



Rose Marie Cooper

December 5, 1934 - October 31, 2025

Rose Marie Cooper was born on December 5, 1934, in Washington, D.C., and passed away peacefully on October 31, 2025, in St. Augustine, Florida. She was the beloved daughter of Mary Paterno Cecero and Pasquale Cecero.

Rose was preceded in death by her husbands Wiley Joe Bolen, Russell Beard, and Russell Cooper, as well as her sons, Stephen Beard and William (Billy) Beard.

She grew up and spent most of her life in and around Washington, D.C., where she raised her family and built her career. After retiring, she moved to Florida, where she lived in Melbourne Beach, then Viera, and finally settled in St. Augustine.

Raised in the Catholic faith, Rose later found a spiritual home at Crosswater Community Church in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, where she embraced a non-denominational Christian life rooted in love, grace, and community.

Rose began her career as a dime store clerk and built a successful path in banking. She worked in the Audit Department before rising to the position of Vice President of Human Resources. She was a strong and independent woman who balanced the demands of her career with the responsibilities of motherhood—setting an inspiring example of dedication and resilience.

Her life was marked by quiet strength, enduring kindness, and a deep compassion that touched everyone she met. She found joy in sewing, crocheting, watching movies and television, playing Mah Jong and Canasta with her friends, and spending time with her family.

She is survived by her brother, William Cecero; loving daughter, Teresa (Terry) Newsome and her husband Mike, and her son, David Beard and his wife Tracy. Rose also leaves behind her cherished grandchildren: Mandi Ehman and husband Sean, Dominic Beard and wife Casey, Anthony (Tony) Beard, Lindsay Vazquez and husband Anthony, and Crystal Moore and husband Ryan; niece, Sandy Cater (Frank); nephew, Daniel (Tammy) Cecero as well as many great nieces and nephews and great great nieces and nephews in West Virginia. Her legacy continues through her great-grandchildren: Peyton, Dylan, Parker, Sidney, Jackson, and Lucas Ehman; Emma, Vincent, and Olivia Beard; Luna and Levi Vazquez; and Haley and Cody Moore.

She will be remembered for the life she lived with purpose, the love she gave, and the enduring impact she leaves behind. Rose followed her own path—true to her values, quiet strength, and a gentle spirit that made her life uniquely hers.

A service will be held on Monday, November 3, at St. Johns Family Funeral Home, 385 SR 207, St. Augustine, FL 32084. There will be a family viewing from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m., followed by a public viewing from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., with the service beginning at 11:00 a.m.

She will be laid to rest at a later date at the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL, alongside her husband, Russell Cooper.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Clarke Schools for Hearing and

Speech – Florida, 9803 Old St. Augustine Road, Suite 7, Jacksonville, FL
32257.

Cemetery Details

Florida National Cemetery

6502 SW 102nd Ave
Bushnell, FL 33513

Previous Events

Public Viewing

NOV 3. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St Johns Family Funeral Home and Crematory
385 State Road 207
St. Augustine, FL

Funeral Service

NOV 3. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St Johns Family Funeral Home and Crematory
385 State Road 207
St. Augustine, FL

Tribute Wall



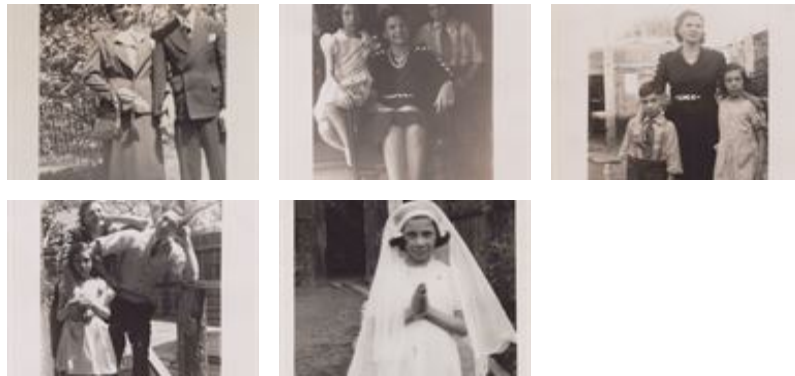
“ Heartfelt sympathies and prayers of comfort for all of Rose M Cooper's loved ones! We are family friends of Terry and the Newsomes! Just wanted to send our condolences and love during this sad time!

xo David and Rachinee and family

Beatrice Rachinee Pugh - November 05, 2025 at 03:09 PM



“ 124 files added to the album LifeTributes



St. Johns Family Funeral Home - November 01, 2025 at 12:03 PM

GC

“ *She was one of those rare, incredible people you just feel lucky to know. Like my mom, she accepted me for the smart-ass I am. I could always count on her to give it right back - I loved that about her.*

I always helped her hang her wind chimes, and I'd joke that she just wanted to annoy the neighbors with them. She'd laugh and say that was exactly the point.

She was sharp, kind, and real—no pretending, no sugar-coating. Just a good soul with a quick wit and a big heart. I'm going to miss her more than I can say.

Greg St. Clair - November 01, 2025 at 09:06 AM

GC

Greg St. Clair

Greg St. Clair - November 01, 2025 at 09:08 AM

TS

“ *I remember the first time that I met Aunt Rose she and Uncle Russell had come to visit and it was shortly after their marriage she was one of the most sweetest ladies that I had ever met in my entire life and every time we came into contact she always made me feel as if she were my best friend and my best aunt which she was in her own special way in a distant way but my heart goes out to her children and grandchildren I know that you're going to be missing a very unique and wonderful individual beautiful on the inside and the out however I am excited at the prospect that she's back with Uncle Russell because the two of them were meant to be might have been a little later in life but they were meant to be rest in peace Aunt Rose much love*

Tess Seibert - October 31, 2025 at 06:40 PM

TM

“ David and I send our sincere sympathy and prayers to you all. We met Rose a little over 4 years ago when she moved to Palencia. We became instant friends. She became a part of our Conversation Group. We have so many happy memories of lunches, gatherings, shopping, and of course Canasta. She taught us to play and hosted many happy Tuesday games at her home. We will always cherish our time with dear Rose.

Love,
Theresa and David

Theresa and David Merritt - October 31, 2025 at 06:14 PM

CL

Mike and I wish to express our sympathy to all of Rose's family. We lived a few houses away from Rose in Viera. We immediately became close friends. She became known as "Aunt Rose" to Louie (our dog) and would always have a treat ready for him when we visited. She would send him a toy every Christmas even after she moved to St. Augustine. She was an amazing lady and it was an honor to have her in our lives.

Carolyn and Mike Lomax
Louie, too. ❤️

Carolyn Lomax - October 31, 2025 at 06:52 PM

RW

Rose was a beautiful and kind individual who will be greatly missed in our community. My deepest condolences to her family and friends

Robin White - November 01, 2025 at 03:19 PM