



Linda Mary Kalajainen

JUL 9, 1953 - MAR 25, 2026



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Linda Mary Kalajainen

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Linda Mary Kalajainen, born on July 9, 1953 to parents Ruth and Neil Gutmann in Salida, CO. Linda moved to Dunedin, FL at the age of 5 with her family where she attended Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School and graduated from Clearwater Central Catholic High school. Linda was 16 when she met the love of her life, Chip. Chip and Linda were married on May 4, 1973 and they began a beautiful life spending more than 50 years together. Side by side they built a business (American Automatic Lawn Sprinklers) and raised their two children, Jason and Cheryl. Through the years Linda had many adventures and loved many people. She touched a countless number of lives working at AALSCO, volunteering at her children's (and grandson's) schools, helping at her son's deli, and working as a travel agent (Sail Away with LindaK). She loved her family fiercely and never stopped being a caregiver. She shared many good times through her love of cruises and Buccaneers football.

On March 25, 2026, after nearly a year long battle with cancer, Linda (age 72) went home to our Lord Jesus Christ. She was surrounded by family and love, listening to Jimmy Buffet, and holding Chip's hand.

Linda was preceded in death by her mother Ruth, her father Neil, and her brothers Dick and Bob Gutmann. She is survived by so many people she loved including her Husband, Chip Kalajainen; her brother Jim Gutmann her son, Jason Kalajainen (Lori), her daughter, Cheryl Ritzenthaler (Aaron); her grandchildren, Kaylee (Fady) and Holden; multiple nieces and nephews; her great nephews Cameron and Connor; her great grandson Geo; and her close extended family Jana Gwyn (Hunt), Martha Davis, Kathie Hardesty, Tania Reinoehl, and Tug Reinoehl.

In lieu of flowers the family requests donations in Linda's honor to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital <https://www.stjude.org/donate>



Events


Linda Mary Kalajainen

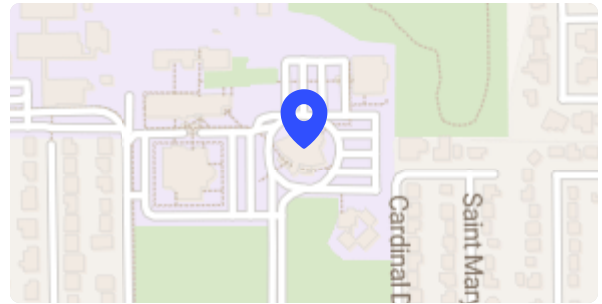
JUL 9, 1953 - MAR 25, 2026

Funeral Mass

 **Saturday**, April 18, 2026

 11:00 AM ET

 **Our Lady of Lourdes**
750 San Salvador Drive, Dunedin FL 34698





Tribute Wall

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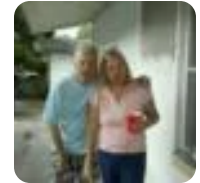
Cheryl Ritzenthaler shared 8 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.



April 16 at 10:12 PM



Cheryl Ritzenthaler shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.



April 16 at 10:10 PM



Tracy Jones posted:

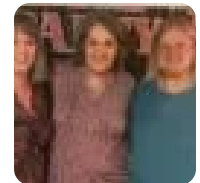
I will remember Aunt Linda for her smile and her laugh. And for the love, comfort and safety I felt when I was around her. Brian, the kids and I will miss her very much! ❤️

April 4 at 1:36 PM



Sandy Oconnll shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Rest in Peace Linda, my friend forever ❤️



April 4 at 12:25 PM



Kelle Owens posted:

I met Linda when I was 16 she always felt like a sister she would not be happy if I said like a mother. So many great memories parties luncheon jai lai and the dreaded softball team we were not very good but we tried . She was always positive and happy will miss her so much

April 3 at 6:53 PM



Media

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Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Linda by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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