



## Lee Ora Francella

August 20, 2021

Lee Francella (Pinkerton), age 88 of Saint Augustine, FL passed away on August 20, 2021. She was born on October 10, 1932, in Bristol, CT to the late Lloyd and Loretta Pinkerton. As a young lady she loved to roller skate and ice skate. In 1950 she graduated from Bristol High School where she was always known for her fashionable shoes. After completing high school, she worked as a secretary for the school and married her classmate, Arthur Francella in 1955. Shortly after marrying the couple was stationed in Honolulu, HI, due to her husband's service in the Army. After serving in Hawaii, they moved to Waltham, MA in 1957 where she worked for Raytheon Corporation. Then in 1958 they moved to Washington, D.C. where she worked at the Veteran's Administration as a personal assistant to the Chief of Medicine.

In 1962 they moved to Bowie, MD where she worked for Kodak. In 1972 they moved to Gainesville, FL, where her house was always bustling with family and friends. It was the gathering place of the neighborhood because of her warm, kind and fun spirit. Lee volunteered at North Florida Regional Hospital for many years and attended St Patrick's and Holy Faith Catholic Churches while living in Gainesville, FL. She was owner and operator of Carvel Ice Cream Store Franchise 1976-1979 in Gainesville, FL. Lee and Arthur moved to Crescent Beach on Anastasia Island in Saint Augustine, FL in 1982, where she attended Anastasia Catholic Church. After retiring in 1989 they lived in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, Maui & The Big Island of Hawaii and Grand Cayman and then returned to Crescent Beach in 2001.

For those who were lucky enough to have known Lee, knew that she was quite a lady with a captivating smile. To the outside world she appeared to have a quiet demeanor, but she was the driving force behind all the family adventures. Arthur and Lee had a sense of curiosity and a thirst for learning about new places in the world. Although the ideas were created by both, it was Lee who made them come to fruition.

She really enjoyed traveling with her husband and family. Lee enjoyed reading many books. She had a morning ritual of reading the newspaper to learn of all the local Saint Augustine events and an evening ritual of playing Spider Solitaire on her computer. She was an avid sports fan. She was especially enthusiastic for the Washington Redskins, the University of Florida Gators and Jacksonville Jaguars. But more than anything she loved her family. She taught her children to be good human beings and always to try their best was the most important to her. She was a proud mother when her children succeeded and was always there to listen and give encouragement.

Lee is survived by her husband of 65 years, Arthur Francella, Saint Augustine, FL; daughter, Susan Francella of Saint Augustine, FL; son, Thomas Francella of Gainesville, FL and daughter, Nancy Francella of Gainesville, FL

Due to current health conditions a "Celebration of Life" will be held at a future date. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to PAH Foundation, <https://foundation.chestnet.org/donate/>.

# Tribute Wall

LF

“ some years ago I worked with Lee for the Dept of air force. I am now 85 years old and living in Damascus md. Lee was a such a good worker and had a huge responsibility caring for their daughter at the time while Art was in dental school, Have not had contact with Art or Lee in years but Ed and Liz Fagan in Potomac MD at the time always enjoyed our time together. Somewhat late in condolences, but I never forgot Lee - just such a dedicated person



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**Liz Fagan** - August 19, 2022 at 05:19 PM

TM

“ Art, Susan, Tom and Nancy, we are so saddened by Lee's passing and can only imagine the emptiness it has created in the life of each of you. She had such strength and energy in everything she did that I was so sure she would pull off another "miracle" cure and live to talk about it! But now she's living in the presence of God and what more could we wish for her!

Lee was such a good friend to us when we met years ago. Those were crazy times and she was more like a sister to us, she was a good, good friend. Always there to share and even counsel! We can still see the smile and hear the laughter. Of course, we too miss her, but we can still see the best of her in you guys even today. We love you all and still pray for the family.

She will always be special to me for helping me with my decision to become Catholic. She had so much common sense and gave me courage to walk forward into a new life. I will always love her for that encouragement. So, thanks again, Lee and I know that God is blessing you for the many others you've encouraged along the way. We send you each our love and share in your grief, knowing that she so only out of sight but never out of mind or heart. We love you.  
Tom and Jan

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**Tom and Jan Morrier** - September 09, 2021 at 02:41 PM

MS

“ Art and family - Sincere condolences to you and the family! A wonderful friend has gone on to a new life where we will all meet again one day. If I can do anything for all of you, please contact me. Susan you know how to reach me.

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**Mary Ellen Struble** - September 02, 2021 at 07:39 PM