



## Mrs. Giannina Rita Zampa

May 7, 1936 - September 30, 2024

Giannina Rita Zampa of Nanton, Alberta, passed away on September 30, 2024, at the age of 88 years. Giannina is survived by her son Rob and daughter-in-law Cindy, daughter Angela and son-in-law Kevin; grandchildren Ben (Raeann), Mallory (Emily), and Sara (Sam); great-grandchildren Dominic, Milo, and Sebastian; her sister Nives (Sergio) as well as nieces and nephews in Canada and Italy.

She was predeceased by her husband, Ben (Nino) Zampa, her parents Enrico and Angela, and sister Lilia.

Giannina was born in Valvasone, Italy, on May 7, 1936. She met Nino in 1952 when he was stationed with the army in San Lorenzo. They married in 1956, and, as was customary in Italy at the time, Giannina moved into the Zampa farm house. After the war, there was no work to be found, and a hailstorm wiped out the crop. With an invitation for Nino to work for Giannina's brother-in-law, Vanilio Raffin, Nino and Giannina made the 3-week ship ride to Halifax and 1-week train ride to arrive in Nanton in the winter of 1958.

Giannina was kind and well-known for gardening and cooking. Anyone who stopped by the house was always offered an authentic Italian meal and guests usually left with fresh garden vegetables (when in season). She found joy in having her grandchildren and great-grandchildren visit and proudly displayed

their photos and crafts around the house.

The family would like to specifically thank Lil, Dave, Aldo, Connie, Rhonda, Peter, Rosanne, and Leigh for supporting Mom by visiting frequently and shopping as needed. We are forever grateful.

Memorial Donations can be made to the charity of your choice.

A Memorial Service will take place on Friday, October 11, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at the Catholic Church St. Cecilia's (2308 19 St, Nanton, AB, T0L 1R0).

To send condolences, please visit [www.lylereeves.com](http://www.lylereeves.com). Caring for the family is Lyle Reeves Funerals of High River (Craig Snodgrass) 403.652.4242.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Mass

OCT 11. 10:00 AM (MT)

St. Cecilia's Catholic Church - Nanton  
2308 19 Street  
Nanton, AB (CA)

# Tribute Wall

VV

“ To the Zampa Family, please accept my deepest sympathy for your loss from your cousin Valerie Villalta in Allen Park, Michigan. My father stayed connected to your mother and father communicating via phone on a monthly basis. After my dad passed in 2022, I would often call your mom. She was always so pleasant and cheerful. I will miss our conversations. Wishing you comfort, peace and healing.

Valerie Villalta - February 18, 2025 at 08:43 PM

AW

Thank you for sharing, Valerie. What was your Dad's name? Thank you for your kind words and thoughts.

Angela Wiens - June 04, 2025 at 02:58 AM

VV

You're welcome, Angela. Geremia Villalta, younger brother to Alfredo (Dino's dad).

Valerie Villalta - October 28, 2025 at 02:43 PM

AW

Mom spoke of Geremia often and of your calls. ❤️

Angela Wiens - March 20 at 02:38 AM

DV

“ To the Zampa Family, sincere condolences from your cousin Dino Villalta in Windsor, Ontario. I remember as a kid visiting Nanton with my parents Diana & Alfredo Villalta and having a great time with all of you. My Parents talked often of Giannina and had a great affection for both your parents.

Dino Villalta - January 18, 2025 at 12:35 PM

AW

*Thank you, Dino. Mom kept us up to date on your news and your parents. I remember your visit all those decades ago.*

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**Angela Wiens** - January 24, 2025 at 03:23 AM

AP

“*Rob, Cindy, Angela, Kevin and Family - I am so sorry to hear about the passing of Giannina. My thoughts are with you all. Sincere condolences.*”

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**Andrea De Paoli** - October 09, 2024 at 08:43 PM

BP

“Giannina was one of those unassuming people who influence your life without fanfare or drawing attention to themselves. She taught me how to grow my own greenhouse tomatoes, sampled my questionable pizelli and told me how to fix them so they tasted like hers. She was quick to acknowledge any work or effort I put into family gatherings. My gardening successes and failures were studied and thoughtful as well as helpful suggestions were offered but only if I asked. She was happy when we reported back to her and Nino how the family was doing in Italy when Mel and I travelled there. I took lots of pictures for her of their home in San Lorenzo. Cindy painted some wonderful pieces using them for her to hang in her house. I was there for a lovely visit and coffee with her about a month ago. As always she was so happy to see me and catch up on the goings on with my family. She helped me write part of my “welcome to the family” speech for Kelci at their wedding in Italian so

I would say it correctly. I always said that since I wasn't lucky enough to have my own mother in law I told her I wanted her to be mine. She said she was fine with that. We would laugh about it. Rob, Cindy Angela Kevin and your families I am sad to think such a wonderful person is now gone from your lives. She was a wonderful person. I feel honoured and lucky to have known her and been the beneficiary of so much wisdom and knowledge. She was caring, kind and so compassionate about family and friends. Family was everything to her.

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**Bev De Paoli** - October 07, 2024 at 04:45 PM

DP

How's you? she would always greet me. I'll remember her kindness and sweetness, the fruit cultivated from tending her garden. She has now taken up residence in the gardens of your hearts. May her essence bloom perennially there. Condolences Rob and Cindy, Angela and Kevin, and all her dearest

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**Deanna De Paoli** - October 07, 2024 at 05:49 PM

JG

*Rob, Cindy, Angela & Kevin,*

*My deepest sympathy and love goes out to you all at this sad time.*

*You have lost a wonderful mother, and I a great friend of many years.*

*I will treasure all the good times Denis & I shared with Giannina & Nino.*


*Much love, Joan (Boswell, BC)*

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**Joan Gray** - October 09, 2024 at 07:08 PM

PA

“*Rob, Angela and families, and all who mourn the passing of Giannina; I was saddened to hear of Giannina’s passing. As the days go forward you will find yourself thinking “ I should ask Mom....” The loss of one’s Mother has a profound effect on us. The Zampa and Raffin families were so close I know you will all feel the loss of this connection to that generation devastating. My thoughts are with you all as you face this unwelcome change to your lives.*



*Sincerely,  
Patty Atkinson*

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**Patty Atkinson** - October 07, 2024 at 10:36 AM

VK

“*To the Zappa family, so sorry to hear of Giannina’s passing. She will be with her best friend Ben. May your memories keep her close.*

*Violet and Jerry Kautz*

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**Violet & Jerry Kautz** - October 06, 2024 at 09:10 AM

MO

“ *To the Zampa family, So sorry for your loss  
Margaret & Butch Olson*



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**Margaret Olson** - October 05, 2024 at 03:35 PM