



## Margaret "Peggy" Waters

December 16, 1929 - October 31, 2020

To virtually attend the visitation for Margaret on Friday November 6th from 4pm-8pm please click the following link-

<https://client.tribucast.com/tcid/78811491>

Waters, Margaret Mary O'Carroll ("Peggy"), age 90, died peacefully in the Bronx October 31, 2020 with her family by her side. Born in the Bronx December 16, 1929 to Maurice O'Carroll (Knockanure, Co. Kerry) and Christine Buckley (Cork). Beloved wife of the late Michael FX Waters, Peggy is survived by their 8 children: Mary, Michael, Anne, Elizabeth, Tom, Margaret, John, and Joan; sons and daughters in law: Ric Bayly, MaryKay Bauer, Joel Robbins, Sheila McFadden, Thomas Battle, Katie Hunter, and Pat Cusanelli; 18 grandchildren: Katie, Harry, Maggie, Sullivan, Abbey, Hannah, Brendan, Cecilia, Deirdre, Tim, Lucy, Peter, Fiona, Michael, Nora, Maggie, Emma, and Lizzie; and 2 great-grandchildren: Isaac and Julien.

Sister of the late Betty Quinn, Maurice O'Carroll, and Joan Black, also survived by her sister-in-law Jean Waters, many nieces and nephews, as well as cousins in Ireland and New York, Mary O'Carroll and Betsy Manson, and dear friend Mary Kelly.

Peggy was a trailblazer, studying at Fordham University at night while finishing her PhD coursework in Education when she met and married Mike Waters. In the next 8-and-a-half years she had 8 children and in the 9th year, finished her dissertation. RFK spoke at

her Fordham graduation and came over to congratulate the mother of 8 who had just received her new PhD.

Devoted to her Catholic faith, she fought for Catholic social teachings for racial justice, care for the poor, human rights for all, and a dedication to education.

Over 37 years as Professor of Elementary Education at Brooklyn College, CUNY, Peggy trained generations of NYC reading teachers. You couldn't walk a block in NYC with Peggy without former students calling out or stopping traffic to thank her and say how she'd changed their lives. She truly lived a life for others, always heeding Maria Montessori's call to "Follow the child."

With her beloved husband, Mike, she raised her large loving family in Flatbush, with

some sorrows mixed with more joy and laughter, an oversized St. Bernard, art projects, nature trips, and far too many books.

Late in life she rediscovered her gift for painting, with her magical art teacher Hope McAdam. An art show to celebrate her 90th birthday brought all her children and grandchildren, nieces, and nephews together for a grand celebration.

Raised a Brooklyn Dodgers fan, Peggy always fought for the underdog. She held herself and others to high standards. Her advice when her kids went out was: "Have fun and be good. And if the two conflict, be good."

Peggy lived with joy and gratitude. A model of strength, generosity, and compassion to her children and grandchildren, her family, her thousands of students, her legacy lives on in all those graced with her love.

Our thanks to the staffs of Brightview Tarrytown, Victoria Home, and Methodist Home in her beloved Bronx for their kind care for Peggy in her final years.

Funeral mass at the Church of the Magdalene, Pocantico Hills, NY and burial in Sleepy Hollow Cemetery will be private, with a larger celebration of her life in 2021 after Covid. A Visitation will be held on Friday November 6th from 4-

8pm at Dwyer & Michael's Funeral Home, 90 N. Broadway Tarrytown N.Y.  
10591

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory to St. Saviour High School, 588  
Sixth St., Brooklyn, NY 11215, (<http://www.stsaviour.org/giving>) would be  
appreciated.

Requiescat in Pace.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 6. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Dwyer & Michael's Funeral Home  
90 North Broadway  
Tarrytown, NY 10591

# Tribute Wall

RS

“ Professor Waters was one of my instructors at Brooklyn College. I don't remember what she taught me, but I DO remember how she made me feel. She had a joy for life and living and teaching. And one day she wrote on the chalkboard: “Margaret Waters is a good girl.” Indeed, Professor Waters.....  
A grateful student

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**Rose Bartolomeo Smith** - September 01, 2021 at 11:40 PM

DR

“ Thank you Dr. Waters for believing in me and making me laugh at myself when I wanted to cry.

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**Dione Richards** - May 31, 2021 at 12:19 AM

NW

“ To the Waters family, I am so sorry for you all at this sad time. From Nicholas Warrington on behalf of Margaret's O'Carroll cousins in Ireland.

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**Nicholas Warrington** - January 15, 2021 at 03:40 PM

WM

“ Peggy was my dear wife Wendy's mentor, guide, inspiration and ultimately cherished friend.

*I did not know Peggy as a Brooklyn College professor, but through Wendy's friendship with Peggy, I got to know the wonderful very talented Waters family. Of course you will all miss Peggy deeply... Such a inspiring human being.*

*My condolences to all the family.*

*Bill Maloney*

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**Willam Maloney** - November 18, 2020 at 01:54 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Margaret "Peggy" Waters.



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November 06, 2020 at 09:31 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Margaret "Peggy" Waters.



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November 05, 2020 at 06:51 PM

MW

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



michael waters - November 04, 2020 at 07:30 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Margaret "Peggy" Waters.



November 04, 2020 at 05:43 PM

MW

“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



michael waters - November 03, 2020 at 08:56 PM

MW

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Michael Waters** - November 03, 2020 at 06:22 PM

DB

“ *To the Waters Family,*

*I am so very sorry to hear the sad news of your mother Peggy's passing. She was a remarkable woman who was ahead of her time and lead an extraordinarily rich life— all the while raising 8 children and actively engaged in a significant professional life. She was clear about her values and what was important.*

*I feel tremendously blessed to have had the good fortune of meeting Peggy at the beginning of my work life at Brooklyn College. She was my first and best supervisor there from the time I started teaching in the Summer Reading Program along with Wendy and Michael Crandall, both of whom have sadly passed. Peggy was our go-to person about pretty much everything! Knowing the realities of working at Brooklyn College in the early 1970's at the time of open admissions in CUNY, I was constantly amazed at how Peggy made time for us— not just fitting us in, but always extending an open welcome and sage advice. Honestly, I don't know how she did it all, while also keeping abreast of the latest research findings in reading. Peggy had tremendous respect for the individual and treated everyone equally.*

*She was a major inspiration to me, and I will miss her. My prayers and sympathies go to her wonderful family.*

*Sincerely,  
Dympna Bowles*

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**Dympna Bowles** - November 02, 2020 at 07:38 PM