



## Moraith "Rae" O'Neill Marra O'Toole

September 1, 1936 - May 22, 2014

MARRA O'TOOLE, Moraith "Rae"

Moraith "Rae" O'Neill Marra O'Toole of West Hartford, CT and Wellfleet, MA, died on Thursday, May 22, 2014, with her family by her side. Rae was born in Hartford, CT, on September 1, 1936 to Joseph and Margaret (O'Neill) Marra. Her father, who was the first officer of Italian heritage in the Connecticut National Guard, died in 1944 after serving in the Pacific during WWII. When Rae and her sister Judy became adults their mother married George Minnery, whose wisdom and love helped fill the void they felt from the loss of their father at a young age. They also had many caring aunts, who had much to do with giving them a wonderful sense of family. In 1956 Rae married Eugene Froebel and soon after gave birth to two daughters, Judith and Maribeth. Her world view was shaped by being born during the Depression and being aware of WWII as well as the death of her father. She had a deep empathy for the underdog and an intolerance of the bully. She attended Our Lady of Sorrows in the Parkville section of Hartford, through the tenth grade. She then went on to graduate from Hartford Public High School. When her children were growing up in the '60s she was active in Mother's Circle at OLS. The hope of JFK, Vatican II, the Civil Rights Movement, and later Bobby Kennedy and Martin Luther King, gave her inspiration and strength. When she moved to West Hartford, she grew more involved in neighborhood issues and CCD. In the 1970s she went back to nursing school and became an LPN. She worked at the Hartford Dispensary and Hillside Manor, where she united with nurses

and other care workers to form a union represented by 1199. She became involved in many local Democratic campaigns. She then joined the West Hartford Democratic Town Committee, eventually serving as Recording Secretary, Vice-Chair and finally Chair. With wars being waged in Iraq and in Iran she became an active member of the West Hartford Citizens for Peace and Justice. In the 2013 State Legislative Session she began serving as the first woman Sergeant at Arms of the State Senate. She believed in the Democratic Party of Roosevelt and Kennedy. Her politics were clearly progressive and to the left, unapologetically. Rae is survived by her loving husband of 30 years, John O'Toole; her beloved daughters and sons-in-law, Judith and Riza Kaya, and Maribeth and Robert Perron; her adored grandchildren, Jennifer Gutierrez, and her husband Jon, Emma Perron and Luke Perron; and her cherished great grandchildren, James and Jackson Gutierrez. She is also survived by her brothers and sisters-in-law Robert and Carol Argazzi of Berlin, Mary O'Toole and Donald Fortin of West Hartford, Bridget and Bodhan Sachok in Delaware, James O'Toole of West Hartford, Patrick and Nancy O'Toole of Stafford Springs, and Kevin O'Toole of Hartford. Rae also leaves behind her nephew and godson, Atty. Paul Argazzi and his wife Cynthia of Berlin; nieces Katie and Kera Fortin of Manchester and West Hartford, Erin and Ryan O'Toole of Stafford Springs, and Brianne Sachok in Delaware; her grandnephew A.J. Argazzi and grandniece Abigail Rae. She is also survived by her first husband Eugene Froebel and his wife Barbara of Cromwell; many cousins. Besides her father, Rae was predeceased by her mother, her step-father, her sister and her brother-in-law Martin O'Toole. She loved her family and friends and rarely distinguished between the two. Friends are invited to join Rae's family at the celebration of her Mass of Christian Burial at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday May 28th in Our Lady of Sorrows Church, 160 New Park Ave. Hartford. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery, West Hartford. Calling hours are Tuesday May 27th from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the Molloy Funeral Home 906 Farmington Ave. West Hartford, CT. Donations in her memory may be made to Our Lady of Sorrows Church, 160 New Park

Ave. Hartford, CT 06106 or The Town That Cares, West Hartford Human Services, Room 308, 50 South Main St. West Hartford, CT 06107. Online remembrances may be made at [www.molloyfuneralhome.com](http://www.molloyfuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Fairview Cemetery

200 Whitman Ave.  
West Hartford, CT

# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

MAY 27. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Molloy Funeral Home  
906 Farmington Avenue  
West Hartford, CT 06119  
(860) 232-1322

## Calling Hours

MAY 27. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Molloy Funeral Home  
906 Farmington Avenue  
West Hartford, CT 06119  
(860) 232-1322

## Funeral Service

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MAY **28**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Our Lady of Sorrows  
79 New Park Ave.  
Hartford, CT  
(860) 233-4425

# Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Moraith "Rae" O'Neill Marra O'Toole.



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May 27, 2014 at 11:05 AM



“ *Rae was not only my coworker at the Hartford Dispensary, she was also my dear friend. I will miss her. My sincere condolences to John and the family.*

*Janice Barlow Richards*

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**Janice Barlow Richards** - May 27, 2014 at 09:19 AM



“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



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**Rae Han Na** - May 27, 2014 at 09:16 AM

RN

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Rae Han Na - May 27, 2014 at 09:11 AM

RN

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Rae Han Na - May 27, 2014 at 09:09 AM



“ 3 files added to the album New Album Name



Bridget O'Toole Sachok - May 26, 2014 at 10:56 PM

JB

“ Rae was a woman of strength, determination and optimism whose memory will continue to inspire others. My sincere condolences to Rae's family and friends. -JoAnne Bauer



JoAnne Bauer - May 26, 2014 at 09:28 PM

MH

“ I found Rae to embody a rare combination of compassion, commitment and energy. Though I did not know her well, I know from my limited contacts with her that she accomplished much in her life and touched many people. She will be greatly missed.

*Matt Horowitz*

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**Matt Horowitz** - May 26, 2014 at 05:17 PM



“ Heavenly Heights Bouquet was purchased for the family of Moraith "Rae" O'Neill Marra O'Toole.



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May 26, 2014 at 01:00 PM

JM

“ John I am so sorry for your loss , my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family , Jim mead

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**jim mead** - May 26, 2014 at 06:39 AM

BS

“ My dearest brother, John. I'm so very sorry that Rae was taken so suddenly. I'm sure that your heart is broken. And Judy, Beth and family, I am so sorry. Thank God you have each other. She was loved by so many people. She opened the doors to her home as well as her heart. She was nothing if she wasn't HONORABLE. She was genuine, and kind. She was soft spoken but knew her purpose. She lived simply and truthfully. In the days ahead, know that you had her undying love and affection above all else. I send my truest sympathy and love to all of you. Bridget

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**Bridget Sachok** - May 26, 2014 at 12:22 AM

BS

“ *Bridget, Bohdan and Brianne Sachok purchased the A Full Life for the family of Moraith "Rae" O'Neill Marra O'Toole.*



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**Bridget, Bohdan and Brianne Sachok** - May 26, 2014 at 12:03 AM

MO

“ *Mary Hooper. Cousin To John O'Toole sent a virtual gift in memory of Moraith "Rae" O'Neill Marra O'Toole*



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**Mary Hooper. cousin to John O'Toole** - May 25, 2014 at 04:22 PM

MF

“ *Mark Eurkes and Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Moraith "Rae" O'Neill Marra O'Toole.*



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**Mark Eurkes and Family** - May 25, 2014 at 11:18 AM

KH

“ If it is indeed, all true, Heaven needed another Angel-looked down on West Hartford and CT....and grabbed Rae right up. Perhaps there isn't enough Irish Soda Bread, conversation, proud Grandmas, and cup after cup of tea up there....well, now there is. Heaven didn't realize that John needed her another 30 years.....as did we all. We don't have any alternative but to be inspired by her life, comfort her family, and keep her in our hearts forever and ever. Rae, I was blessed to have known you, and honored to have you consider me a friend. May your wonderfully kind family be comforted in knowing how truly loved and cherished you were and always be. You brought so many of us together, and that is something to behold...

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**Kathy Hucks** - May 25, 2014 at 10:36 AM

WH

“ Rae was always there for me and Carol in our time of need. She was a dear dear friend. My heart goes out to John, Judy, Maribeth and the rest of the family. I cherish the good times we have spent together and, as all of us, will sorely miss her.

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**Win Heimer** - May 25, 2014 at 10:16 AM

WH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Win Heimer** - May 25, 2014 at 10:11 AM

GJ

“Rae was a generous, affable woman passionate about her family, friends, and Liberal causes. She lived her passions and was admired and appreciated by all who knew her. I believe she's taking a break for a much deserved rest, but she will soon find a way to organize Heaven! My condolences to John and Rae's family who will miss her very much.

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**Gloria Jasieniecki** - May 25, 2014 at 09:38 AM

DW

“I had gotten to know Mara as a fellow Town Chair in Avon. She was always very warm and kind when we met. I was sorry to learn of her passing yesterday and I do pass along the sympathies of our group to Rae's entire family. May peace be with her and your family.  
Daryl Worobow  
Town Chair - Avon

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**Daryl Worobow** - May 25, 2014 at 07:53 AM