



## Svetlana Petrovic

December 24, 1926 - December 20, 2020

Svetlana Petrovic, age 93, of Park Ridge, IL, formerly of Chicago, IL and Skokie, IL, passed away Sunday morning, December 20, 2020 in Glenview, IL. Beloved wife of the late Vojko; loving mother of George (Jacqueline) Petrovich, Susanna Tabic, Lillian (Melanie Kallal) Brandt, and also Ana (Nenad) Drca; cherished grandmother of Kristin (Nick) Schultz, Nicholas (Cristina) Tabic, Daniel (Kari) Petrovich, Tanya (Clay) Layne, Andrew (Lauren) Petrovich, and also Jamie Meister and Robyn Meister; proud great-grandmother of Saoirse Collins, Asher Petrovich, Margot Petrovich, Alex Tabic, Vinny Tabic, Logan Layne, and also Daniel and Nicholas Drca. Svetlana was a proud American born in Bosanski Novi, Bosnia. She survived both the Nazi occupation of her homeland and a communist dictatorship where her brother, sister and father disappeared and were never seen or heard from again, leaving Svetlana and her mother the only two surviving family members. It was her courage, heroism, and bravery that carried her through the Austrian Alps as she escaped to Salzburg, where she met, and married, her late husband Vojko. Together they came to America to start their lives anew and raise their family, whom Svetlana loved dearly. Svetlana's mother came to the United States soon after to be reunited with her only surviving child. Svetlana is remembered as having been extremely generous and giving, and was always willing to lend a hand to those who needed it most. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends. Visitation Wednesday, December 23, 2020 11 a.m. at New Gracanica Serbian Orthodox Monastery, 35240 W. Grant Ave., Third Lake, IL. Opelo (Funeral Service) 11:30 a.m. Interment New Gracanica Cemetery. Arrangements entrusted to Muzyka & Son Funeral Home. For more information, please call (773) 545-3800.

# Cemetery

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## **New Gracanica Serbian Orthodox Cemetery**

35240 W Grant Ave  
Third Lake, IL, 60046

# Events

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**DEC 23 Visitation** 11:00AM

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New Gracanica Monastery  
35240 W Grant Ave, Lindenhurst, IL, US,  
60046

**DEC 23 Opelo (Funeral Service)** 11:30AM

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New Gracanica Monastery  
35240 W Grant Ave, Lindenhurst, IL, US,  
60046

# Comments

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“ NATCA National purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Svetlana Petrovic.



**NATCA National** - December 23, 2020 at 11:41 AM

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“ It breaks my heart to lose such a beautiful & courageous woman who I called "Momma." I know she loved me, but better yet, she loved so many people and showed them by her actions and of course, her food! She reminded me & my brother, Billy of our maternal Italian Grandmother. They both treated anyone they met like "family," and insisted on feeding everyone! My heart goes out to my Petrovic, Tabic, Drca, Layne & Schultz family & please know that my Kallal/Pettrone family of origin grieves with you as well. Much love to you Momma! Melanie

**melanie kallal** - December 22, 2020 at 03:18 PM



“ I will always remember her fondly. Growing up with Lilly, one of my best friends, her mom was always the most warm welcoming person. Always cooking something good, she would encourage us to "eat, eat". What a wonderful woman. Wendy F.

**Wendy Funk** - December 22, 2020 at 05:43 PM

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“ There are so many great memories in my mind. My best friends mom always treated me like her own. We all are together for so many years every noon. She treated everyone she knew so kindly. I always felt I was part of the family. I remember Susanna's birthdays and I remember her yelling at is if she thought we wore the wrong thing. I will always love you my dear second Mother. Rest in Angels wings now and sit in paradise with my Mom. With love for you forever, Dawn

**Dawn** - December 22, 2020 at 02:44 PM



“ You were definitely part of the family!

**Susanna Tabic** - December 23, 2020 at 08:46 AM

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“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Svetlana Petrovic.



December 22, 2020 at 01:09 PM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Svetlana Petrovic.



December 22, 2020 at 12:07 PM

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“ My Baba was one of the greatest people I have ever met. The love she had for everyone was expressed by the way she treated everyone she met. There wasn't a person who met her that didn't say, "I LOVE your Baba." She was all about her family and making us feel special each and every day. One way she did that was by having us over to her home for meals, homemade cookies, coffee (ONLY Turkish, of course) and lots of hugs and laughs. She LOVED to host, cook, and bake for us.

About 10 years ago, my mom (Suzy), sister (Tanya), wife (Crissy) my aunts (Lilly and Melanie), and I, went to Baba's condo on Lawrence for lunch. Everyone talks about Baba's baking (and rightfully so because she was the greatest baker in the world; she actually baked the entire sweet table for my wedding), but Baba was always a fantastic cook, as well. We would always get spoiled with her Pitas, Cufte (Serbian meatballs), Sarma, Salatas, etc, but on this occasion, she was making beef, chicken, pita, and salmon. SALMON??? We were so confused because Baba hated salmon. We all went with excitement.

Once we sat down to eat, every dish was as it always was, ABSOLUTELY AMAZING. But where's the salmon? Then Baba takes it out of the oven. Anyone that knew Baba, knew that she was a meat-eater and she only ate her meats WELL DONE, which is exactly how she cooked the salmon, WELL DONE. We all looked at each other and smiled, but no one said a word. We knew how hard Baba worked on this meal. Not only was she cooking something out of her comfort zone, but she made sure that it was cooked to a point that was safe for those who she loved. She was very proud of the meal she put out, and we were so extremely proud to be there to share it with her.

Baba was all about love and her family. I can sit here and write loving stories about my Baba for the next 10 years. She spent each and every moment of her life living to the fullest and helping others. She loved harder and deeper than anyone I've ever met. I felt that this story was not only a good representation of Baba's love for all of us, but also our love and admiration for her. Baba has always been my hero. She was one of a kind and even though we will miss her immensely, Heaven just gained the brightest angel there is. Baba and Deda, much of what and who we are (George, Lilly, Susanna, Ana, Melanie, Kristin, Daniel, Andrew, Tanya, Cristina, and myself-Nick, as well as, spouses and all of your great-grandchildren) is because of who you were and how you loved us. We love you both immensely and I know you guys are in Heaven right now. Deda watching the Bears game with his cat, Micki, while Baba is in the kitchen baking for her parents and siblings.

Love,

Your Grandson, Nick (Nicola)

**Nick Tabic** - December 22, 2020 at 11:56 AM



“ Awesome Nick, just awesome. So much love.

**melanie kallal** - December 22, 2020 at 03:02 PM



“ My dearest Teta Svetlana. I am grateful for having you in my life. I loved your stories, your positive energy. I learned so much from you. You did so much and you touched many with your kind heart. I will never forget you. Until we meet again - Love Leonora

Leonora Sekulić - December 22, 2020 at 10:31 AM

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“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Svetlana Petrovic.



December 22, 2020 at 09:12 AM

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“ Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Svetlana Petrovic.



December 21, 2020 at 08:16 PM

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“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Svetlana Petrovic.



December 21, 2020 at 01:06 PM

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“ Svetlana was an amazing person. She had so many trials in her life, yet she always had a smile on her face. Her home was always filled with friends and her heart filled with love. She was a friend and confidant to so many and an amazing Baba to her many grandchildren and great grandchildren. Her generosity was unparalleled, whether opening her home to provide shelter, opening her kitchen to provide food or sending packages to less fortunate people back in Yugoslavia.

Baba never allowed anyone to go hungry! She had an amazing talent for baking. She passed many traditional Serbian recipes to her children and grandchildren to enjoy. She was proud of her Serbian heritage, but even more proud to be an American. She was proud of her job at Traffic Court because it was part of the American system. She worked hard, often holding down multiple jobs, but she was never too busy for her family.

Even though I am an ex-daughter in law, she always showed her love and generosity to me and my husband and will always hold a dear and special place in our hearts.

'And in the end, the love you take is equal to the love you make'.

She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Love,

Chris and Rich Larsen

**Christine Larsen** - December 21, 2020 at 12:39 PM



“ Thank you Chris. She always loved you! I'm sure you felt it.

**Susanna Tabic** - December 21, 2020 at 05:37 PM



“ Beautiful Chris. Just beautiful.

**Nick Tabic** - December 21, 2020 at 06:42 PM



“ Chris, that was beautifully written and so spot on. Thank you for sharing. She loved you so much.

**Tanya Layne** - December 21, 2020 at 08:07 PM



“ Chris, she loved you SO much and appreciated you immensely. You were always in her heart. Thank you so much for your kindness toward both my mom and dad, and this loving tribute from you and Rich.

**Lilly Brandt** - December 22, 2020 at 12:40 PM