



Katie Balaskas

August 1, 1922 - May 17, 2021

Katie Balaskas, nee Tobin. Women's Army Corps veteran. Beloved wife of the late Archimedes. Loving Mother of Catherine Gibbons, John Balaskas, Diane (late Richard) Balaskas, Barbara (John) Fox, Benjamin Balaskas, Paul (Jennifer) Balaskas and the late David and late Nicholas Balaskas. Dear Grandmother of Keenan (Jennifer) and Katelyn and the late Kyle Gibbons, Nicole (Matthew) Paunicka, David (Laura) Scanland, Alexandra (Mason) Day, Cassandra, Joshua, Samuel, Roxanne, Madison and Jillian Balaskas. Great grandmother of 8. Fond sister of Elaine "Tot" Mossey. Dear aunt and great aunt of many. Visitation at Foran Funeral Home, 7300 W. Archer Ave (55th street just west of Harlem) on Friday 11:30 AM until time of Celebration of Life Service at 2 PM. Entombment Resurrection Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorials to Alzheimer's Association would be appreciated.

Cemetery Details

Resurrection Cemetery Garden Mausoleum

7201 S. Archer Road
Justice, IL 60458

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 21. 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Foran Funeral Home - Summit
7300 West Archer Ave
Summit, IL 60501
(708) 458-0208
contactus@foranfuneralhome.com
<https://www.foranfuneralhome.com/>

Celebration of Life Service

MAY 21. 2:00 PM (CT)

Foran Funeral Home - Summit
7300 West Archer Ave
Summit, IL 60501
(708) 458-0208
contactus@foranfuneralhome.com
<https://www.foranfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ Foran Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Katie Balaskas



Foran Funeral Home - May 20, 2021 at 06:43 PM

JF

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



John and Barbara Fox - May 17 at 01:45 AM

JF

“ Hi Em’s, Today is the fifth anniversary of your passing! We miss you so much! Please ask Jesus to help our family, especially Cathy and Bob. I think of you often. I’m glad that you visit me in my dreams. John Fox dreams about you too. I think of you every time I hear Bob Seger ‘s “Old Time Rock and Roll” Song; your favorite! You would be 104 this coming August 1st, 2026! Dad would be 105 on June 16th! We miss you Ems! Love, Barbara and John Fox and Flock



John and Barbara Fox - May 17 at 01:36 AM

JF

5/17/2026

John and Barbara Fox - May 17 at 01:39 AM

JF

John and I met 43 years ago on May 16, 1983, at the Railroad Retirement Board.

John and Barbara Fox - May 17 at 01:48 AM

BF

“ Hi Ems, Well, It’s been 44 years yesterday since I graduated from Rosary College. May 8, 1982! Where has the time gone? You have a new great Grandson: Michael Coy Hanson, born 11/1/2025; Katelyn and Raph’s son! Little Reese is almost 5. You also have Samson and Daphne, plus another great grandchild due in August 2026! So the number of great grandchildren is going to be 13; 5 more great grandkids in 5 years! Please ask Jesus to help our family! I love you, Ems!



Barbara and John Fox - May 09 at 11:47 PM

BF

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Barbara and John Fox - August 01, 2025 at 12:40 PM

BF

From Diane with wishes for a Happy Heavenly Birthday to Mom ! ❤️🙏

Barbara and John Fox - August 01, 2025 at 12:41 PM

BF

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Barbara and John Fox - August 01, 2025 at 05:49 AM

BF

“ Barbara And John Fox lit a candle in memory of Katie Balaskas



Barbara and John Fox - August 01, 2025 at 05:46 AM

BF

“ 8/1/2025

Hi Ems, Happy 103rd. Birthday in Heaven! We miss you and think of you every day! I'm so glad that I have dreams about you which are mostly very pleasant. John Fox has dreams about you too! We treasure the great times we shared together. Please ask Jesus to help us all down here! Our country is sadly divided, where is President Eisenhower when we need him? Actually, we hope Jesus comes back soon to straighten this world out. In the meantime, we are sending intentions to lots of Catholic and Mission Churches, even to the Western Temple Wall in Jerusalem! John Fox and I have been binge watching The Chosen series about Jesus and His Apostles! We love Jesus and we love this series and we highly recommend it to anyone who happens to read this obituary! It's on Amazon Prime. It was while watching the Chosen Series, that I found out that God lead me to start calling you Eema, which is the Jewish form of Mommy, like Abba is Daddy! I started calling you that (Eema), when I was about 9 or 10 years old. And you started calling me Eva or Eba! God was and is definitely in the works! I gradually shortened it to Ems, which is my special name for you now! I love you, Mom, and John Fox loves you too! Please pass along our love to Jesus, Papa and Uncle, plus all of our deceased family and friends! Have a wonderful 103rd birthday in Heaven, and please ask God to watch over and help the Balaskas and Fox Families and our dear friends! Love you Ems, with all of our hearts! Your loving daughter and son in law, Barbara and John Fox and Flock, plus greetings from all of our siblings: Cathy, John, Diane, Ben and Paul, and their families! Happy birthday again and we miss you ! 🤔❤️🙏

Barbara and John Fox - August 01, 2025 at 05:41 AM

BF

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Barbara and John Fox - May 17, 2025 at 11:20 PM

BF

Pope Leo XIV has been Pope for 1 Year so far now! 5/8/2026

Barbara and John Fox - May 09 at 11:49 PM

BF

“ Hi “Ems”, You left us 4 years ago today! We have a Pope from Chicago, Pope Leo XIV! It's hard to believe it's been 4 years! Since you passed away, you have gained 3 more great grandchildren and God willing, another one on the way in October 2025. Our new additions are Reese, Samson and Daphne, who join Hailey, Calla, Kyle, Bryce G., Bryce T., Charlotte, Abigail, and Cora. We miss you, Mom, more than ever! We love you with all of our hearts! Barbara, John and Flock



Barbara and John Fox - May 17, 2025 at 10:40 PM

BF

5 17 2025

Barbara and John Fox - May 17, 2025 at 10:41 PM

BF

“ Hi “Ems”, Today you would have been 102! I miss you so much! Please ask Jesus to help this country! We are so sharply divided and anything goes nowadays! Anyone reading this, please pray for our country! I hope you have a very happy birthday in Heaven! Please ask Jesus to bless Diane, Reese, Lisa on their birthdays tomorrow, and Sammy and Kelsey on their wedding day tomorrow as well! You have another new great grandchild: Daphne Noelle. So that brings your total to 11 great grandkids: Hailey, Calla, Kyle, Bryce G., Bryce T., Charlotte, Abigail, Cora, Reese, Samson, and Daphne. We had a good time at the reunion at Larry and Pam’s house on July 20th., 2024. The descendants of Mable and Ben Tobin keep increasing! We love you Mom (“Ems”)! I miss you every day! Love you and Happy 102nd birthday! Your loving daughter, Barbara (and John) Fox!



Barbara Fox - August 01, 2024 at 08:29 AM

BF

“ Hi arms, Now Aunt Tot has come to join the Tobin girls in Heaven. Every day I miss you, Mom. Please give our love to all! I am always happy to dream about seeing you and talking to you! You would have been 101 years old this past August 1st 2023. We love you! Please ask Jesus to help our family and friends! Thanks, Ems! We love you!

Barbara and John Fox - November 02, 2023 at 09:59 PM

BF

I meant “Hi Ems!” The spell check corrected my special name for you!

Barbara and John Fox - November 02, 2023 at 10:01 PM

JF

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



John and Barbara Fox - August 02, 2022 at 11:50 AM

JF

8/1/2015 Mom and Diane on Mom's 93rd birthday.

John and Barbara Fox - August 02, 2022 at 11:54 AM

JF

“ Dear Mom,

Today is your 100th birthday! We know that you are celebrating it in Heaven. I miss you so much here! So does John Fox and the rest of the Balaskas family! Please tell all of our loved ones hello from us. We stopped by your gravesite yesterday to wish you a happy 100 and to remember the good times. Janette misses you too. We love you, Mom! Please ask Jesus to watch over all of us. We wish that you could have been with us to celebrate your 100th birthday on earth, but we knew that your quality of life had decreased and it was right for God to take you home. Happy birthday, Ems! I love you and miss you very much! Love, Barbara, John and Flock, and the entire Balaskas Family



John and Barbara Fox - August 01, 2022 at 09:25 AM

JF

“ *John And Barbara Fox lit a candle in memory of Katie Balaskas*



John and Barbara Fox - June 06, 2022 at 04:02 PM

JF

John and Barbara Fox

John and Barbara Fox - June 06, 2022 at 04:03 PM

JF

“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



John Fox - June 06, 2022 at 03:58 PM

BF

“ Hi Mom,

We know that you are up in Heaven, with Jesus, Dad, Nick, David and Kyle, plus all of our deceased friends and relatives! We hope that you are having fun with Aunt Maribel, Aunt Betty, and your dear friends Mary Grudzien, Grace Tupper and Emily Gutschick. We love you with all of our hearts and we miss you greatly on the one year anniversary of your passing! Since then, God has sent us two new little ones to enrich our lives: Reese Gibbons and Samson Day, your ninth and tenth great grandchildren! I love you, Ems! Miss you every day!

Love, your daughter, Barbara and son-in-law, John Fox, along with Cathy, Bob, John B., Diane, Benjamin, Paul, Jennifer and all of your grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Barbara and John Fox - May 17, 2022 at 03:00 PM

JB

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



John Barbara - June 29, 2021 at 05:55 PM

JB

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



John Barbara - June 29, 2021 at 05:50 PM

JF

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



John and Barbara Fox - June 29, 2021 at 12:14 PM

JF

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



John and Barbara Fox - June 29, 2021 at 12:12 PM

JF

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



John and Barbara Fox - June 29, 2021 at 12:06 PM

JF

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



John and Barbara Fox - June 29, 2021 at 12:05 PM

JF

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



John and Barbara Fox - June 29, 2021 at 12:03 PM

JF

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



John and Barbara Fox - June 29, 2021 at 12:02 PM

BF

Barbara's Surprise 50th b-day celebration

Barbara Fox - July 26, 2021 at 02:30 PM

BF

*Cathy, Ben, John, Paul
Katie, Barbara, Diane*

Barbara Fox - July 26, 2021 at 02:35 PM

BF

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Balaskas Family - June 19, 2021 at 10:47 PM

JF

Mary Belle and Katie, ca 1940

John and Barbara Fox - June 21, 2021 at 10:20 AM

JS

“ Barbara, thank you for sharing your mom with me! I will have fond memories of her wisdom and sense of humor as a mother of a large family. What a shining light! Barbara and John, and all the family, our deepest condolences.

Julie Pech Skokna and Family

Julie Skokna - May 21, 2021 at 12:05 PM



“ 154 files added to the album Life Tributes



Foran Funeral Home - May 20, 2021 at 06:38 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Katie Balaskas.*



May 20, 2021 at 04:56 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Graceanne Hartman - May 19, 2021 at 06:50 PM



“ *She will be remembered lovingly by us all. purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Katie Balaskas.*



She will be remembered lovingly by us all. - May 19, 2021 at 06:25 PM



“ *3 files added to the album Memories Album*



Graceanne Hartman - May 19, 2021 at 05:03 PM

LF

“ *Lila Felton purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Katie Balaskas.*



Lila Felton - May 19, 2021 at 01:53 PM

JF

“ *Barb and John*

I am so very sorry for your loss. You were so blessed to have your wonderful mom with you for so long. My prayers and thoughts are with you

*Love you
Judy*

judy falesch - May 19, 2021 at 01:15 PM

IF

“ *Barbara and John,*

We are so sorry for your loss. My thoughts are with you and your family. I hope you feel surrounded by much love.

Isaiah

isaiah forres - May 19, 2021 at 01:07 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Katie Balaskas.



May 19, 2021 at 12:51 PM



“ With Deepest Sympathy and Prayer. Grateful for her Wartime Service to our Country.
Matt Carlyle

Matt Carlyle - May 19, 2021 at 12:44 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Katie Balaskas.



May 19, 2021 at 11:41 AM



“ The Nowak family. Val, Mary Lou, Pete, Anna & Chris purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of Katie Balaskas.



The Nowak family. Val, Mary Lou, Pete, Anna & Chris - May 19, 2021 at 11:14 AM

CM

“ I offer my sincere sympathy to the family on your loss. Katie's kindness and warmth was special. She made friends quickly and treated everyone like they were part of her family. I admired the special love she held for her family and how she valued hard work, honesty, and friendship. I recall with fondness how she enjoyed the 5th Avenue Band and the outdoor parties and gigs. Katie occasionally would get out on the dance floor despite her age and have a great time.

Carol Marcus - May 19, 2021 at 10:58 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Katie Balaskas.



May 19, 2021 at 04:41 AM



“ Divine Light was purchased for the family of Katie Balaskas.



May 18, 2021 at 08:59 PM

BH

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Benita Harrison-Wickline - May 18, 2021 at 08:52 PM

BH

One beautiful lady, inside and out. Condolences to her family. She was one of a kind. XO Ce

Benita Harrison-Wickline - May 18, 2021 at 08:53 PM

PD

Sending prayers and condolences, I have many special memories of Mrs. B, growing up and being at the Balaskas home. She was a very sweet lady. May she Rest In Peace 🙏

Pat Panico Dobkowski - May 19, 2021 at 12:53 PM

MJ

My prayers go out to the entire Balaskas family and extended family. I have very little family but always felt accepted into the Balaskas family with open arms. It has been difficult many during this Covid ara but my fond memories will continue. Katie always had a loving smile on her face, gentle to all who came in contact with her over the years.

Michael Lee Johnson - May 19, 2021 at 05:43 PM

BF

Thank you to all of the family and friends who added comments to this page, contributed pictures, sent flowers and/or came to the visitation, funeral and our Mother's celebration of Life. You have all been a great source of comfort to us through these difficult times. Family members will be sending out acknowledgments of our thanks. Sincerely, Barbara and John (Balaskas) Fox on behalf of Cathy, John, Diane, Ben, Paul and Jen, and the entire Balaskas family.

Balaskas Family - May 26, 2021 at 01:35 PM

BH

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Benita Harrison-Wickline - May 18, 2021 at 08:51 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Katie Balaskas.



May 18, 2021 at 08:01 PM

DD

“ As a child we grew up next-door to the Balaska's family auntie Katie was one of the sweetest women I knew and I know she was an awesome mother she will be greatly missed by her family and friends God bless your family during these difficult times 🙏❤️



Donna Daliege-Davis - May 18, 2021 at 06:52 PM