



Mrs. Louise Forbes Pritchett

March 30, 1922 - October 8, 2021

Louise Forbes Pritchett

Bronx, NY

Louise Forbes Pritchett, 99, of Bruckner Blvd., Bronx, NY, died Oct. 8th, 2021, at NYU Langone Medical Center in Manhattan.

Born in Tortola, British Virgin Islands, March 30, 1922, the daughter of Reginald Forbes and Estella Henly Forbes.

Before emigrating to New York City, Louise spent time working in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands.

She made her way to New York from there and made her home in the Bronx. She fulfilled the requirements to become an American citizen and on August 15, 1946. she appeared at the U.S. District Court in NYC and was enormously proud to be an American.

She found work at the cosmetic factory, Nestle-Lemur; where she became an influence in union activities. Her activism did not stop there. After her second son was born, Louise moved to a co-op in a better location and became involved in board matters. As a result, she became more active in the community. That co-op was her residence for sixty years until her passing. Additionally, she paved the way for other family members to emigrate by providing food and shelter until they found work; eventually becoming productive citizens.

As a single parent with a limited formal education and resources, she raised two sons, Dr. Cynaro Pritchett and Marcus D. Pritchett She made sure both

boys participated in the normal activities of childhood, which included but not limited to, music lessons. She supported her son, Cynaro, through medical school and Marcus through college. Through her own example she taught her sons to be aware of the needs of others.

When Louise's son's high school closed (during his junior year) a lot of the parents from the school felt it important enough for A. Michael DeSisto, an educator, to start his own school. A campus was procured in Stockbridge, MA. Soon after that Louise was asked to become a parent liaison. A position she would only accept as a volunteer; she wanted to retain her independence and integrity. It was in this position she found her second calling in life. She counseled many families for over thirty years and many more over her lifetime. When the school closed in 2005, a group of parents came together (again) and asked her to continue her work as a mentor for them. Although a lot of her work occurred primarily on the phone, she met monthly in person at a space provided by Congregation Emanu-El in Manhattan and several times a year at the DeSisto campus. After the recent pandemic she continued all meetings by phone up until her passing.

Through her work she has connected with people all over the world. She did that from her phone in the Bronx. She is held in the highest regard by everyone she has touched. Equally so, Louise was grateful and honored to be allowed intimate access to all the families she has worked with. As such, she was able to find her purpose by being of service to others.

A graveside funeral service will be conducted Saturday, October 23, 2021, at 10:30 am in Village Cemetery on Albany Road – Route 41 in West Stockbridge, MA 01266. In Lieu of Flowers, donations in Louise's memory may be made to Temple Emanu-El. In care of ROCHE FUNERAL HOME, 120 Main St., Lenox, MA 01240

GPS users - Use address of St. Patrick's Church (30 Albany Road - West Stockbridge, MA 01266) Cemetery is a short Distance North of Church on the

Right.

Cemetery Details

Village Cemetery

Albany Road - Route 41
West Stockbridge, MA 01266

Previous Events

Graveside Service

OCT **23**. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Village Cemetery
Albany Road - Route 41
West Stockbridge, MA 01266

Tribute Wall

JU

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



JUDITHTHOMPSON - October 28, 2021 at 03:30 PM

JU

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



JUDITHTHOMPSON - October 28, 2021 at 03:28 PM

JU

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



JUDITHTHOMPSON - October 28, 2021 at 03:19 PM

CS

“ I know very little of Louise's life, her friends, family, her hobbies or her comings and goings. She didn't want to talk about herself. What I know of Louise is mostly the part of Louise that lives in me. Louise was the first person in my 45 years of life to love me the way I am. Her guidance was always soft with love. Even if she said my name in exasperation “Cathy!” I never once thought she was judging me. Her empathy knew no bottom. I could be nakedly honest with her because I never, ever, feared her judgement. I could bring to the light of day my most shameful thoughts and deeds because there was never anything but compassion on the other end of the phone. I have called Louise, and she me, long distance, over 3 time zones and 3000 miles, for 22 years. I saw her only for a couple of hours once after I left the school. I carry her in my heart. I don't feel separated from her anymore now than I did before she passed. I expect she will be calling me around the holidays; so, we'll be speaking again fairly soon. Sooner, if I need to talk.

Cathy Silva - October 25, 2021 at 07:29 PM

AS

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Alan Schwartz - October 25, 2021 at 01:20 PM

RS

“ *Roberta Schwartz lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Louise Forbes Pritchett*



Roberta Schwartz - October 24, 2021 at 08:31 PM

AS

“ *2 files added to the album Memories Album*



Alan Schwartz - October 24, 2021 at 09:13 AM

OT

“ *OCC Team purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mrs. Louise Forbes Pritchett.*



OCC Team - October 22, 2021 at 01:54 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Louise Forbes Pritchett.*



October 21, 2021 at 04:36 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Mrs. Louise Forbes Pritchett.



October 21, 2021 at 11:27 AM

LB

“ With the passing of Louise we have lost a dear friend. During our son’s DeSisto years, and for the many years since his graduation, Louise has regularly kept in contact with us, and us with her, sharing experiences, problems, questions, and laughter, often during lengthy telephone conversations. How we looked forward to those conversations! Sometimes weeks passed without us checking in with one another, but when we did connect, Louise made it feel like we just spoke yesterday. The sign of a true and forever friend! During our time at DeSisto, we were blessed to have Louise and Michael as our parent group leaders. Michael often got straight to the heart of an issue, and the work we needed to do. It was sometimes difficult. The day after the meeting, Louise would call and ask how we were doing. We would point out that Michael could have been a little softer in his delivery. Louise would remind us that “he is the surgeon. I come to you as the faith healer.” And that she was! Her clarifying and interpretive words of wisdom were always spot on and tremendously helpful to us in our DeSisto journey. Sometimes Louise would share stories of her modest upbringing and childhood memories. What stories she had to tell, and what a life she led! An amazing woman, by any standard. For us, keeping in touch with Marcus, who has many of the same wonderful qualities as his Mom, will always serve as a warm reminder of our good fortune to have had Louise as a friend and beacon of caring, guidance and love in our lives. We will miss Louise terribly, but know that she will always be watching over us from heaven.

Lisa and Rich Byers

Lisa and Rich Byers - October 21, 2021 at 09:30 AM

JR

“ *Judy Roudebush purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Mrs. Louise Forbes Pritchett.*



Judy Roudebush - October 20, 2021 at 11:07 AM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Louise Forbes Pritchett.*



October 19, 2021 at 10:25 PM

ED

“ *Others have so eloquently expressed our own feelings and love for Louise that it is difficult to expand upon.*

Both Louise and Marcus became anchors onto which we grabbed many times during the enrollments of our two daughters, Robynn and Lorena, at DeSisto. Their honesty and steadfastness gave direction and some serenity when it was needed most. Louise's legacy will live on through the many lives she touched. Hers was indeed a life to be admired and celebrated. Our heartfelt condolences to Marcus and Cynaro plus extended family.

Elaine Patterson and Michael Dykes - October 19, 2021 at 09:05 PM

“ Louise Forbes Pritchett was a testament to the power of determination, motivation, and belief in one’s ability as well as potential.

From humble beginnings on a remote isle in the Caribbean, she rose to traverse the Atlantic, and create a place which she and her family could call home. She served as a beacon for countless others, family members who would follow her to America to seek their own way, would find shelter and sustenance, until they were able to strike out on their own.

Louise fervently believed in the value of education. She attended night school, despite the misgivings of her sponsor in her abilities and her place in society. Encouraging learning in all that she touched, she became a model for individuals and families, across the nation. All who had the privilege to know her, respected her, and held her in high regard.

Louise held the value of wisdom, and knowledge from all fronts, above that of material wealth. She could appreciate the value of the words of a great author, as much as the works of an accomplished composer, or painter. Many times I remember her spontaneously recite the words of a wise sage from the past, when addressing the perplexities of the present.

She had a passion for cooking and fine cuisine, which though appreciated by our family, was never really valued for the unique way she could turn a meal into a feast fit for royalty.

There were many members in her immediate and extended family, indeed so many that the actual number may not be accurately known. I followed her around for years, trying to create a family tree out of curiosity, but I am afraid I only scratched the surface. And some of my records have been scattered across the country in the course of my own travels.

*Louise Forbes Pritchett, was the elder of an army of siblings.
And yet she survived all of them, save perhaps one*

May god bless her and keep her.

Cynaro Pritchett

JUDITHTHOMPSON - October 19, 2021 at 02:01 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for
the family of Mrs. Louise Forbes Pritchett.*



October 19, 2021 at 01:27 PM

AM

“ Louise was a Ninja; her secret weapon was the perfect combination of truth and love. She wielded her wisdom with gentleness, kindness, and clarity. You could always count on Louise for the truth. It wasn't always easy to hear, but it was always followed by her generous laugh and words of encouragement, both delivered in her inimitable accent tinged with the sounds of the Virgin Islands and the Bronx.

Besides the truth, two things were certain on a call with Louise, the first was an update about Marcus and Cynaro. Louise loved her sons, and she was filled with humble pride about them both. The second certainty was that the call would be “interrupted” two, three, four times by families calling for reassurance and probably a modicum of tough love. Undoubtedly, caring and love were delivered in every call.

Louise wanted people to succeed, and she wanted to be of service to everyone. Her life was and is a blessing to all who knew her. I feel fortunate to have been in her orbit and to have been the recipient of her love.

Marcus and Cynaro: your mom's life and memory are a blessing to countless souls. I am sending my thoughts and love to you both during this truly sad time.

If there is a heaven- a place for the best of humanity, Louise is there, and she has already connected her new phone line. She is no doubt wielding help and love to families at her new location.

All my love to you, Louise— Adam Mastoon

Adam Mastoon - October 19, 2021 at 10:25 AM

JR

“ *Judy Roudebush*

My husband Corbin and I met Louise at DeSisto School where our son Jeff was enrolled 30 years ago. I have never met a more caring and loving person who helped guide us through some difficult years. After our son left the school I considered her a valued friend and we spoke often. She was never too busy to chat with me and share her thoughts about whatever we discussed. She was a woman of great strength who handled adversity with calmness and grace. Louise will be missed by many but never forgotten by those like me whose lives she touched. Rest peacefully Louise.

Judy Roudebush - October 19, 2021 at 12:07 AM

JA

“ *My husband and I first met Louise as she lead a group of parents in a session in the New Girls dorm at Desisto. Her presence was filled with love and caring and we scared, clueless parents were immediately given hope that she was there for all of us. That night she became “My Special Spirit” and has been my guiding star for 30 years. “ She and her wonderful sons have dedicated their lives to guiding others and I thank God they have been in our lives. Jackie Kehnle and Jeff Kehnle in spirit.*

JackieKehnle - October 18, 2021 at 08:28 PM

CG

“ *Louise was such a kind lady. I was privileged to have met her when my daughter was a student at DeSisto school. We kept in touch over the years. Her kind words always gave you such a feeling of comfort. I will miss her dearly. Clare Gale*

Clare Gale - October 18, 2021 at 07:55 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Roche Funeral Home - October 18, 2021 at 12:19 PM

CM

I did not know Ms. Pritchett, but when I read her obituary I felt she was person I wish I had known. What a strong woman she was.

Chris McDermott - October 21, 2021 at 11:17 AM