



Maria Rose Zivalich

November 16, 1963 - December 24, 2022

Maria Rose Zivalich passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, December 26th , 2022 from a ruptured brain aneurysm in Greer, SC.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, January 29th at 2:30 pm at the Butterfly Pavilion in Westminster, CO. Those wishing to donate flower arrangements for the service may contact Babylon Floral at 303-830-6855.

Maria was born Maria Rose Ugolini on November 16 th , 1963 in Philadelphia, PA. She was the second-youngest of six children raised by Francis and Nicasia Ugolini. Throughout her adolescence, Maria lived in several cities since her family often traveled for her father's role in the National Park Service, including: Fairfax, VA; Slidell, LA; Littleton, CO; and Ojai, CA.

In Colorado, Maria dated and eventually married her high school boyfriend Martin Zivalich on December 27th , 1984; the couple moved to Hayward, CA near the Alameda Naval Air Station, where Martin worked as a U.S. Marine. In October 1987, they had their first child, Linda, followed by Christopher in December 1989 and Martin in April 1993.

Maria spent a large part of her life raising her three children and investing in their wellness as a mother and caretaker. As a gregarious and animated

person, she offered her kids a fun and festive approach to parenting by reading stories, singing songs about daily activities, and regularly volunteering on field trips. As her children aged, Maria began working at a few different part-time jobs.

She was hired at The Academy in August 2007 and dedicated 15 years of her life there to preschool-aged kids, offering students the same love for life, music, and joy that her children experienced during adolescence. Outside of work and motherhood, Maria was a charismatic friend who could make anyone laugh with her detailed stories and observant perspective.

Maria's infectious communication style kept her family and loved ones close and engaged. She called her mother and children nearly every day--a rare and an admirable level of commitment that was so special and meaningful.

In April 2022, Maria made the courageous move to change her life and moved to South Carolina to live with her boyfriend, Keith Williamson, and to be near her daughter and grandchildren. There, she spent eight months building a new life before her sudden passing. She began a new job at Ivybrook Academy and in a short time, left a lasting mark. She was beloved by children and parents of the school alike. Shortly before her death, Maria mentioned how overwhelmed she was by the gifts families gave her.

Maria is survived by her parents; her siblings Michael (Wendy), Loraine, Diana, and Vincent; her daughter Linda (Justin) and their children, Jamison and Olive; her son Christopher (Martin), and many other relatives who were permanently changed by Maria's vivacious spirit and will miss her dearly.

She was preceded in death by her son, Martin Francis Zivalich and her older brother, Joseph Mulia.

Lovingly Submitted by the family.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN **29**. 2:30 PM (MT)

The Butterly Pavilion
6252 W. 104th Ave.
Westminster, CO 80020

Tribute Wall



“ *Springtime Wishes was purchased for the family of Maria Rose Zivalich.* ”



January 25, 2023 at 02:24 PM



“ *Kevin & Donna Gilligan purchased the White Standing Spray for the family of Maria Rose Zivalich.* ”



Kevin & Donna Gilligan - January 24, 2023 at 06:39 PM



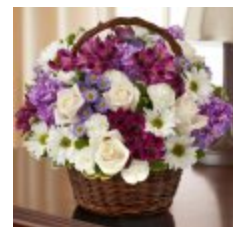
“ *Fields of Europe was purchased for the family of Maria Rose Zivalich.* ”



January 23, 2023 at 03:52 PM



“ *Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Lavender and White was purchased for the family of Maria Rose Zivalich.* ”



January 13, 2023 at 12:22 AM



“ *Classic Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Maria Rose Zivalich.*



January 12, 2023 at 10:50 PM



“ *Maria and I became friends through our daughters. I will always treasure the LONG talks out in the parking lot of Premier fitness 1 hour aerobic exercise, 2 hours in the parking lot talking! Haha 😄 we both had the gift of gab! So full of life and LOVED to laugh. TRUE 👍 FRIEND Indeed!*

Debra Loeffler - January 12, 2023 at 01:52 AM



“ *Maria was always the star of the room, her laugh was just as contagious as her smile. I will cherish all of the memories we shared working together at The Academy and I will always remember her silly songs she would sing to the kiddos. I miss you maria. 💕*

Brittnee Renzelman - January 11, 2023 at 02:38 PM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss. Maria was the best employee an employer could ever ask for. She was an amazing preschool teacher at The Academy Early Childhood Education School for more than 18 years. The Academy family will deeply miss her. Maria was not just an employee of mine, but she was also a good friend. I will deeply miss her. My thoughts and prayers go out to her family who I know she deeply loved. My best, Kathy Konrad*

Kathy Konrad - December 29, 2022 at 08:58 PM