



## Theresa Portelli

November 17, 1946 - July 28, 2014

Theresa Portelli, of Sterling Heights, passed away Monday, July 28, 2014, at the age of 67. Beloved mother of Gary Sox, Jr., Gina (Sergio) Castro, Dr. Angela Sox, D.D.S., and Rosann Sox. Precious grandmother and great grandmother. Dear daughter of the Lena and the late Louis Portelli. Loving sister of Margaret (Charles) Roe, Anthony (Linda) Portelli, Gerard Portelli, Alfred (Michelle) Portelli, and the late Mary Portelli. Also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Theresa was a longtime member of St. Blase Catholic Church and the Maltese Club. She also devoted much of her time volunteering at St. Blase, the Garden Club, and the Blazers as well as being very involved in the community.

Visitation will be Friday 2-9 p.m. and with a 7 pm Scripture Service at the Wasik Funeral Home, Inc. 11470 Thirteen Mile Road (west of Hoover), Warren. Instate Saturday 9 a.m. until time of Funeral Mass 9:30 a.m. at St. Blase Catholic Church, 12151 Fifteen Mile Rd. (east of Dodge Park), Sterling Heights. Interment Resurrection Cemetery.

# Cemetery Details

## Resurrection Cemetery

18201 Clinton River Rd  
Clinton Township, MI 48038  
(586) 286-9020

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 1. 2:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home - Warren  
11470 Thirteen Mile Road  
Warren, MI 48093  
(586) 751-3131  
warren@wasikfuneralhome.com

## Scripture Service

AUG 1. 7:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home - Warren  
11470 Thirteen Mile Road  
Warren, MI 48093  
(586) 751-3131  
warren@wasikfuneralhome.com

## Instate at Church

AUG 2. 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM (ET)

St. Blase Catholic Church  
12151 15 Mile Road  
Sterling Heights, MI 48312  
(586) 268-2244

## Funeral Mass

AUG 2. 9:30 AM (ET)

St. Blase Catholic Church  
12151 15 Mile Road  
Sterling Heights, MI 48312  
(586) 268-2244

# Tribute Wall

YS

“ Dear Lena and Theresa's family. I was one of Theresa's teachers at Dorsey Schools in Roseville. I am also Maltese. Theresa was immediately my friend. She helped my family and I plan our trip to Malta in 2008. My mother's family is from Hamrun and St Giatano was also their family parish. We had a wonderful time and we used the notes that we gathered from Theresa. Theresa attended my mother's funeral at St Malachy church. She enjoyed coming to that church because Fr. Paul was also Maltese. she went and got him some patizzis from the Maltese Club. I will always remember Theresa because I have little mementos that she gave to me over the years.

*Til we see each other in heaven, Theresa, I will continue to remember you in my prayers.*

*Yvonne Salmoni (Sajan)*

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**Yvonne Salmoni** - August 17, 2014 at 03:06 PM

KJ

“ I went to Dorsey with Theresa. Wow 1994 and we continued to be friends just lost touch. Rest Dear Theresa we loved you.

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**Karen Tilley Jordan** - August 08, 2014 at 07:50 AM

TM

“I was also shocked to hear about Theresa's passing. I was unaware that she was sick. She used to live down the street from me and my family when I was growing up. I remember her as one of the friendliest neighbors on the street. The last time I was able to talk to her was two years ago when I saw her at Target. She was a joy to talk to and she didn't want to talk about herself, she only wanted to know how I was doing. She was a very selfless person. She was always focused on other people. She was a genuine "people person". Her passing truly saddens me, and her family is in my thoughts.

*Tracy Mackstaller*

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**Tracy Mackstaller** - August 05, 2014 at 08:51 PM

CB

“Gerry, My condolences my friend.

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**Carlos Berrones** - August 04, 2014 at 06:26 AM

DD

“I am in shock!! I just found out not more than 1/2 hour ago!! My Deepest Condolences!!! If I had known I would have been there to pay my respects to a Beautiful Lady that I loved very much!! Theresa was a Fun, Loving, Caring, Wonderful Woman who I am going to miss very much!!

*Deanne Danno*

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**Deanne Danno** - August 03, 2014 at 06:56 PM

JH

“Angela and Rosann, we are so very sorry, and pray for you and all of your family at this sad time!

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**Jimmy and Hazel** - August 02, 2014 at 12:29 AM

DC

“ Though we at our work place have known Angela for barely 6 months, we can honestly attest that she has received the very qualities for which Theresa was imbued with and cherished for as can be clearly gleaned from the comments and sharings on the Tribute Wall.

Qualities such as strength of character, honesty, unwavering trust, saying the right things at the right moment, paying compliments, or saying something witty; treating people with the utmost respect. These are just a small sample, Therefore, a person who was in her presence always felt better about themselves after leaving her presence. This is truly a divine gift, that both mother and daughter shared.

A saying that is most appropriate and most applicable would be: "The fruit being Angela, didn't fall far from the tree which symbolized Theresa."

With Theresa's undying faith and commitment to her Catholic Religion, she no longer has to suffer and is now in a far better place.

Angela, Know that you and your family are forever in our thoughts and prayers;

Your Dental Colleagues and Co-workers

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Dental Colleagues - August 01, 2014 at 08:38 PM

NC

“ My dear friend: it's hard to believe you are no longer with us on this earth. Everything happened so fast. Our good times & sad times we shared will be in my heart forever. Till we meet again Nancy Curtis XO

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nancy curyis - August 01, 2014 at 04:24 PM



“ *Sacred Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Theresa Portelli.*



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July 31, 2014 at 09:51 PM



“ *Angela, I'm sorry you are going through this heartache. Please know we are here for you always. Love you so much xoxo ~ Tiffany, Nicholas, Ashleigh, & Jonathan*



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**Tiffany Sondey ~ friend** - July 31, 2014 at 03:48 PM



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



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**Angela** - July 31, 2014 at 05:21 AM

AP

*Theresa's ever increasing strength in her final months, weeks, days was noticeably invigorated by her strong faith in Jesus, The Christ. There was never ever really a sign of Theresa recovering, but as her body weakened, her resolve strengthened and soul outwardly illuminated others around her.*

*Theresa's final words were not words alone, her final words were prayers to Our Lord and Our Blessed Mother. She later called out "It's Time, It's Time, It's Time", before passing.*

*It was clear to me, that even before passing, she was in communication with those above.*

*I was the one on the outside (the visitor), healthy and strong, but felt so small and weak, in the presence of this miracle clearly taking place.*

*Like Theresa, I believe there is a reason to carry on and to let His Story fall on crowded roads.*

*On behalf of The Portelli and Sox Families, would like to thank the medical / caregiver staffs at Beaumont Hospital (Royal Oak) and American House (Sterling Height's).*

*Would also like to thank my sister, Margaret (and her family). In Theresa's final months, Margaret was Theresa's primary caregiver and best friend. Her selflessness fueled Theresa's strength and allowed her focus.*

*Theresa, May The Good Lord continue to provide blessings to you and your family.*

*Your Loving Brother,  
Al*

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**Alfred Portelli** - July 31, 2014 at 08:51 AM

RC

*Your Mom was a Beautiful person inside and out!! I was Blessed to have her in my life and honored to call her my friend. I know there will never be another like her in my lifetime. I will keep her in my heart always, but I will miss her every single day!! Words cannot express the friendship we shared. I loved her with all of my heart and it will remain forever broken. With all my love always, Becky*

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**Rebecca Compton** - August 03, 2014 at 03:34 PM

RM

*“ Dear Theresa, you are now with the Lord whom you loved so much. Rest in Peace now, and enjoy heaven x*

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**Rita Portelli, Malta** - July 31, 2014 at 03:41 AM

JA

“ Prayers and hopes for you all to find comfort and peace during this sad time. God's blessings on you all.

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**Jimmy Allen** - July 31, 2014 at 12:09 AM

TO

“ Theresa, your strength till the end was amazing to me. Thank you for sharing that strength with all of us on every visit through your hardest times. Somehow you managed comfort me and others I'm sure. Love your brother Tony

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**Tony** - July 30, 2014 at 01:56 PM

JE

“ Last year I was fortunate enough to visit Hamrun, Malta (birthplace of my Mother and my Aunt Theresa) with my dear cousin Angie. Before I left for the trip my aunt gave us a small notebook of every (and I mean EVERY) landmark, family site, restaurant and attraction we might ever come across during our one week trip. Among all of my memories of her, I will never forget the excitement and passion from her as she walked me through her notes. She was always ready and willing to share all of her experiences with everyone and perhaps equally excited to hear about your experiences. At the end of her life, by her nightstand, was her collection of photos from her Malta trip. Family and faith. That's what she held as her prized possessions, a good reminder for the rest of us what's really the most important things in our lives.

*You will live forever in the memories of all those you leave behind Aunt Theresa.*

*~Love, Your Nephew - Jeff*



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**Jeff** - July 28, 2014 at 10:10 PM

CW

*Well said!!*

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**Christine Wehrwein** - July 30, 2014 at 06:42 PM

AN

“ We learn so many things from our parents throughout our lifetime. Sadly, my Mom just imparted her last lesson to me, but I also feel it is one of the greatest. Since her diagnosis 2 months ago, her belief in Jesus’ Divine Mercy and complete trust in Him has been unwavering. I know for certain she was carried through this trial as written in “Footprints in the Sand;” her perseverance and abundant faith gave her a strength I have never seen in her previously. Mom demonstrated immense poise and grace in the face of suffering because she knew God is with us always, and if we place our trust in Him we shall never fear. Easy words for anyone to say, but Mom lived her last days knowing it in her heart and conveying it in her courage and spirit. So thank you Mom for demonstrating such an important lesson to me, and I am sorry you had to suffer to complete this last instruction. There is no more pain for you now that you’re in God’s keeping, so please continue to look over me and make sure I never forget your last lesson. –All my love, Angela

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**Angela** - July 28, 2014 at 04:19 PM

CW

*Beautiful!! Many prayers, hugs and kisses to you.*

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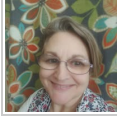
**Christine Wehrwein** - July 28, 2014 at 05:38 PM

RY

*I remember last year she was telling me the story of the divine mercy,,  
God bless her soul*

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**Rami Yousif** - July 29, 2014 at 03:47 PM



*Her philanthropy was in giving compliments. She invested a great deal of time to it, to every waiter, clerk, and custodian. When she got their ear, lunch was always extended an extra half hour or more. She would find out what days they worked, who the manager was, if it was a fair place to work, how long they both had worked there, and where they worked before. Was this the best place in the chain and what other business's were affiliated with them? She would get their professional bio while the next table got their entre - we got drinks. On the next go round she would start on the menu, what was the best deal on the menu and then dissect it and compare it with two other items. Each time she did this she would compliment them on their knowledge and tell them she needed more time. The item selected was always a deal for her discerning palate, highly recommend. I would be embarrassed to do this during a busy time so we always ate in between rush times. However by the time we got the check Theresa had them feeling like they had passed a great customer satisfaction survey and worthy of employee of the month. When we paid the check then Theresa would ask to see the manager. We would wait, and then Ms. Theresa would tell the manager just what a valuable employee they had. It was far better than the tip we left. She tried to make people feel they mattered. This happened every where we went.*

*Theresa would tell me that she was very selective of who she choose as a friend. I feel that I could not find a person who gave her three minuets of time that didn't feel they weren't on her friends list. She really matters as a positive influence on my life.*

*Pam mother of Amanda who loved Theresa as though she was the best gift in the world.*

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**Pam Hashemi Byrnes** - July 29, 2014 at 11:07 PM

KJ

*Her faith was comforting. She will live in our hearts. Love Karen*

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**Karen Tilley Jordan** - August 09, 2014 at 09:16 AM