



Renae I. Lerakis

November 30, 1937 - May 5, 2025

Renae Lerakis, 87 passed away on Monday, May 5, 2025, at Care One at Holmdel. Born in New Brunswick to John and Helen Paitakes on November 30, 1937, she lived in Metuchen for 25 years before moving to Tinton Falls in 1998. She graduated New Brunswick High School in 1955 and after graduation, she attended and completed courses at Drake Business School. Renae loved to travel and visited Greece, England, Rome, the Caribbean and Florida. She worked at the Spinning Wheel Diner as a bookkeeper and hostess/cashier. She married Michael Lerakis on November 21, 1965, and they owned and operated the Encore Luncheonette in Metuchen for 15 years. She ran the snack bar at the community pool for many years and also owned a pizzeria in Bloomfield. She was a faithful member and devoted Sunday School Teacher for over 25 years at the St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Piscataway. She also was a member of St. George Church in Ocean Township after moving to Tinton Falls. After the businesses were sold, she was a hostess/cashier at The Woodbridge Diner and The Seville Diner for a number of years. She enjoyed going out to lunch and dinner with family and friends, trips to Atlantic City, a good poker game and Greek Dance affairs and festivals. Renae was very family oriented, sociable, outgoing and had a tendency to light up any room and bring joy to people she met. Her warmth and joy were a gift to friends and family.

She is predeceased by her husband, Michael Lerakis, February 26, 2011.

They were married for 45 years.

Surviving is her daughter, Michele Lerakis Pfeiffer and her husband Allan of Tinton Falls. Her sister Liberty Schwalje, brother John Paitakes and his wife Linda, youngest sister Lynn Lotkowicz and her husband Bill and several nephews, nieces, cousins and relatives.

With respect for Renae's final wishes for an easy, private celebration of her life, we invite you to light a candle or offer a prayer wherever you feel most at peace, in honor of her.

Cemetery Details

All other services are private

Tribute Wall

CB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Cheryl Bingaman - September 26, 2025 at 08:22 PM

CB

I always had this in a beautiful frame I would love for you to have this my friend. Please contact me. God bless you always and forever<3 XO

Cheryl Bingaman - September 26, 2025 at 08:26 PM

CB

“ Michele, I am so sorry for your loss of your mom. She was beautiful soul. GOD bless you may she rest in peace. Please look at the comment I left on the candle I lit. <3

Cheryl Bingaman - September 26, 2025 at 08:21 PM

CB

“ Cheryl Bingaman lit a candle in memory of Renae I. Lerakis



Cheryl Bingaman - September 26, 2025 at 08:02 PM

CB

Michele, I am so sorry for the loss of your mom. I Loved her just as much as you did mine. Your mom was the best friend and mother that I known who cared and gave her best to you. May she rest in peace. My prayers are with you and your family. XOXO. Cheryl

Cheryl Bingaman - September 26, 2025 at 08:06 PM

JS

“ Michele, I so sorry for your loss. Both of your parents we so nice to me. I know they are missed.

Joie Miele Smithers - May 15, 2025 at 11:26 PM

MP

Thank you so very much Joie!! I'm so happy that my parents were nice too you, as your parents were to me as well. Sending my love to you, your husband and your family!! XO

Michele Pfeiffer - May 18, 2025 at 07:32 AM

BH

“ Bongarzone Funeral Home lit a candle in memory of Renae I. Lerakis



Bongarzone Funeral Home - May 09, 2025 at 09:58 PM