

Obituary

Teresa Vedany Kozloski

Teresa Vedany Kozloski, of Agawam, Massachusetts, a lifelong educator and devoted wife, mother and grandmother, died on January 9, 2025. She was 91.



Teresa was born October 11, 1933, in Agawam, the only child of Renzo Vedany and Chiara Ernestina Moroni. Her father emigrated from Stradella, a town in the Province of Pavia in the northern Italian region of Lombardy. He left Italy after growing alarmed by the rise of fascism there in the years after World War I, settling in western Massachusetts in the early 1920s. Chiara joined him after they met and were married during a trip Renzo made back to Italy in 1930.

Teresa's passion for education and learning spanned more than six decades and took her on travels that included Germany, Hungary and the former Yugoslavia. Her own education began in 1939, when, still primarily speaking the Stradella/Portabrez Italian dialect she learned from her parents, she began first grade at Phelps Elementary School in Agawam. She would go on to become valedictorian of Agawam High School's Class of 1951.

In 1955, Teresa graduated from American International College in Springfield with a bachelor's degree in education. In 1956, she earned a master's degree in education from New York University. Almost 40 years later, in 1994, she earned a second master's, this time in modern European history, from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

In 1956, Teresa began her career teaching business subjects, shorthand and typewriting at Longmeadow High School in Longmeadow, Mass. In 1958, she was

hired by the U.S. Army to teach high school students at the U.S. Army Dependents School in Mannheim, Germany. While living abroad she took every opportunity to travel. Included among her fascinating stories was an occasion strolling from West Berlin into East Berlin before the Wall was built and visiting the USSR at a time when few Americans did so. She began teaching at East Longmeadow High in 1960, where for several years she taught civics, U.S. history and world history.

In 1976, Teresa began more than two decades as a faculty member at Bay Path Junior College (now Bay Path University), where she became a Professor Emerita in 1999. In 1989, Teresa received a prestigious Fulbright-Hays Grant from the U.S. Department of Education to study in Yugoslavia and, again in 1993, received the same honor, this time for study in Hungary.

Teresa's greatest joy was spending time with her husband and family. She married Henry A. Kozloski on April 20, 1963, at St. John the Evangelist Church, Agawam. She met Henry while he was practice teaching at East Longmeadow High School. Teresa and Henry raised three children, Maria, Lena and Henry, in the single-story, post-war ranch they built at 102 Meadow Street in Agawam. With a generous backyard, patio and garden, for six decades their home has remained the hub of their family life. In an essay this year, their granddaughter Isabelle said that thinking of the house conjured up the warm smell of Teresa's homemade risotto mingling with the sound of Vera Lynn's "Auf Wiederseh'n" through rooms full of decades-old family photos. Isabelle called her grandparent's home

a "place where time stopped" -- where a grandchild would be enveloped in "a magical forcefield of love, history, and comfort."

Teresa took immense interest in her grandchildren's pursuits and was a large presence in their lives, from summers spent together on Cape Cod to attending piano recitals, soccer and hockey games, swim meets, and a host of school events. Her grandchildren loved sharing stories with her and adored her cooking and baking. Teresa would prepare large batches of homemade ravioli and tortellini and platters of cookies for holidays and became a finalist at the Historic Deerfield King Arthur Baking Contest in 2013 for her mother's Italian cookie recipe.

Throughout her life, Teresa was very active in her hometown of Agawam. She served 14 years on the Agawam School Committee where she was a strong advocate for professional development for teachers, honors curriculum, and Title IX. During this time, she also served on the Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MSC) Legislative Committee and Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) Sports Medicine Committee.

Teresa was dedicated to serving and contributing to her community. She volunteered on Agawam's Sesquicentennial Celebration Committee in 2005 and was a member of the Agawam Historic Commission from 2017 to 2024. In 2010, she was awarded Agawam Democrat of the year, and she received a lifetime achievement award in 2017.

In 2006, Teresa published the family history "The Loyalty of Two Brothers." The book, which began as a nine-page summary but kept growing as Teresa kept pulling at interesting historical threads, centered

DEATH NOTICE

Kozloski, Teresa Vedany
Died Jan. 9
Calling hours Jan. 15
Funeral Jan. 16
Colonial Forastiere Funeral & Cremation

on the decision by Renzo and her uncle Ferruccio to emigrate from northern Italy in 1921, during a tumultuous period in which the Stradella Fascists threatened Ferruccio's life. A key source for the material was "many Sunday afternoon conversations with my mother while drinking Italian espresso coffee," Teresa wrote in her author's note.

Characteristically, the book had an educational mission at its heart: Teresa said that "her close ties with Italian relatives and roots convinced her that an appreciation of history, including her own family's history, was invaluable in helping present and future generations to understand themselves."

Teresa is survived by her husband Henry; her three children, Maria (Lance Crist), of Bethesda, Md., Lena (Kyle Larabee), of Cambridge, Mass., and Henry (Christine Reynolds) of Otis, Mass.; and five grandchildren, Alexa Crist of Somerville, Mass.; Ray Crist of San Francisco; Tyler Crist of Bethesda; and Isabelle Larabee and Foster Larabee of Cambridge, Mass.

Calling hours for Teresa were held on Wednesday, Jan. 15 from 4 to 7 p.m. at Colonial Forastiere Funeral & Cremation, 985 Main St., Agawam, MA. A funeral service will be held on Thursday, Jan. 16 beginning at 8:45 a.m. from the funeral home, with a Liturgy of Christian Burial, to be celebrated at 10 a.m., at St. John the Evangelist Church, Agawam, MA. Interment will follow in the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Agawam, MA. In lieu of flowers, donations in Teresa's memory may be made to the Salvation Army of Massachusetts, <https://easternusa.salvationarmy.org/massachusetts/ways-to-give/>. For online condolences please visit www.forastiere.com.

Job Connection Public Notices

HELPING YOU FIND HELP

Conservation Agent

TOWN OF BLANDFORD

The Town of Blandford is seeking candidates for a part-time Conservation Agent. Candidates must have at least one year of experience in a similar role. The compensation for this 5-10 hour-a-week position is \$23.00-25.00 an hour.

A full job description with application guidelines can be found at www.townofblandford.com/job-openings/

Closing date for all applications is Friday, January 31, 2025 by 12 noon. Open until filled.

EEO/AEE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield MA, 01103
Docket No. HD21P2119PM
In the matter of:
Janice Amelia Fortunato
Of: Agawam, MA
Protected Person/Disabled Person/Respondent
CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF CONSERVATOR'S ACCOUNT

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the **Second and Final** account(s) of **Gilbert Fortunato of Feeding Hills, MA** as Conservator of the property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance.

You have the right to object to the account(s). If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **02/20/2025**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to object to the account(s). If you fail to file the written appearance and objection by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you, including the allowance of the account(s).

Additionally, within thirty days after said return day (or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family

Court. You have the right to send to the Conservator, by registered or certified mail, a written request to receive a copy of the Petition and account(s) at no cost to you.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

Witness, Hon. **Barbara M. Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: January 09, 2025x
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
01/16/2025

OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

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