



Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio

July 5, 1934 - April 30, 2026

Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio, 91, of Tinton Falls, New Jersey, passed away on April 30th, after a long life shaped by family, work, and the experiences she gathered over many decades.

Born in Hoboken, New Jersey, Sabina was raised among close family and friendships that stayed with her throughout her life. Those early years formed the foundation of a life rooted in family connections and enduring relationships.

On July 6, 1957, she married her high school sweetheart, Joseph Rubbinaccio. Their marriage spanned more than 50 years, during which they raised their family in Secaucus before relocating to Tinton Falls in 1994, where Sabina spent the later years of her life.

Travel became a meaningful part of Sabina's adulthood, especially through her many years working at Travel Weekly. Her career allowed her to visit destinations around the world and experience different cultures. Among the many places she traveled, a trip to Africa stood out, including a memorable hot air balloon ride over the landscape. She especially enjoyed recounting her adventures and sharing stories from those experiences.

Closer to home, Sabina enjoyed time at the beach and often gravitated toward

the ocean where she enjoyed many summers over the years.

At home, Sabina had a lasting interest in classic films and Hollywood's golden age. She enjoyed revisiting old movies and actors and was known for her strong memory of details from another era.

Family remained central throughout Sabina's life. She was deeply proud of her daughters and the lives they built, and as a grandmother, she took pleasure being present in her grandchildren's lives. She loved attending their sporting events and cherished time spent cooking with them, along with celebrating important milestones such as engagements, weddings, and personal achievements. She will be lovingly remembered and deeply missed by her family, who shared a lifetime of memories with her.

Sabina is survived by her daughters, Debra Rose Rubbinaccio Altomare and Dana Rubbinaccio Pak, and Dana's husband, Chris/Song Pak; and her grandchildren, Darian Leigh Altomare and her partner Benjamin Cotta, Joelle Rae Altomare, Carly Reid Altomare and her husband Matthew Verga, Cameron Joseph Pak and his fiancé Suzanne DeGuire, and Kyle Christopher Pak.

A Memorial Celebration will be held on Tuesday May 5, 2026 from 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. at the Bongarzone Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

MAY 5. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall

“*Deb, Dana -- I just learned of your mom’s passing. I noticed that she hadn’t been posting at her usual speed on Facebook, and meant to check in sooner, but life got lifey, and here we are. I am so very sorry for your loss. Your mother was an amazing and beautiful person; she filled our home office at Travel Weekly with such love and kindness, two words one doesn’t often hear associated with workplaces. She and I started there at the same time -- I was as nervous as a long-tailed cat in a roomful of rocking chairs. Yes, I had gone to journalism school, but I felt like I had stepped into the line of fire in a newsroom full of seasoned professionals. She always put in a kind word for me with management when I screwed up, as rookies do. She was funny as hell, and I was so proud of her when she started filing stories about her travels. That girl had it going on; there was nothing she couldn’t do. Sitting in staff meetings with her, I always enjoyed her complete lack of a poker face. She played it straight, and you always knew where you stood with her. We took many a lunchtime lap at the Mill Creek Mall when we were working in Secaucus. She was great for fashion consults, and we’d window-shop together.*

She looked out for all of us -- I’ll never forget how she let me sneak in to nap on the sofa in her boss Alan’s office when I was miserably exhausted and very pregnant. I know I am not the only one who thought of her as our office mom; everyone adored her. She had more Big Mom Energy than anyone I have ever met. Over our holiday potlucks, she loved to talk about how she made favorite holiday meals, and the cookies -- oh, my God - the cookies! She brought them into the office, and they were seriously among the best I have ever eaten. (Those anise-flavored ones with the white icing. Phenomenal.) We swapped recipes and talked shop about how we made sauce. I loved every minute of it.

After she retired, we kept in touch on Facebook, and we’d rant about politics via text message. We’d occasionally run into each other on the boardwalk; those “accidents” would result in hours-long conversations, and a few sunburns, in my case. We’d have breakfasts and dinners together here at the shore. After the pandemic, we had a joyful reunion dinner in Bradley Beach.

Know that every time we spoke, and I mean EVERY TIME we spoke, she bragged about you all. She adored being a mom and a grandma. She was always excited to spend time together and meticulously and proudly recounted all the glorious details of each of her grandkids' lives. She absolutely worshipped all of you. No kindness went unnoticed, and she was so proud of the way her grandkids grew up to be loving, wonderful people. As someone who was not lucky enough to literally be part of your family, she treated me like an adjunct member of the squad, and for that, I will always be grateful. There have been many happy accidents in my life, but knowing your mom has been a privilege. I'm so sorry that I missed the opportunity to have one last visit with her. Your mother was a delight; such a great source of warmth and joy. She was a blessing for us all.



Kristin O'Meara - 7 hours ago



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.



May 05 at 12:37 PM



“ K. M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.

K. M. - May 05 at 09:49 AM

LB

“ Love Always, Michele and Bill purchased the Joyful Memory for the family of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.



Love Always, Michele and Bill - May 05 at 09:19 AM

AV

“ Alex & Chelsea Vieira purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.



Alex & Chelsea Vieira - May 04 at 07:16 PM

DW

“ Dorothy A. White-Burrell lit a candle in memory of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio



Dorothy A. White-Burrell - May 04 at 07:08 PM

DW

“ Sabina was a very kind, funny and a joy to know. I met her @ the Shore Fit Gym years ago. I was knew to the Gym & didn't know a lot of the people. She was so warm, kind and welcoming & made me feel comfortable. We shared some nice lunches occasionally. She loved to go to the Greek Spot. We laughed joked & she talked so much about her Family, Holiday get togethers, etc. She was so Proud of all of You! I knew abt her daughter's move to TN, the grandkids sports and College experiences, the Wedding in her backyard, because she was unable to travel to Italy. She loved her Family & always told me stories! Last we spoke, we were going to get together for Lunch. I will miss this Sweet gem of a Lady! She also spoke of her Dear Husband. They are now reunited. Rest in Eternal Peace, my FRIEND!
Dorothy White-Burrell

Dorothy A. White-Burrell - May 04 at 07:04 PM

TF

“ The Kutiak Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.



The Kutiak Family - May 04 at 06:33 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.



May 04 at 01:45 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.

May 04 at 01:45 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.

May 04 at 01:42 PM



“ Love, The Bracco Family purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.



Love, The Bracco Family - May 04 at 11:46 AM



“ Love, The Bracco Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.

Love, The Bracco Family - May 04 at 11:46 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.



May 04 at 10:42 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.



May 03 at 05:07 PM



“ To our Mother/Grandmother - you will be missed tremendously but never forgotten...

Her Journey's Just Begun

Don't think of her as gone away her journey's just begun. Life holds so many facets this earth is only one. Just think of her as resting from the sorrows and the tears in a place of warmth and comfort where there are no days or years. Think how she must be wishing that we could know today how nothing but our sadness can really pass away. And think of her as living in the hearts of those she touched for nothing loved is ever lost and she was loved so much.



Dana Pak - May 03 at 02:32 PM

DO

“ Dana, I’m so sorry for your loss. Your mom truly lived such a full and beautiful life, and it always showed in the way she connected with people. I’ll always remember sitting together with my mother-in-law (who also loved your mom!!!) at tennis matches, cheering on the kids, and hanging with her at bingo and for a few dinners—it was always such a pleasure, and she brought such warmth and joy to those moments.

She was always so sweet, easy to talk to, and genuinely kind—it made every conversation with her feel special.

She will be deeply missed, but I feel lucky to have known her and shared in those memories. Sending you, Chris, Cameron, Kyle and all of your family so much love. ❤️ Darragh

Darragh O’Donnell - May 03 at 07:21 AM

BV

“ Bob Diana Nick and Vinny purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.



Bob Diana Nick and Vinny - May 02 at 08:55 PM

PR

“ Uncle Al with Uncle Sonny and Pop with my dad. Aunt Sabina married the Dickinson Basketball star. Rubbinaccio's dominated. May she RIP.



Prosecutor Michael M Rubbinaccio - May 02 at 06:04 PM

TF

“ The Sands Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.



The Sands Family - May 02 at 01:38 PM

TL

“ To my special Friend Sabina Love, Barbara planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.

To my special Friend Sabina Love, Barbara - May 02 at 12:46 PM

CA

“ Cindy, Graig, Johnny & Victoria Aimone purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.



Cindy, Graig, Johnny & Victoria Aimone - May 01 at 06:34 PM

CA

“ Cindy, Graig, Johnny & Victoria Aimone planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.

Cindy, Graig, Johnny & Victoria Aimone - May 01 at 06:34 PM

SB

“ Susan B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.

Susan B. - May 01 at 06:08 PM

BH

“ Bongarzone Funeral Home lit a candle in memory of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio



Bongarzone Funeral Home - May 01 at 05:19 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.



May 01 at 04:17 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.



May 01 at 04:04 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.

May 01 at 04:04 PM



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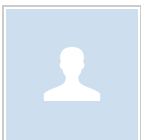
May 01 at 03:12 PM



“ Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.



May 01 at 02:23 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.



May 01 at 02:01 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Sabina DeCandia Rubbinaccio.* ”



May 01 at 01:53 PM