



## Florence Irene Smoczynski

November 13, 1938 - June 5, 2021

Florence Irene Smoczynski of Springfield, VA, 82, passed away on Saturday, June 5, 2021

Florence was predeceased by her husband Hubert of 55 years. She is survived by her two children, Edward M. Smoczynski, Mary Ellen Torres her husband Michael as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and friends.

Florence was born November 13, 1938, in Mt. Vernon, New York where she lived with her parents and sister, Grace, until her teenage years. Her family was relocated overseas in several different countries until she came back to the United States to attend Villanova University in 1958. She graduated in 1962 with a B.S. in nursing. She enlisted into the Navy in 1962 and was stationed at The U.S. Naval Hospital, Philadelphia, PA, where she met and married her husband of 55 years, Hubert in 1964. Soon after, they had two children and moved to Cherry Hill, New Jersey in 1967. Later they moved to Springfield, Virginia in 1973 and both lived there until their passing.

Florence was a devoted wife, mother, and mentor to her hundreds of nursing students. She received her master's degree in 1977 from Catholic University. She received her doctorate in Adult and Continuing Education in 1999 from Virginia Polytechnic University and State University. She was an instructor and Assistant Professor teaching at Marymount University, Northern Virginia Community and George Mason University from 1976 until 2016 when she retired from a wonderful 40-year career of teaching nursing.

One of her favorite things to do was to cruise domestically and especially Internationally with her husband. She loved spending time at several beaches up and down the east coast which she found to be very relaxing. She and her husband would often jump in the car and travel to see family and friends for weekends.

Visitation for friends and family will be held at Jefferson Funeral Chapel, in Alexandria, VA, Wednesday, June 16, 2021, at 5:00pm. A Mass of Catholic burial will be held at St. Raymonds of Penafort Roman Catholic Church on Thursday, June 17, 2021, at 11:00am.

A graveside service will follow at Quantico National Cemetery, Thursday, June 17, 2021,  
at 1:00pm

# Cemetery

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# Events

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**Quantico National Cemetery JUN**

18424 Joplin Rd

Triangle, VA, 22172

**16**

**Viewing**

05:00PM - 07:00PM

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Jefferson Funeral Chapel

5755 Castlewellan Drive, Alexandria, VA, US, 22315

**JUN**

**17**

**Mass of Christian Burial** 11:00AM - 12:00PM

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Saint Raymond of Penafort Catholic Church

8750 Pohick Rd, Springfield, VA, US, 22153

**JUN**

**17**

**Graveside Service**

01:00PM - 02:00PM

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Quantico National Cemetery

18424 Joplin Rd, Triangle, VA, US, 22172-1636

# Comments

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“ An external video has been added.



**Jefferson Funeral Chapel** - June 15 at 04:47 PM



“ Flo was such a wonderful, caring individual. She truly exemplified the characteristics of a nurse and nurse educator. She exuded patience, kindness and humor while sharing her knowledge and experiences with nursing students at GMU. She was a valuable mentor to me when I started teaching at Mason. I will be forever grateful to have called her a colleague and friend.

**Beverly Middle** - June 17 at 10:39 AM



“ Beverly, thank you for your post. It makes me happy to remember her in all she had done for her nurses

**Mary Ellen Torres** - June 18 at 12:30 PM



“ I just learned of Flo's passing and had been thinking of her often and her love of nursing. I first met Flo when I was working on my doctorate at GMU.

It was so apparent, Flo loved, loved, loved nursing and the nursing students at GMU .

She was such a joy to know and she shared that joy at GMU.

She will be missed.

With my deepest sympathy to you and your family.

**Mary Ann Friesen** - June 20 at 05:06 PM



“ Mom, I will always remember the ocean swimming I did in Florida and Jersey. Swimming for hours at a time, even when we had to head back to the house and you walking back and forth calling me to come in and pretended not to hear you. The look on your face of anger but time and time again the hugs I would get running out of the water. I miss you so much everyday. Be happy in heaven with dad and the rest of the family.

**Mary Ellen** - September 03 at 03:32 PM

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“ Flo was like family to me. She exemplified caring and was a great role model for the many students who she taught. I will forever miss her and remember her always.  
Chris Blasser

Chris Blasser - June 27 at 12:21 PM



“ Thank you Chris.

Mary Ellen Torres - June 27 at 09:18 PM

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“ Flo took on the role of Mother for me while at George Mason. She was just a feisty woman filled with love and caring. She and Hubert were the cutest couple. They both will be missed.



Sonya Almond - June 18 at 08:29 AM



“ Thank you so very much, Sonya.

Mary Ellen Torres - June 18 at 12:21 PM

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“ Flo and Hubert were very dear to me. They were the cutest couple. Flo was one of a kind. Her spirit presented prior to her presence. She was just a feisty woman filled with love and caring. She will be missed...

Sonya Almond - June 18 at 08:25 AM

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“ Reading all these memories of Flo, I have to agree....there was and is no one else like her! If she thought something wasn't right, she would point it out, and she didn't sugar coat it. She was a great mentor, kind, and above all else, she cared about the students more than anything. She advocated for them, encouraged them, and was there to cheer them on or cheer them up. What a wonderful legacy she leaves to the nursing profession.

Dr. Nancy Kelly  
SON, GMU

**Nancy Kelly** - June 17 at 12:27 PM



“ Thank you Dr. Kelly for those wonderful words.

**Mary EllenTorres** - June 18 at 12:23 PM



“ Flo was a loyal and dedicated nurse, educator and friend. If you were in her sphere Flo was always there for you and that included George Mason University nursing. Anytime someone in her sphere got sick, Flo was there to monitor nursing care and if need be stay with you over night to ensure that you were all right. She didn't let anyone interfere with quality care. If a student needed help passing Boards she would offer her advice and and even participate in the study plan. She never gave up on people. Each year she brought all of her many friends and family together at her home for a catered holiday party, with her house decorated to the hilt. Even until very recently Hugh and Flo orchestrated this lovely holiday party - with Hugh working hard to do what Flo wanted done. He adored Florence and they were a team until his passing. Together they brought a lot of joy to their friends and family and to each other. I worked with Flo for many years and saw the many students who came to her for guidance and support. Her office candy dish and Kleenex box were always full, ready to cheer or wipe away tears along with her shoulders to lean on. When Flo was born they broke the mold. There is no one like her left. She will be terribly missed.

**Susan Durham** - June 16 at 08:19 AM



“ Susan, my eyes filled with tears while reading your post. They were truly a one for a kind couple. Thank you for your post. It makes me happy to read it.

**Mary EllenTorres** - June 18 at 12:26 PM



“ Tom, Tina, Dan and Lisa Queen purchased the Sweet Sincerity for the family of Florence Irene Smoczynski.



**Tom, Tina, Dan and Lisa Queen** - June 15 at 11:30 PM

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“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Florence Irene Smoczynski.



June 15 at 08:30 AM

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“ George Mason School of Nursing purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Florence Irene Smoczynski.



**George Mason School of Nursing** - June 15 at 08:09 AM

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“ Kathy Borkowski and family purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Florence Irene Smoczynski.



**Kathy Borkowski and family** - June 15 at 06:40 AM

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“ Dear Smoczynski Family:

I write on behalf of the faculty of the Conway School of Nursing at The Catholic University of America. Several of our faculty knew Flo well as both a graduate student and through her work as a nursing educator at George Mason. She always added such wonderful insights and she was most beloved by her students. Flo will be remembered as a life-long learner and a tremendous role model for so many students. Please allow me to offer my condolences on Flo's passing as we acknowledge a life well-lived in service to so many.

Pat McMullen

Patricia C. McMullen, PhD, JD, CRNP, FAANP,FAAN

Dean & Ordinary Professor

Conway School of Nursing - The Catholic University of America

**Patricia McMullen** - June 14 at 07:37 PM



“ Flo was an amazing and kind soul who dedicated her life to nursing and nursing education. I was honored to work with her at George Mason University for many years prior to her retirement. She was certainly loved by students and faculty alike. I was honored to know Dr. Flo.

Rebecca Sutter

**Rebecca Sutter** - June 14 at 09:06 PM



“ I had the privilege of meeting Dr. Flo in 2014 when I was a brand new adjunct faculty member teaching in the School of Nursing skills lab. She was always kind to me and the students and she was so proud of the nurses that came out of our program. She will be missed.

**Sharon Kekoler** - June 16 at 03:34 PM



“ Thank you all for your comments.  
Mary EllenTorres (Flo's daughter)

**Mary EllenTorres** - June 16 at 10:04 PM



“ Touching Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Florence "Flo" Irene Smoczynski.



June 14 at 12:22 PM



“ So many great times we shared. Thank you for all those times.  
Joe and I will never forget our trip to Russia with you and Uncle Hubert.

Alicia Sumilas - June 14 at 10:03 AM

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“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Florence "Flo" Irene Smoczynski.



June 14 at 09:59 AM