



## Christine Chironis

October 22, 1940 - November 10, 2020

Christine Chironis, 80, passed away on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 in Wheeling, IL. She was born October 22, 1940 in Lake Geneva, WI where she lived most of her life, helping with the family restaurant, Harry's Café. Christine was a member of St. Demetrios Church in Libertyville, enjoyed cooking, baking, movies and especially loved spending time with her grandchildren. Surviving are her 6 children, George (John) Danos, Basil (Maria) Danos, Maria (Daryl) Breitenfeldt, Anastasia (Steve) Elder, Dino Danos and Jason Danos; 9 grandchildren, Peter, Michail & Kristina Danos, Orion & Owen Breitenfeldt, Nicholas, Lucas, Zoe Elder and Elias Danos; 2 sisters, Anne Roche and Mary Dean Evans; 3 brothers, James, Louie (Linda), Harry (Karen) Chironis and sister-in-law, Sharilyn Chironis. She was preceded in death by her brother, Alex Chironis and a brother-in-law, George Roche and James Evans.

A funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m. Monday, November 16, 2020 at St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, 1400 N. Oplaine Road, Libertyville, IL 60048. For those who wish to attend services virtually, a link will be provided on the funeral home website that will begin at 10am, Monday. Interment will follow at Oak Hill Cemetery in Lake Geneva, WI. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Greek American Rehabilitation and Care Center, 220 N. 1st Street, Wheeling, IL 60090. For info: 847-362-3009 or share a memory at [www.burnettdane.com](http://www.burnettdane.com).

Click link below beginning at 10am Monday, Nov. 16 for live funeral footage:  
<https://client.tribucast.com/tcid/66998819>

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

NOV **16**. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church  
1400 N. O'Plaine Road  
Libertyville, IL 60048

# Tribute Wall



“ *Burnett-Dane Funeral Home created a Live Funeral Footage in memory of Christine Chironis*



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**Burnett-Dane Funeral Home** - November 12, 2020 at 03:55 PM

AP

*Love you sweet Tina! You were a wonderful cousin- Angie Pappas Petros*

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**angie Pappas Petros** - November 14, 2020 at 04:57 PM

NE

“Over the past few days, I’ve realized that my memories of Yiayia Tina are indelibly tied up in food. From our visits to see her in Lake Geneva, I can easily recall the bed of mint by the front of the house, some of which was usually drying on the dining table inside. I remember the blackberries and raspberries growing around the side of the house and underneath the crabapple tree in the back yard. I remember the time she was caught trying to let my little brother and me eat what seemed like a half-gallon of ice cream after a lunch of peanut butter and rhubarb-jelly sandwiches. A few years later, she introduced me to the magic of stuffed grape leaves, still one of my favorite comfort foods.

From a young age I had to learn to hold my breath when eating Yiayia’s kourabiedes, which she made by the dozens every year and onto which she put just as much powdered sugar as she did love. She came to visit us in Mississippi once, and made vegetable soup. Nearly twenty years later, I know I’m not the only one that remembers that soup, and I can still pick out the pot at home that she made it in.

Aside from food, I still cherish the \$20 bonds that all of her grandchildren received every year for Christmas and birthdays, always signed with her distinctive large and loopy signature. Thank you to my own mother for keeping those bonds safe all these years. I believe I also have Yiayia to thank for the strange comfort that I find in the scent of Vick’s Vaporub, some of which I have had with me ever since I left home.

These past few years, as dementia took hold, I don’t think she remembered exactly who I was. Just the same, whenever she saw me, she’d smile, pat my hand, and usually give me a wink. A small, silent, and unconditional “I love you”.

*I love you too, Yiayia.*

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**Nicholas Elder** - November 16, 2020 at 12:07 PM

IK

“ I have a cherished memory of my Aunt Tina that always brings a smile. It was the early 60's and around Halloween. We were on our trip down to Florida and stopped to stay with my Aunt Tina and Family. My Aunt was sure it was it was Trick or Treating, so we went out with our plastic masks and white sheets as ghosts. My Dad waited in the car as my Aunt, Mom, Sister, 2 Cousins and I rang door bells. Well, the residents in the few homes we visited peeked around curtains not opening doors. At one point, I could barely see out of my plastic mask and fell off the doorstep into some bushes. We finally found out that this was not the night for Trick or Treating! Even though as a child I was disappointed that we would not be getting candy, as an adult it is a cherished memory of an Aunt's love to ensure her nieces enjoyed one of a child's favorite Holidays. Aunt Tina I will miss you. It brings comfort to me to know you are with my Dad, Uncle Alex, Grandmother and Grandfather watching over all of us. Love forever, Renie

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Irene Elsayed (niece) - November 15, 2020 at 04:16 PM

OB

“ We will forever miss you Yiayia❤️. You were always so nice and kind 🙏🕊️



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Orion Breitenfeldt - November 14, 2020 at 06:26 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Christine Chironis.*



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November 13, 2020 at 09:07 PM

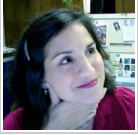


“ *Yiayia was beautiful inside and out. Love you forever! ❤️*



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**Peter Danos** - November 13, 2020 at 03:59 PM



“ Although dementia marked her later years, I choose to remember the earlier times of her as a mother and grandmother encompassing most of her life. I also want to take moment to express love and gratitude to her.

Her main goal in life was to be a mother. She felt most true caring for others. She knew how to make feverish children feel comfortable, anxious children gain moments of relaxation. ( FYI the best antidote to angst of going to Greek school is to make chocolate chip cookies and have all 6 kids roll cookie balls around the kitchen table. I'm not sure it wasn't sneaking some raw dough ahead of time or knowing you would have cookies when you returned home or the act of just occupying yourself or likely all three.) Overall she always worked to provide a home that felt safe for us to be ourselves. For that, thank you mom.

Having six kids meant she had to roll with it sometimes. For example, having impromptu bday party for two 4 yo twin girls when Maria and I decided to invite neighbor kids to a party she did not know about. Again, thank you mom.

She never questioned times she sacrificed her own sleep for us. This included Late night phone call in college when I was uncertain about applying for a particular summer job; guiding me gently to bed with promises of waking me up early to finish the 6th grade project; I likely didn't say it then but thank you mom.

Mom was a fierce proponent of education who was never afraid of hard work. These are values I now share. Thank you mom.

She had a way of simplifying points of indecision for me as a young adult and teen that helped me clarify my choices. Her words echoed in my mind through adulthood. “Doing the best one can” was a way to forgive ourselves and others and to remain patient. “What better thing do you have to do?” This was in context of spending time nursing or playing with young ones. She was right... I mean dishes or legos? It was clarifying.

Thank you mom for this guidance.

She believed in simple pleasures of spending time with loved ones and the beauty of nature. This too is something I gained from her. And appreciate more and more as I age. Thank you mom.

*She took great pride in having 9 grandchildren. Yaya , as she was called by her grandchildren, loved to spoil her grandkids with extra big servings of ice cream and laughing at silly games. She blossomed in spirit and emotion around young children and babies. Her smile was never so big or genuine as it was seeing her grandchildren. Thank you for making them each feel special and loved.*

*My hope is she is able to find the peace that sometimes eluded her in her life and she is able to rest in everlasting peace knowing she loved fiercely and is loved genuinely by so many of us.*

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**Anastasia Elder** - November 13, 2020 at 12:21 PM

MB

♥♥ Yes! "What better things do you have to do?" Prioritizing playing with kids over housework and no guilt.

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**Maria Breitenfeldt** - November 13, 2020 at 12:43 PM

MB

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall

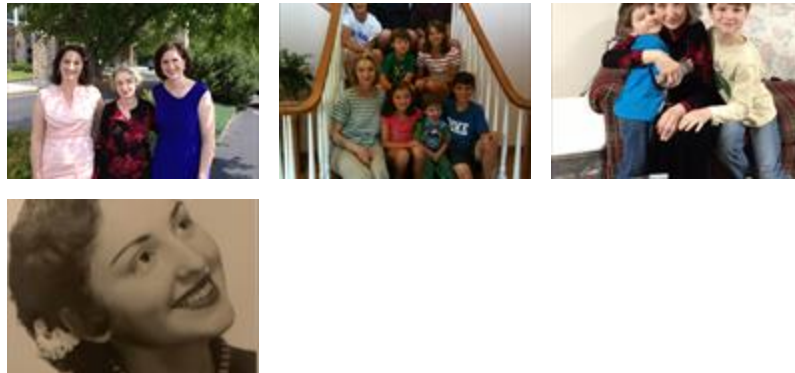


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**Maria Breitenfeldt** - November 13, 2020 at 12:20 PM

MB

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



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**Maria Breitenfeldt** - November 13, 2020 at 11:50 AM

MB

“ One of my fondest memories of Mom was from when I was in the 5th grade. One Sunday night, I was in tears and panicking after procrastinating for weeks on a school project. She helped me get that project done. The memory stuck not because it was an important project, but intuitively I knew there was something crucial to learn there. She displayed the perfect combination of sympathy and determination in that moment for her 10 yr daughter. Mom helped me break down the project into smaller manageable parts and in the process my stress evaporated. I was able to complete it on time and learned an important lesson from her in the process. Not about procrastination. But one of perseverance. Her motto seemed to be “don’t be daunted by seemingly insurmountable circumstances” Whether it was moving houses or wrangling 5 kids into a rented van to travel cross country to a college graduation, Mom was a doer. She loved her kids immensely and worked hard for her family. She was always bustling - I don’t remember her sitting still. Time to take a break Mom! Rest In Peace❤️

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**Maria Breitenfeldt** - November 13, 2020 at 11:48 AM