

I know for certain . . .

that we never lose the people we love, even to death.

They continue to participate in every act,
thought and decision we make.

Their love leaves an indelible imprint in our memories.

We find comfort in knowing
that our lives have been enriched
by having shared their love.

— Leo Buscaglia

Blessing of the Grave and Committal

The grave is a powerful sign of loss, but it is also sacred,
consecrated by Christ, who himself lay in a tomb.

Once the grave has been blessed, and so made a sacred place
where Anna may lie in peace,
the rite of committal takes place.

The priest offers a prayer, entrusting Anna
who has died to the earth, and her soul to God.

A Prayer of Commendation

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

Anna, 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 journey 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.

Final Blessing

May you go from this place knowing that Anna 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.

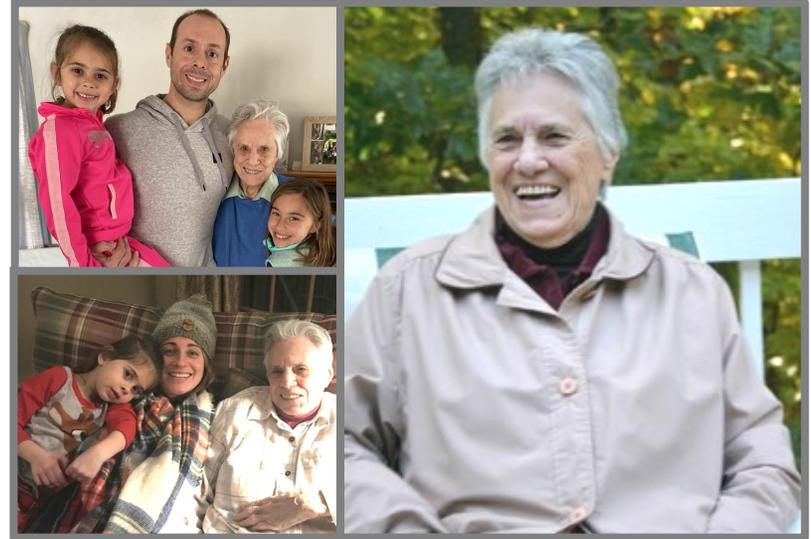
And may you reenter your lives, infused with the desire
and power to bless everyone and everything you touch.

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

Chaplain

Ascend Hospice of Massachusetts

www.ascendhospice.com



Anna Elizabeth (Cantino) Diodato

September 5, 1924 ~ January 25, 2022



O God, it is your love that has called us into being and
given us this wonderful gift that we call life.

It is your love that inspires us and strengthens us
all along our own pathways of life.

Be especially present with us here today as we focus our
attention, prayers, and our love upon the life of Anna.

Speak to us through our faith in Your Love,

Your love for us, and Your continuing love for her.

Help us to hear Your word, and to feel Your presence with us now,
so that all who have come might not go away feeling empty inside.

Touch the members of this family, and this gathering of friends,
in this, their time of loss and need.

Give all of us the strength and courage to face each new day.

February 3, 2022

10:00 am



Anna, Che Dio ti dia il benvenuto in Paradiso
"Anna, May God Welcome You Into Paradise"



Anna Elizabeth (Cantino) Diodato
"Grandma"
September 5, 1924 ~ January 25, 2022
Littleton, Massachusetts | Age 97

She was the beloved wife of the late Dominic Diodato,

Anna was born at home on the family farm in Littleton, one of eight children of the late Frank and Carmella Cantino, who were first generation Americans.

Anna worked for a military electronics supplier and was a group leader when she retired. She and her husband made their home in Littleton, where they raised their two children. They often made trips back to Staten Island, where her husband was raised. Later in life they made trips to Italy, Florida, and to visit their son in Nashville.

Anna was a well-known cook and her lasagna was legendary among family and friends, served with a little red wine of course. She loved time spent in the garden and at one time maintained a large strawberry field, selling the berries at a small roadside stand with the goal of paying the property taxes.

She had a love of all animals but especially "Peggy" and "Patches," two special dogs. In her downtime, you could find her reading or working on a puzzle.

Anna had many friends. She made the effort to get to know people and make a real connection. She would spend hours talking with people young and old whether they were there for a visit, or to work on her house.

More than anything, she loved spending time with her grandchildren. She was always a willing babysitter and cherished the time she spent with them.

Anna is lovingly survived by her two children,
Frank Diodato and Nancy Cyr.

She was the loving grandmother of
Jason and Aaron Cyr, and Olivia Diodato,
and great-grandmother of
Hailey and Mia Cyr, and Savannah and Tanner Cyr.

Westlawn Cemetery
Littleton, Massachusetts



+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.

Family Reflections and Memories

"Padre nostro"

Padre nostro che sei nei cielisia santificato il tuo nome
venga il tuo regnosia fatta la tua volontà come in cielo così in terra.
Dacci oggi il nostro pane quotidiano Rimetti a noi i nostri debiti
Come noi li rimettiamo ai nostri debitori.
E non ci indurre in tentazioneMa liberaci dal male.
— AMEN