



## Santa M. Distefano

March 9, 1914 - November 27, 2006

Santa M. DISTEFANO, of Bangor, passed away Monday, November 27, 2006 in Grand Junction at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Pat and Ron Henry.

Santa was born March 9, 1914, in Chicago, the daughter of Anthony and Dominica (Lizzio) Nicoloso and has lived in the Bangor area since 1964. She formerly worked at the C. O. Overton Picture Frame Company - South Haven, the family farm in Coloma, Bangor Cleaners, Dancer's Ben Franklin - Bangor, and the Bangor Public School Lunch Program. She was a member of Sacred Heart Church and its Christian Service group, the Mother of Good Counsel Guild, and the South Haven Hospital Auxiliary, working in the coffee shop. Santa enjoyed cooking, baking, sewing, crocheting, and most enjoyed taking care of her family and friends. Surviving are two daughters, Jeanette (Jack) Dean of Jacksonville Beach, FL and Pat (Ron) Henry of Grand Junction; 5 grandchildren, Michelle (Josh) Corey, David (Amy) Wilt, Mike (Amanda) Henry, Sarah Henry, and Matthew Henry; 2 great grandchildren, Samuel Joseph Corey and Emma Marie Corey. She was preceded in death by her husband, Sam, in 1991; her parents; a brother, Joseph Nicoloso; and a sister, Carmella Scalia. The family will meet friends from 2-4 & 6-8 PM Thursday at the BANGOR CHAPEL, D. L. Miller Funeral Home, with a scripture service at 7:30 PM. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated 11:00 AM Friday at Sacred Heart Church, Bangor, with Fr. John Young and Fr. Thomas Seidel, C.S.C concelebrating. Interment will follow in Arlington Hill Cemetery, Bangor.

The family suggests memorials to the American Heart Association, the American Diabetes Association, Sacred Heart's Christian Service Program or St. Basil's Educational Endowment Fund.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 30. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Bangor Chapel  
258 West Monroe Street  
Bangor, MI

## Visitation

NOV 30. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Bangor Chapel  
258 West Monroe Street  
Bangor, MI

## Service

DEC 1. 11:00 AM (ET)

Sacred Heart Church  
201 S. Walnut  
Bangor, MI

# Tribute Wall



“ Dearest family of the dearest dearest Santa,

*Bob and I were in Mexico when we received this sad news...sad for all of us, but a blessing for our beloved Santa. Our emotions were those of shock, sadness and relief. We well know what the last months have been for this proud loving sweet woman, whose only concern was that she not be a burden to anyone. We know in our hearts that God now has yet another angel in his home and that she will await each of us with the open arms with which she always greeted us. I half expect to find a huge pot of "sauce" on the stove and a table laden with wonderful lovingly prepared goodies. Santa was a blessing to all of us. We are fortunate to have shared any part of her life. Though we did not see her often, she is missed already. The comfort of knowing that she is free of pain and any unpleasantness may help to fill the void she will leave in our lives. God bless.*

*Carole and Bob Yerkes, Michelle, Shannon and Lauren##imported-begin##Carole Yerkes##imported-end##*

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December 10, 2006 at 01:17 AM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. I will be praying so that the you see all the good times that you shared to help you get through the loss of your mother. I truly enjoyed the time we shared together, even if it was for just a short time. I remember her as a sweet genteel and someone who always enjoyed being with her family. I wil miss her visits to Florida.

*In His Care, Jeanine##imported-begin##Jeanine Bisanti##imported-end##*

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December 07, 2006 at 12:24 PM



“ to the distephano and henry families,  
mom and i are very sorry to hear about the loss of santa.  
you are in our hearts, thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.  
sincerely,  
joan and mary mckenna.  
grand junction, mich###imported-begin###joan and mary  
mckenna###imported-end##

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December 02, 2006 at 06:08 PM



“ Dear Pat and Jeanette, Our prayers and hearts go out to you and  
your families at the loss of your mom, Santa. We feel your loss as  
well even though we haven't seen you or your mom in the last few  
years. Your mother was a very special lady who always treated us  
as family. She was so loving, kind, and gracious whether we saw  
her at home or at Joe and Mom's (Elma). We have fond memories  
of fun and hospitality (she always insisted we have some of her  
home-made treats). Thank you both for sharing your parents with  
us. Our lives are richer for having known them. God bless you all.  
With love...###imported-begin###Era & Mary Jo Snyder and Bob &  
Connie McCormick###imported-end##

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December 01, 2006 at 07:34 PM



“ Aunt Jan, Michelle, David,

*I always enjoyed talking with your Mom and Grandma when she was in Jacksonville. I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers during this time.*

*Love,*

*Danny and Rachel##imported-begin##Danny Fortney##imported-end##*

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November 30, 2006 at 05:18 PM



“ *You will always have a special place in my heart gram. I'll remember how easy it was to make you smile and the sound of your laugh will never be forgotten. God bless. Don't party to hard in heaven. Love - Matthew##imported-begin##Matthew R. Wilt##imported-end##*

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November 30, 2006 at 11:35 AM



“ *Aunt Santa was the kindest, most loving and gentle soul I've ever known. Her smile was genuine and her heart was pure, making the world a better place. She made everyone feel so special and loved. She lived a very good life.##imported-begin##Katie Molloy Narber##imported-end##*

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November 30, 2006 at 02:16 AM



“ Dear Jan and Patti,  
We loved your Mom so much. She was always so warm and loving. Our children thought they had another Grandma and she treated them as if they were hers. We will miss her, as I know you will, but like my own Mother, she will live on in the wonderful memories she left with us. Blessings to all of you and yours, We love you.  
Sonny and Joyce##imported-begin##Joyce and Sonny  
Fortney##imported-end##

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November 30, 2006 at 12:25 AM



“ Nettie and Patti--I have sooo many wonderful memories of your mom (and dad too!). I was lucky enough to enjoy many Sunday afternoon drives with Grandma and Grandpa to Bangor to visit with Aunt Santa, Uncle Sam, Uncle Joe and Aunt Doris. Aunt Santa always seemed to be baking something, or had just taken something out of the oven, and it was always wonderful!  
I remember being younger and being a little confused too over Aunt Santa and Santa Claus--there just had to be some connection!  
I can't tell you how important to me it was to have her at my wedding--it was about as close to having my grandma there as possible. I still can't believe how late she stayed!  
She will really be missed, but will always be close at heart.##imported-begin##Debbi Hodgson Geib##imported-end##

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November 29, 2006 at 05:32 PM



“ To the whole family, especially Pattie & Jeanette: I haven't seen your mom in years, but I remember her from when I lived in Bangor. She was so nice-ALWAYS. A smile and a greeting no matter when or where she saw you. Your dad was the same way. I'm so sorry for your loss, she was truly a wonderful person, but one thing that will be with you always is the memories and the love in your heart.##imported-begin##Suzie (Ghidotti) Traudt##imported-end##

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November 29, 2006 at 10:43 AM