

## Monique Blanchette

1924-2021

Monique (Frigon) Blanchette, age 97, a resident of Dracut and a former resident of Lowell, passed away on Monday, December 20, 2021, in Lowell. She was the beloved wife of the late Paul H. Blanchette who passed away in 1989.

Born in Shawinigan, P.Q. Canada on October 23, 1924, she was a daughter of the late William and Alida (Veilleux) Frigon. She was educated at St. Bernard Elementary School and attended secondary school in Pointe-du-Lac then graduated from Commercial School in Shawinigan Falls.

Monique was a homemaker who along with her husband Paul raised seven children in the acre section of Lowell. She had many hobbies including knitting, cross stitch embroidery and she was a fantastic seamstress, often making clothing for her family. She enjoyed cooking and baking and always looked forward to family gatherings, especially for the holidays.

Proud of her Canadian heritage and a strong woman of Faith, she was very active in many committees and organizations in the area including Le Cercle Jeanne Mance, Le Club Richelieu, Dames de Sainte-Anne, St. Joseph School PTA, and the former St. Jean Baptiste Church, where she was involved in many activities and also volunteered at their food pantry. She had received awards for her dedication to the French heritage and in 1996 was awarded woman of the year by the Franco-American Day Committee. Monique was also very active at St. Francis Parish in Dracut where she volunteered at the food pantry, assisted with preparations for mercy meals and was involved with the widow's prayer group.

In addition to her many trips to Canada, she enjoyed traveling to Ireland, Paris, Rome and Switzerland, going on cruises and being part of a pilgrimage to Medjugorje.

Monique was active in sports, having played tennis, downhill skiing, cross country skiing, ice skating and swimming at the YMCA.

She was a special woman and will be deeply missed by her family and many dear friends.

Surviving her are her six children, Suzanne M. Pillonel and her husband Nicolas of Switzerland, Louise E. Goyette of Dracut, Richard L. and Leanne Blanchette of Dracut, Gisele M. Levasseur and her husband Norman of Northfield, NH, Marc H. and Ann Blanchette of Lowell and Laval O. and Joanne Blanchette of Tyngsborough; ten grandchildren; fourteen great grandchildren; a sister and brother-in-law, Gisele Boutet and her husband Jean-Claude of Canada; several nieces, nephews and many dear friends.

She was also the mother of the late Claude M. Blanchette who passed in 1979 and sister of the late Omer Frigon, Madeleine Boulanger, Henri Frigon, Leo Frigon, and Rolande Gervais.

Relatives and friends will be received at the TYNGSBOROUGH FUNERAL HOME 4 Cassaway Dr., Tyngsborough on Wednesday, Dec. 29, from 4 to 7 p.m. Funeral Thursday morning with a Funeral Mass to be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. in St. Francis Parish, Wheeler Rd., Dracut. Those attending the Funeral Mass will be asked to meet directly at church. Committal services will follow in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Chelmsford. Due to local guidelines, individuals attending Monique's services will be required to wear a face covering. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests a donation in her memory to one of the following, Le Cercle Jeanne Mance, c/o Cecile Provencher, 52 Bachman St., Lowell, MA 01850, Le Club Richelieu, c/o Cecile Provencher, 52 Backman St., Lowell, MA 01850, or Ste. Jeanne d'Arc School, 68 Dracut St., Lowell, MA 01854. For online condolences or directions, please visit www.tyngsboroughfhuneralhome.com.