



Mary Joanne Laise

OCT 18, 1939 - FEB 23, 2026

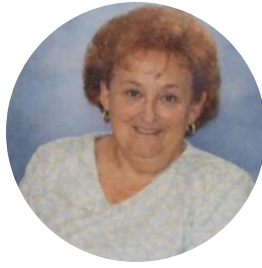


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Mary Joanne Laise

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Mary Joanne Veltri Laise, 86, of Huntersville, North Carolina, passed away peacefully on February 23, 2026. Born on October 18, 1939, in New Rochelle, New York, she was the youngest of four children of Frank and Theresa Veltri, née Krauss.

Mary was the beloved wife of Orlando John Laise, who preceded her in death on August 12, 2025. Mary was a proud and loving mother to her beloved children, Michael and Theresa, who were the light of her life. She was a blessed and devoted grandmother to Sean, Erin, Vinnie and Paul. Mary took immense pride in watching her grandchildren grow, always encouraging them with her prayers, gentle wisdom, and unconditional love. She rejoiced in their accomplishments and faithfully lifted them up to God, trusting in His plan for their lives.

She is also lovingly remembered by her son-in-law, John, and her daughter-in-law, Evelyn, whose presence in her life was a source of family strength, companionship, and shared faith.

Born into a tight-knit Italian-American family, Mary loved sharing stories of her childhood home with its garden, chickens, and family pets. She delighted in family traditions, especially holiday gatherings.

Mary worked as a secretary and later as a beautician, bringing kindness to everyone she met, whether in her professional or personal life. In her later years, she embraced the sunshine of Florida and North Carolina, where she found countless blessings in retirement.

Mary had a spirited side: a lifelong Elvis fan who once served as president of an Elvis fan club. She loved game shows (particularly The Price Is Right), action dramas, dog and cat programs. However, much like her beloved husband, she held a special place in her heart for cheering on her New York Yankees. She adored The Golden Girls and earned the nickname “Sophia” for her giant purses that she carried everywhere, even around the house!



Obituary

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A devoted Catholic, her faith was the foundation of her life. Mary attended church near daily and found comfort in prayer. Mary gave up smoking for her granddaughter's birth, cold turkey, and lived her faith through her care for her family. When saying goodbye on the telephone, she would say, "Feeling my arms around you," and "I love you a bushel and a peck and a hug around the neck." (Something she adored from Doris Day).

Mary also found great joy in bringing her family together, especially around the table. She loved going out to eat with those she cherished to her favorite restaurants. Her Sunday Italian meals were a treasured tradition, shared as an expression of her care.

She is now reunited in eternal rest with her beloved husband, Orlando. Mary's legacy of love, humor, and strength will live on.

"Well done, good and faithful servant... enter into the joy of your Lord." — Matthew 25:23

The family will receive friends on Monday, March 2, 2026, 4:00 - 6:00pm, at James Funeral Home. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, 11:00am, at St, Mark Catholic Church.




James Funeral Home is serving the Laise family. Online memories and condolences may be shared at <https://www.JamesFuneralHomeLKN.com>

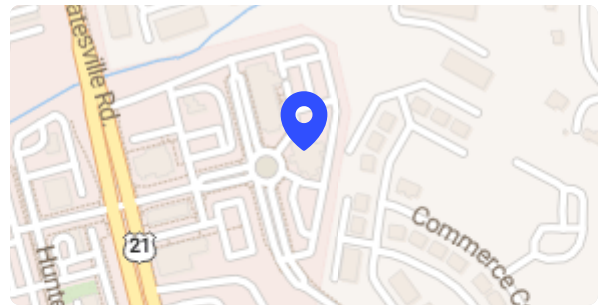


Events




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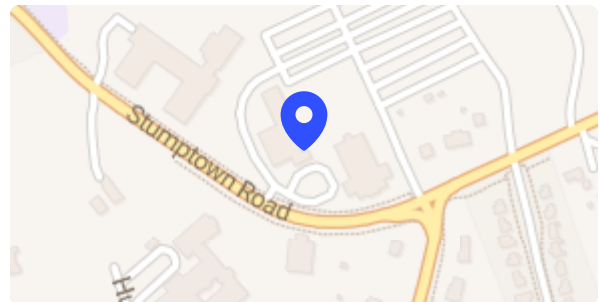
Visitation

-  **Monday**, March 2, 2026
-  4:00 PM - 6:00 PM ET
-  **James Funeral Home**
10520 Arahova Dr, Huntersville NC 28078



Mass of Christian Burial

-  **Tuesday**, March 3, 2026
-  11:00 AM ET
-  **St. Mark Catholic Church**
14740 Stumptown Road, Huntersville NC 28078





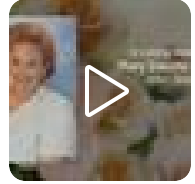
Tribute Wall

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James Funeral Home shared a **Video**.

February 26 at 4:08 PM





Media

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Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Mary by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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