



## Mary Josephine Leighton

April 19, 1967 - March 7, 2022

LEIGHTON (nee KUBIS), Mary Josephine of Rumson, NJ passed away March 7, 2022 surrounded by family after a brief illness. An extraordinary woman who lived an exceptional life, Mary Jo was born April 19, 1967. She graduated from Red Bank Catholic High School in 1985 and received an Associates Degree at Tobe Coburn School of Fashion in NYC after which she received her BA from Rider University where she was a member of the Delta Phi Epsilon sorority. The greatest joy and accomplishment in Mary Jo's beautiful eyes was her stunning daughter, Sydney Leigh, the light of her life. Her world revolved around her family and she was the glue connecting everyone in her life. Her very best friends were her sister, her mother and her daughter. She loved to cook and was always an impeccable hostess, enjoying nothing more than entertaining friends and family whenever the opportunity presented. Mary Jo was mother to all, caring for and nurturing everyone as she would her own child regardless of whether they were family, friend or stranger. She was obsessed with her dog, Bruno, who was her constant companion and sidekick. She took pride in her home, decorating it to perfection with yard and planters always pristine. She loved to travel and enjoyed living near the ocean and beaches. Mary Jo spent her career as a mortgage loan originator working with the same company for over twenty-five years and where, in her typical nature, she made her colleagues and clients into good friends. She will be missed dearly by all who knew her and is survived by her beloved daughter, Sydney Leigh, her mother, Carole S. Kubis and her husband, Charles B.

Stone, her father Michael F. Kubis and his wife, Phyllis, her sister and best friend, Stephanie Kubis Benedetto and her children, Olivia Jo Benedetto and Michael Christian Benedetto who affectionately called her their "Aunt Jonesy", her step-brothers, Jeffrey Stigliano and his wife, Stacy, Michael Stigliano and his wife, Michelle. She leaves behind nieces and nephews Tyler, Taylor, and Victoria Leighton and David, Theresa, Philip, and Jacob Stigliano. Mary Jo is also survived by her ex-husband, Eric Leighton and his family, with whom she remained very close as well as many beloved cousins and countless of her adoring friends, colleagues and clients.

Visitation will be held on Saturday, March 12, 2022 at Bongarzone Funeral Home, 2400 Shafto Road, Tinton Falls, New Jersey 07712. The viewing hours are from 1:00-3:00 pm and 6:00-8:00 pm. A prayer service will be held at 2:30pm. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Mary Jo's name to the Monmouth County SPCA. A check can be sent to 260 Wall Street, Eatontown, NJ 07712 or using the link [bit.ly/3sUE2mP](https://bit.ly/3sUE2mP) For online condolences, please visit Mary Jo's memorial page at [www.bongarzonefuneralhome.com](http://www.bongarzonefuneralhome.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 12. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Bongarzone Funeral Home  
2400 Shafto Road  
Tinton Falls, NJ 07712  
(732) 918-6200

## Prayer Service

MAR 12. 2:30 PM (ET)

Bongarzone Funeral Home  
2400 Shafto Road  
Tinton Falls, NJ 07712  
(732) 918-6200

## Visitation

MAR 12. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Bongarzone Funeral Home  
2400 Shafto Road  
Tinton Falls, NJ 07712  
(732) 918-6200

# Tribute Wall

CJ

“ Rest in peace Love Bird. Never stopped thinking of you n Stephanie. My heart is Broken. Will always cherish the memories. MEOW... (Inside joke). Love u n thank u for making RBC bearable



Christine Jennette - March 24, 2022 at 08:09 PM

CF

“ My husband and I knew Mary Jo for decades, using her mom Carole Kubis for real estate and then Mary Jo for mortgage. Not only did I use their services, I worked for Carole and knew the family very well. I'd speak to Mary Jo outside of business & she was always as describe in her obituary, sweet, kind and friendly. We're shocked. Our condolences to her daughter and everyone in the family grieving.

Cindy Flemm - March 21, 2022 at 11:55 AM



“ Dawna Ciardiello Mangone lit a candle in memory of Mary Josephine Leighton



Dawna Ciardiello Mangone - March 16, 2022 at 02:56 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mary Josephine Leighton.*



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March 12, 2022 at 04:03 PM



“ *Our prayers are with you and your family.*

*Marge Stone and Brian Duncan*



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**Marge Stone** - March 12, 2022 at 01:10 PM



“ *We are so sorry. Anytime someone says the name Mary Jo it just makes me smile ear to ear. It takes me right back to college days and all of the awesome memories with her. Stephanie you and your family are in our prayers and Mary Jo will always be in our hearts.*  
*Nancy and Tony Tosti*

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**Nancy Tosti** - March 12, 2022 at 11:35 AM

DL

“ Living next door to Mary Jo and Stephanie I soon discovered what a sweet and beautiful person that Mary Jo was both on the inside and out. Although we knew each other decades ago her beautiful smile and sweet spirit has and always will remain in my heart. Dear Stephanie my family and I are deeply saddened by the passing of your beloved sister. With Love, Dona Lamb



Dona Lamb - March 12, 2022 at 10:55 AM

WL

“ Walt Wimmer & Mom Joan Lute purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mary Josephine Leighton.



Walt Wimmer & Mom Joan Lute - March 11, 2022 at 05:22 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mary Josephine Leighton.



March 11, 2022 at 12:43 PM

MH

“ Much love, Heather purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mary Josephine Leighton.



Much love, Heather - March 11, 2022 at 12:40 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Mary Josephine Leighton.



March 11, 2022 at 08:23 AM



“ *Rose Remembrance* was purchased for the family of Mary Josephine Leighton.



March 10, 2022 at 07:38 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray* was purchased for the family of Mary Josephine Leighton.



March 10, 2022 at 04:20 PM



“ *Gina & Lauren Ricci* purchased the *Heavenly and Harmony* for the family of Mary Josephine Leighton.



**Gina & Lauren Ricci** - March 10, 2022 at 04:19 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mary Josephine Leighton.*



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March 10, 2022 at 03:36 PM



“ *I am so very sorry to hear this very sad news. I used to work with Mary Jo a few years back and she would always make me laugh. I know how much she loved her daughter who was just becoming a teenager back then. You were the light of her life Sydney. I know that she be missed by her family, friends and co-workers very much. I am happy to have known her and my prayers go out to each and everyone of you during this most sorrowful time. May the Lord Jesus hold you up when you are too weak to stand and my His peace and grace fall upon you all.*

*Laura Pellichero*

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**Laura Pellichero** - March 10, 2022 at 03:23 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mary Josephine Leighton.*



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March 10, 2022 at 03:11 PM

YS

“ Your loving friend, Barbara Soriano purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Mary Josephine Leighton.



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Your loving friend, Barbara Soriano - March 10, 2022 at 02:47 PM

RB

“ Beautiful Mary Jo.....My heart is very heavy as she was always so kind to me anytime she walked into the office. With her desk right next to mine, I had many stressful days having a young child and Mary Jo would share an encouraging word and jokes with me to lift my spirits. She gave me precious advice on motherhood that I'll never forget, because being a mother was clearly her most important role in life. Her beautiful smile and classy, stylish fashion is how I will always remember her when I close my eyes. My deepest, deepest condolences to her family, friends, our mortgage family and anyone who was blessed enough to have a relationship with her. Rest in paradise.



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Renee Bordonada - March 10, 2022 at 02:04 PM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Mary Josephine Leighton.



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March 10, 2022 at 01:24 PM



“ *Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Josephine Leighton.*



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March 10, 2022 at 12:54 PM



“ *Bongarzone Funeral Home lit a candle in memory of Mary Josephine Leighton*



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**Bongarzone Funeral Home** - March 10, 2022 at 10:18 AM



“ *Mary Jo pledged my sorority when I was a junior. My memory if her was her obvious beauty and also very clever and sweet. We reconnected a couple of years ago in a small sorority reunion. She still the same lovely Mary Jo , and so proud to be a mother to her beloved beautiful daughter. My last text from her was she was concerned about my husband's health....After reading her family and closest friends posts, she was indeed selfless and a wonderful woman to everyone. The memories of Mary Jo will never fade, she was a gift to everyone*



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**Jocelyn Froehlich** - March 10, 2022 at 09:23 AM

IS

*I remember Mary Jo from many years ago. I remember a very sweet, loving young girl. It is so sad that she has passed away so young. A beautiful soul, she will be missed. My deepest sympathy to her grieving family. Ingrid Spears*

**Ingrid Spears** - March 11, 2022 at 07:27 PM

FC

“ *Frank Caruso purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Mary Josephine Leighton.*



**Frank Caruso** - March 09, 2022 at 07:49 PM



“ *Graceful Wreath was purchased for the family of Mary Josephine Leighton.*



March 09, 2022 at 07:35 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mary Josephine Leighton.*



March 09, 2022 at 07:27 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Mary Josephine Leighton.*



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March 09, 2022 at 06:13 PM



“ *Mary Jo touched so many lives in the very best way. I'm grateful I got the chance to know her as both a colleague and a friend.*  
~Billy B.~

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**William Bintliff** - March 09, 2022 at 05:40 PM



“ *Graceful Wreath was purchased for the family of Mary Josephine Leighton.*



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March 09, 2022 at 04:35 PM