

A Tribute to Betty

Anyone who ever had the good fortune to know Betty Demeo knew they had someone special in their lives.

Betty was a warm presence at National Westminster Bank on Main Street in Port Washington, the name Westminster so fittingly associated with her beloved homeland of England. She was an expert at preparing meals for the scores that would drop by with little or no notice, and her Thanksgiving dinners were legendary. Her laugh was strong and infectious. Her love for her husband, children and extended family and neighbors was unwavering. She was a devoted wife, a caring mother and the absolute best Nana any grandchild could hope for. Her thank you cards were thorough, timely, and sincere in their appreciation. She never sought praise when she deserved it, or sympathy when she was ill. Her greatest joy was simply to be among those she loved and cared for so much. She commanded an unbreakable strength of spirit and humility.

How notable it is that she passed away the same week as another notable resident of Port Washington, the great Perry Como. Both were known for their grace, congeniality and ability to capture the affection of all those that touched them. Both radiated charm and dispensed goodwill, and showed us all the definition of class.

Though we all take comfort in the fact that her suffering is ended, we will forever live with the void that her passing has left. On the day we said goodbye, the clouds parted as though the curtains to heaven opened to kneel down and welcome her. The community that she served, loved and raised a family in paid homage to a dear friend, a good neighbor, and someone who will forever hold a place in our beguiled and broken hearts.



This tribute was written July 1, 2001, on the side porch facing the "Betty" tree.