

Rite of Committal/Blessing of the Grave

Perhaps the simplest and most meaningful part of the Rite of Christian Burial is the Rite of Committal, that ceremony at the graveside where Annette is laid to rest. Her ashes are committed to the earth and to the hope of the resurrection. The most basic truth of faith is revealed.

Father we thank you for the life of my mom . . .

We thank you for the good qualities she instilled in us.

Though our lives took many twists and turns, we know that her heart was filled with love for her family. It gives me a sense of peace knowing that to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord (2 Cor.5:8).

We know that mom is precious in your sight (psalm 116:15).

Thank you Father for your peace that you leave with us in this trying time.

— Amen

A Prayer of Commendation

And now we offer and commend Annette to the Everlasting One.

Annette, we say to you in the midst of our sorrow and loss that we are grateful that you lived your life among us. We are grateful for your quiet gentleness and for your firm resolve to live life and to die on your own terms.

We take joy and relief in knowing that your suffering has ended.

We ask you now for forgiveness for any of the ways we may have hurt you in this life -- and we forgive you for any of the ways you may have hurt us.

We release you now into the Everlasting Arms. May your passage be swift.

May you know Wholeness and Peace now and through all eternity.

Blessing

May you go from this place knowing that Annette is now at peace.

May you trust that the One who sustains us all, will hold you and keep you during the darkest of days.

And may you reenter your lives, infused with the desire and power to bless everyone and everything you touch.

Rev. Nicholas C. Ciccone, Jr., Ph. D.

Chaplain

Ascend Hospice of Massachusetts
www.ascendhospice.com



Annette M. (LeBlanc) Melanson

March 29, 1938 ~ September 19, 2020



Compassionate and loving God,
yours is the beauty of childhood and yours is the fullness of years.
Comfort us in our sorrow, strengthen us with hope,
and breathe peace into our troubled hearts.

Assure us that the love we had for Annette
was not in vain—indeed make it a part of the store of goodness
you are even now pouring out upon her in your eternal kingdom.

Guide us through this time of sadness
with the light of your love and the strength of your compassion
Give all of us the strength and courage to face each new day.

September 25, 2020

10:30 am





Annette M. (Leblanc) Melanson

March 29, 1938 ~ September 19, 2020
Maynard, Massachusetts | Age 82

She was the devoted wife of the late Paul J. Melanson,
to whom she was married for 54 years
at the time of his passing on December 9, 2011.

Born in Memramcook, New Brunswick, Canada, she was the daughter
of the late Eric and Adrienne (Gautreau) LeBlanc.

The Melanson's were married in Waltham in 1957, then settled in
Maynard where they raised their two daughters, Janice and Diane.

After Paul's retirement from his business, Paul's AutoBody in Waltham, the
couple enjoyed traveling in their Country Coach motor home, exploring the US
and Canada while visiting relatives and friends along the way.

She especially loved time spent in their Florida home in the winter as well
summer months in Canada with her family. She enjoyed playing Bingo, occa-
sional Casino and playing cards with friends.

She was very generous, a great cook and always had plenty of food for eve-
ryone. Mrs Melanson centered her life around her family and friends and will
be greatly missed by all.

Mrs. Melanson is survived by her daughters,
Janice Phaneuf and her husband Jeff
and Diane Kiley;

Her grandchildren
Jake and Janelle Phaneuf, and Bryan and Eric Kiley;

her brothers and sisters:
Donald (Marie Claire) LeBlanc, Aline Belliveau,
Ulysse (Georgeline) LeBlanc, Simonne LeBlanc and Jean Nowlan,
Cecile (Alphonse) Cormier, Gaston (Estelle) LeBlanc,
Camillien (Mariline) LeBlanc, Pierrette (Marcel) Landry,
Charline LeBlanc, Guy (Monique) LeBlanc;
and her sister-in-law, Paul's sister Jeannine LeBlanc.

She is predeceased by brothers-in-law, Gerard Belliveau,
Pierre Landry, Camille LeBlanc and Gerard Gallant.

St. Bridget Cemetery Maynard, Massachusetts



A reading from the Book of Sirach

44:1, 10-15

Now will I praise those godly men and women, our ancestors,
each in their own time:

These were godly people whose virtues have not been forgotten;
Their wealth remains in their families, their heritage with their descendants;
Through God's covenant with them their family endures,
their posterity, for their sake.

And for all time their progeny will endure, their glory will never be blotted out;
Their bodies are peacefully laid away, but their name lives on and on
At gatherings their wisdom is retold, and the assembly proclaims their praise.

Family Memories and Reflections

Bryan Kiley

+A reading from the holy gospel according to John

John 11:32-45

When Mary the sister of Lazarus came to the place where Jesus was,
seeing him, she fell at his feet and said to him,
"Lord, if you had been here my brother would never have died."
When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jewish folk who had accompanied
her also weeping, he was troubled in spirit, moved by the deepest emotions.
"Where have you laid him?" he asked.

"Lord, come and see," they said. Jesus began to weep, which caused the
Jews to remark, "See how much he loved him!"
But some said, "He opened the eyes of that blind man.
Why could he not have done something to stop this man from dying?"
Once again troubled in spirit, Jesus approached the tomb.

It was a cave with a stone laid across it.
"Take away the stone," Jesus directed. Martha, the dead man's sister,
said to him, "Lord, it has been four days now!"
Jesus replied, "Did I not assure you that if you believed you would
see the glory of God?" They then took away the stone
and Jesus looked upward and said: "Father,

I thank you for having heard me. I know that you always hear me but
I have said this for the sake of the crowd, that they may believe
that you sent me." Having said this, he called loudly, "Lazarus, come out!"
The dead man came out, bound hand and foot with linen strips, his face
wrapped in a cloth. "Untie him," Jesus told them, "and let him go free."