



## Ernestine "Toni" Rudd

June 27, 1927 - April 26, 2024

In the early hours of April 26, 2024, Ernestine "Toni" Rudd passed away at Samaritan Hospice in Mount Holly, NJ. She was 96 years old.

All those who knew her called her "Toni", as this was her preferred name. Toni was born June 27, 1927 in Munich, Germany. She was the fifth child of Theresia Hillmeier and Leonhard Graetz. Toni's mother passed away in 1929, when she was only 2 years old. Her oldest sister, Betty, helped raise her and was like a mother to her. After completing her school years, Toni apprenticed as an office clerk. These skills helped her obtain employment with the United States government after WWII. This was where she met her future husband and love of her life, Nathan E. Rudd, Jr. Nathan was stationed in Germany following the war. He wooed Toni with chocolate and his charming personality until she finally gave in and they began dating. They married in Munich on October 21, 1948. Nathan was transferred back to America in December 1948, and there they welcomed their first born child, Theresa M. Rudd, who was born in Philadelphia in 1949. Toni gave birth to their second daughter, Barbara, in August of 1950. Nathan's sister, Marian Pilgrim, took Toni under her wing and treated her like a sister. Toni and Nathan had two more children, Michael in 1956 and Stephanie in 1965. Toni and Nathan were married for 63 years until his death in 2012.

Toni was very intelligent and taught herself to speak and write the English language. She worked for the U.S. Federal government as a secretary for many years. Her last job was at Walson Army Hospital before retiring in

October 1987. Toni was an amazing cook and baker. She often prepared Sunday family dinners with authentic German dishes. Christmas was a special time and Toni made dozens and dozens of different recipes of Christmas cookies. She would give tins of cookies to family and friends. Toni was an excellent seamstress and made a lot of her children's clothes. She learned to sew from her father who was a tailor by trade. Toni also enjoyed working in her garden, and every year her beautiful Peonies would bloom. She was an animal lover and owned several dogs in her lifetime. Toni was a devout Catholic throughout her life. She and Nathan sang in the Sacred Heart Church choir in Mount Holly for over 20 years.

Toni is predeceased by her loving husband, Nathan E. Rudd, Jr. her son, Michael E. Rudd, her daughter, Barbara "Nettie" Wright, her brother Leonard "Harty" Graetz, her sisters Barbara "Betty" Grafwallner, Sofie Mayer, Elfriede "Fritzi" Bellamy, and Hannelore Otten. Toni is survived by her daughters Theresa Rudd (Nick Montegna, Jr.) and Stephanie Rudd, grandson Eric Wright, granddaughters Andrea Ramsey (Chris) and Keira Rudd, and many nieces, nephews, and cousins both in the United States and Germany.

Visitation with the family will be held on Thursday, May 2nd from 6:00-8:00 pm at Perinchief Chapels on 438 High Street in Mount Holly. Funeral Mass will be at 11:00 am on Friday, May 3rd at Sacred Heart Church in Mount Holly with burial following at Brigadier General William C. Doyle Memorial Cemetery in Wrightstown, NJ.

# Cemetery Details

## BGWCD Veteran's Memorial Cemetery

350 Provinceline Rd.,  
Wrightstown, NJ

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAY 2.** 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Perinchief Chapels  
438 High St.  
Mount Holly, NJ 08060  
(609) 267-0399

## Funeral Mass

**MAY 3.** 11:00 AM (ET)

Sacred Heart Church in Mount Holly  
260 High St.  
Mount Holly, NJ

# Tribute Wall

JM

“ My dear Terry and Steffie, I've just learned of your mother's passing. Please accept my deepest condolences. She was a lovely woman with a towering strength. I had great admiration, respect, and affection for her. She'll be in my prayers. Sending you both love and light, Janice Maestas-Nechleba



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**Janice Maestas-Nechleba** - May 27, 2024 at 07:38 PM

VM

“ Terry and Family, I'm very sorry to hear of your mother's passing. She was an incredible woman. Hope it helps to know you are in my thoughts. Sincerely, Virginia Mosca

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**Virginia Mosca** - May 15, 2024 at 08:59 PM

LE

“ Terry  
MaryBeth and I are sorry to hear about your mother's passing.  
Our condolences to you and your family.  
Larry England

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**Larry England** - May 03, 2024 at 06:04 PM

PO

“ Terry, So sorry for the passing of your Mother. My condolences to your family.  
Love,  
Pat

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**Patricia J Owens** - May 02, 2024 at 12:54 PM

PO

“ Patricia J Owens lit a candle in memory of Ernestine "Toni" Rudd



Patricia J Owens - May 02, 2024 at 12:52 PM

CD

“ Chris and family and brigitte and David planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ernestine "Toni" Rudd.

Chris and family and brigitte and David - May 01, 2024 at 09:13 PM

CD

“ Chris and family and brigitte and David purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Ernestine "Toni" Rudd.



Chris and family and brigitte and David - May 01, 2024 at 09:13 PM

BB

“ Brigitte B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ernestine "Toni" Rudd.

Brigitte B. - May 01, 2024 at 08:46 PM

CC

“ Cheryl Campbell purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Ernestine "Toni" Rudd.



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**Cheryl Campbell** - May 01, 2024 at 05:55 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ernestine "Toni" Rudd.



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April 30, 2024 at 03:41 AM

IA

“ Iris, Pavel & Aria planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ernestine "Toni" Rudd.

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**Iris, Pavel & Aria** - April 30, 2024 at 03:41 AM

KR

“ I am very sorry for the loss of your mother. I was very blessed to have known her. I have such fond memories of her during my childhood. I will always remember her and Steffie coming over on Friday nights. While Steffie and I would go off to play Barbies, Toni and my mom would sit in the kitchen with coffee, speaking in german, laughing and remembering the old days. Her voice lingered in my head for years, so much so, I remember being at the dentist and hearing her in the waiting room, while I was being treated. I ran out to the waiting room just to get that wonderful perfumed hug. I will always remember her. I wish you all warm memories of your mom always.~ Karen Rolland

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**Karen Rolland** - April 29, 2024 at 11:15 AM