infant sister Elizabeth LaGesse and sister Arlene LaGesse Mitchell, her dear son-in-law George McGrath, sisters-in-law Sheila LaGesse and Betty LaGesse, special nephew Tom Mitchell, special niece Nora Azzarelli VanHook, a nephew; Joey Ray Raspolich, beloved in-laws Frank and Josephine Azzarelli Raspolich, Joseph Azzarelli, Bartle and Vivian Azzarelli, Pete Azzarelli, and John Azzarelli.

She will be forever missed but infinitely remembered by everyone's life she touched. Her ethereal, witty, generous spirit, faithfulness to God, commitment to her family, and loyalty and love has imprinted an indelible mark on our hearts forever.

Please sign Jean's online guestbook at [www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com](http://www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR **24**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Schreffler Funeral Home - Kankakee Chapel  
1900 W. Court St.  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 932-2421  
<https://www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com/>

## Funeral Mass

APR **25**. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church  
907 S. Seventh Ave.  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 933-7177

# Tribute Wall



“ *Jean T Azzarelli*

February 03, 2023 at 04:30 AM



“ *Our condolences to the Azzarelli family.  
We have so many happy memories of the time  
we spent together with Jean & Sam.  
They are both sadly missed.*

*Jeff and Judy Wadley*

Jeff & Judy Wadley - April 24, 2017 at 06:02 PM



“ *I will forever hold deep in my heart the quality time spent with this beautiful, loving  
and caring woman. The year we spent together was so very special to me! I  
enjoyed every minute of our time together! My love and prayers are with the  
entire Jean Azzarelli family. I am so sorry I cannot be there with you! Love Jayne*

Jayne Korstick Azzarelli - April 24, 2017 at 12:00 PM



“ *My thoughts and prayers to all of Jean's family. I am sure she is happy to be with  
Sam again.*

*Kim Gartner*

Kim Gartner - April 24, 2017 at 11:06 AM



“ *76 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Schreffler Funeral Home - April 24, 2017 at 10:58 AM

MT

“ Azzarelli Family--We are saddened to learn of Jean's passing. She and Sam were both very special to us. We are sorry that we cannot be there with you to celebrate Jean's wonderful life, but we are currently in her second home--Tampa--celebrating the marriage of our niece. God bless you all. Mike & Carole Toliuszis

Mike & Carole Toliuszis - April 23, 2017 at 06:30 PM

TG

“ Tonya Gullquist lit a candle in memory of Jean T Azzarelli



Tonya Gullquist - April 23, 2017 at 09:38 AM

TG

“ I am so very sorry for your loss. Jean was a beautiful woman with a beautiful soul. I remember going to the assisted living center to visit her with Vivian will surely miss her. Love to all of you.

Tonya Gullquist - April 23, 2017 at 09:34 AM

DK

“ I am honored to have gotten to know Jean and to meet her loving children. She will forever have a place in my heart!!! She was a lovely woman with a heart of gold! She will be missed!!!



Deena Kisse - April 23, 2017 at 12:18 AM

TM

“ Tom Mallaney lit a candle in memory of Jean T Azzarelli



Tom Mallaney - April 22, 2017 at 05:23 PM

JS

“ *Janice Shenk lit a candle in memory of Jean T Azzarelli*



**Janice Shenk** - April 21, 2017 at 09:39 AM

JS

*Thoughts and prayers with the family!*

**Janice Shenk** - April 21, 2017 at 09:40 AM

LB

*Rick, our sympathy to you and your family on the passing of your Mother. Many fond grade school memories from St. Martins with the Azzarelli and Raspolich families. Your Mom was dedicated to her family. May she Rest In Peace with a job well done.*

*Les and Patty Blanchette*

**Les and Pat Blanchette** - April 22, 2017 at 07:28 AM

SA

*Such a fun and loving lady..... will remember her with fondness. Our prayers and sympathy to all of her family. Nick and Shirley Africano*

**Shirley/Nick Africano** - April 22, 2017 at 02:14 PM

GT

*Our sympathy to the Lagesse family. Gene & Sharon Tomaszewski in Florida*

**Gene & Sharon Tomaszewski** - April 22, 2017 at 03:42 PM

BH

*Deepest Sympathy and prayers for the entire Azzarelli family.*

*The Bruce Huot Family*

**Bruce Huot** - April 23, 2017 at 08:40 AM