



In Loving Memory of Joanne DiGaetano Gray** *December 5, 1939 – July 31, 2026 Joanne DiGaetano Gray—known affectionately to those who loved her as Joanie—was a true original. Born in Westbury, New York, on December 5, 1939, she brought a distinct warmth, boundless creativity, and unfailing personal flair to every chapter of her life.

Growing up in the nostalgic days of Hollywood, Florida, Joanie was a proud Bulldog and graduate of South Broward High School. That sun-drenched era of Florida's golden years left a lasting mark on her heart, as it was there that she cultivated deep, lifelong friendships that she treasured for decades to come. As a devoted resident of Hollywood, Joanie built a vibrant life centered on family, beauty, and craftsmanship. She was a woman of exceptional taste and exquisite eye for detail.

Whether curating stunning arrangements as a florist or styling fine pieces as a jeweler, she had a natural instinct for elegance and style that shone through everything she touched. Painting watercolor pieces strictly for fun, her tremendous talent revealed the true artist's spirit behind her modesty.

Her magnetic presence, paired with her sharp signature sense of fashion and effortless poise, made her unforgettable to anyone who had the pleasure of knowing her. Beyond her artistic talents, Joanie possessed a captivating mind. A brilliant, self-taught historian, she was a master storyteller. She had an extraordinary gift for weaving historical narratives seamlessly into modern times, captivating family and friends with her deep knowledge, wit, and unique perspective. Her world was also filled with music and joy; she carried a naturally beautiful singing voice and shared a deep, lifelong passion for dogs.

Above all, she was a devoted daughter who held an enduring, loving bond with her mother, Rose Venza. In her later years, Joanie brought her bright spirit and distinctive charm to Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, enjoying a well-earned retirement surrounded by the beautiful sunshine she loved. Joanie is survived by her loving daughter, Melissa; her cherished grandchildren, Ashley (and her husband, Brett), Tyler (and his wife, Heather), Zachary, Christina, Joshua, and Justin; and the special joy of her great-grandchildren, Maclain and Chandler, who brought immense light and pride to her days.

She was preceded in death by her beloved son, Scott, who passed away in February (survived by his wife, Sandy). Joanie Gray lived life with color, passion, and immense heart. Her story, her song, and her luminous spirit remain forever woven into the lives of the family she cherished so deeply.