



Vickie Leach

April 20, 1946 - October 27, 2022

Vickie Leach, beloved grandmother, mother, wife, sister, daughter, friend, teacher, and school administrator passed away peacefully at home – surrounded by her loving family and friend Cencia – on October 27, 2022 at the age of 76, after living with grace through 20 years of Alzheimer’s Disease.

Vickie was born in a small Mississippi town on the Gulf of Mexico to Lawrence and Delta (Tottie) Lizana Jacobi who owned a mom-and-pop bakery. Lawrence baked the bread and doughnuts and cakes in the back of the house while Tottie sold them from the shop in front. Vickie and her sisters helped their mother as they grew up. Grandma Jacobi from Mexico also lived with them and Vickie wanted to speak Spanish and be bilingual like her. This desire led her to become the first in her family to venture out of Mississippi. She went to college at the Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico where all courses, even English, were taught in Spanish. Vickie graduated at the top of her class.

Vickie’s bilingual ambition proved prescient when the Social Security Administration recruited her as a claims representative in New York City’s Washington Heights. The first day she arrived in New York, Vickie met the love of her life, Michael Leach, at Your Father’s Mustache tavern in Greenwich Village. They married shortly thereafter. Four years later they moved from Greenwich Village to Old Greenwich, CT. When their two sons, Christopher

and Jeffrey, started North Mianus School, Vickie volunteered in the learning disabilities classroom. A new desire was born: to be a teacher. She went to night school at Manhattanville College and earned the first of two advanced degrees in education. Her first teaching job was at Villa Maria School in Stamford.

In 1994 Vickie landed the job of her dreams: Assistant Principal at Stamford High School. Her bilingual ability and knowledge of special education made her a go-to asset not only at Stamford High but in schools throughout the district. Parents, teachers, and students looked to her for guidance and friendship. Vickie arrived at school an hour before anyone else and stayed until the last student who wanted to spend time with her left. She fostered co-partnerships with Xerox and other corporations to give students jobs and internships during the summer. Three years ago, Vickie and Michael moved from their Riverside home to a high rise building in Stamford that overlooks the school.

Vickie will be profoundly missed by Michael, her husband of 53 years, their sons Chris and Jeff, daughters-in-law Jessica and Jill, grandchildren Mae and Jackson, her sisters Mary Jo, Margo, and Delta, brother Larry – and by thousands of men and women whose lives she touched as a teacher.

The Leach family warmly invites you to a Memorial Mass in her honor to be celebrated on Saturday, November 5 at 11am at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, 1200 Shippan Avenue, Stamford, CT. Her burial will be private.

If you wish to make an online remembrance for the family online, you may sign the family guestbook at www.bosakfuneralhome.com or www.facebook.com/bosakfuneralhome.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Memorial Mass

NOV 5 (ET)

Our Lady Star of the Sea Church
1200 Shippan Avenue
Stamford, CT 06902

Tribute Wall

MD

“ Dear Mike and family,
I have such fond memories of Vickie that I will always treasure. Such a warm and gentle person who I always looked forward to seeing in the main office when she was the Assistant Principal. I was always greeted with a beautiful smile. I always enjoyed our conversations and time spent at your home. I will be sure to keep you, Chris, Jeff and family in my prayers.
With love and sympathy,
Mike DeVivo

Michael DeVivo - November 05, 2022 at 09:44 AM

ML

Thank you so much, Mike. See you soon.

Michael Leach - November 17, 2022 at 10:46 AM

DW

“ I am Vickie's eldest sister, Delta. We grew up in a small town on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. We enjoyed frolicking on the beach of the Bay of St. Louis which was a few blocks away from our family Bakery. My most vivid memory of Vickie was sharing Christmas in Connecticut because she so loved Christmas and played seasonal music and danced and sang. I believe she is now sharing angelic voices for all eternity. She was a beloved sister and will be missed. Peace to Michael Chris Jeff family and friends. Delta Jacobi Willis

Delta Willis - November 03, 2022 at 01:37 PM

ML

Ah yes, Christmas was her favorite time of year.

Michael Leach - November 17, 2022 at 10:46 AM

MM

“ My sister, Vickie, was younger than me but, much smarter. She was a wonderful person with a real zest for life. Her laugh was contagious and she really enjoyed the company of family and friends. I will cherish my memories of growing up with her; especially our teen aged years. Margo Jacobi Murphy.

Margo Jacobi Murphy - November 03, 2022 at 01:19 PM

ML

Oh, that laugh!

Michael Leach - November 17, 2022 at 10:47 AM

JC

“ Dear Mike, we are so saddened by Vickie’s passing. We remember so many lovely times spent with you both, watching movies, sharing a meal or a round of golf. We will always treasure those memories. We think now of Vickie dancing with the angels...what a beautiful vision. Love to you, Chris and Jeff,

Jane & John

jane cooke - November 03, 2022 at 12:07 PM

ML

Love you guys.

Michael Leach - November 17, 2022 at 10:47 AM

JL

“ Dear Mike,

Thank you for writing to all of us about Vickie's life. You have had a great loss.

Those of us who moved to Connecticut more recently missed the opportunity to get to know someone special.

My daughter is also a special education teacher, and she also received her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees at Manhattanville. It is work that allows a person to do a great deal of good.

With the support of your family and the memories of Vickie, we hope that you will get through this very hard time.

Sincerely,

Lynn and Jeffrey Lowin (Apt. 5A)

Jeffrey A. Lowin - November 02, 2022 at 11:59 AM

ML

Thank you so much, Lynn and Jeff. Your are very kind.

Michael Leach - November 17, 2022 at 10:44 AM

MC

“ *It was pleasure and a honor to know Vicky and take care of her I remember when she first started daycare and I ran into her and Mike at the gas station she said hello to me like she knew me for years it touched my heart to know that she remember me she was a beautiful person inside and out and Mike was the best caregiver I could ever know such a patient and loving man and they made a beautiful couple May her beautiful soul rest in peace miss you Vicky*

malisa champion - November 02, 2022 at 10:45 AM

ML

And you were her first "babysitter" when I went to a movie, Malisa. Thank you for taking care of her at River House too.

Michael Leach - November 17, 2022 at 10:49 AM

MJ

“ *Vickie was a shining star and inspiration to me all of my life. Nothing can ever replace her. Mary Jo Jacobi Jephson*

Mary Jo Jacobi Jephson - November 02, 2022 at 08:12 AM

ML

She loved you so much, Mary Jo.

Michael Leach - November 17, 2022 at 10:49 AM

RN

“ *Dear Mike: my thoughts are with you and your family at this sad time. May Vickie's memory be a blessing to all who knew her. With deep regret for your loss- Rocco Natale*

Rocco Natale - October 30, 2022 at 09:42 AM

ML

Thank you so much, Rocco. You are very kind.

Michael Leach - November 17, 2022 at 10:50 AM

JT

“ *My thoughts and love are with you Margo and all your loving family. What I remember best of Vickie is her laughter. Jo Pepper*

Jo pepper tuepker - October 30, 2022 at 08:14 AM

ML

We'll hear that laughter with love the rest of our days, Jo. Thank you for your thoughts.

Michael Leach - November 17, 2022 at 10:51 AM