



## Sophia Saliwonczyk

February 16, 1933 - September 19, 2020

Sophia Saliwonczyk, age 87 of Crown Point, IN passed away peacefully on September 19, 2020. She was born in Gary, IN. She retired from Chase Bank, formally Gary National Bank, and a graduate of Horace Mann High School, class of 1951, graduated from the AM Institute of Banking, Yvonne Modeling School, Member of St. Sava Serbian Orthodox church, Serbian Sisters alumni, Kolo Sisters Circle, Karageorge choir and King Peter Insurance. Her husband of 32 years, John Saliwonczyk preceded her in death along with parents Risto and Gospava Sekerez, bothers Momir and Zarko, sister Momirka, and grandson Austin Straten.

She is survived by her two loving daughters, Lisa Walker Straten, Lori Pittman (Jeff); three loving sons Gregory (Becky), Michael, and Nicholas (Beth) Saliwonczyk. Beloved grandchildren, Johnny Pittman (Lara), Sara Pittman Marks (Mason), Nolan Pittman, Jackson Saliwonczyk, Nicolette and Jason Saliwonczyk, Ryan, Royce, and Tyler Walker; Brett Straten; Sasha Saliwonczyk and Lauren Zurbriggen (Carl). Great Grandchildren, Mila Pittman and Scarlett Zurbriggen; Sister-in-law Nancy Pachapa and Angie Saliwonczyk and many nieces, nephews, and dear friends.

She leaves all her children and grandchildren with the knowledge that they were truly loved. She loved her family more than anything, always said that she was a rich woman as long as she had her family around her, and she was indeed surrounded by all of us as she peacefully passed away. She enjoyed baking and cooking, gardening, and attending any weed or fallen branch

outside, she was famously known for her “nut rolls”- she made the Best nut rolls. She will be remembered for her dedication and hard work and especially for her baking. She lost the love of her life, John at 59 years old, was lucky to be with him for 32 years.

She will be dearly missed; may her memory be eternal.

Visitation, Thursday, September 24, 2020 from 3-9 pm with Pomen service at 7 p.m.at Burns Funeral Home, 10101 Broadway, Crown Point. Funeral Services will be held Friday, September 25, 2020 at 10:00 am DIRECTLY at St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church, 9191 Mississippi St, Merrillville. Interment at Calumet Park Cemetery. [www.burnsfuneral.com](http://www.burnsfuneral.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Calumet Park Cemetery

2305 W. 73rd Ave.  
Merrillville, IN 46410

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **24.** 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM (CT)

Burns Funeral Home & Crematory - Crown Point  
10101 Broadway  
Crown Point, IN 46307  
(219) 769-0044  
info@burnsfuneral.com  
<https://www.burnsfuneral.com/>

## funeral

SEP **25.** 10:00 AM (CT)

St Sava Serbian Orthodox Church  
9191 Mississippi St  
Merrillville, IN 46410

# Tribute Wall



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Sophia Saliwonczyk.



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September 24, 2020 at 12:48 PM



“ Sophie was a great woman, who will be greatly missed. When I learned to make nut roll, she was my help line for assistance. My deepest condolences to her family 💕💕

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**Kathy** - September 23, 2020 at 10:07 PM



“ I am heart broken. I have known Sophia for 43 years. I worked with her at Gary National Bank-now Chase. She made working fun. She helped my daughter when she needed nut roll tips. We called her Betty Crocker for all her cooking & baking from scratch. She will be missed. Love you Sophie.



*Gloria Smederovac*

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**Gloria Smederovac** - September 23, 2020 at 08:49 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sophia Saliwonczyk.*



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September 23, 2020 at 08:23 PM



“ *In loving memory of a wonderful person. Sophia & John's cooking and hospitality when we visited will be remembered and treasured. Our deepest condolences to the family.*

*Stan & Bev Saliwonchyk and family*

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**STANFORD SALIWONCHYK** - September 23, 2020 at 06:41 PM



“ *Dear Cousins  
Please accept our sincere condolences .  
Your beloved mother set an example of love and you showed your love for her by being with her in her last moments. I will always remember being honored to be a Junior Bridesmaid at Sophie and John's wedding.  
When I spoke with cousin Sophie she would always throw some Serbian expressions into the conversation and end on a positive note.  
May her Memory be Eternal!  
Love Cousin Zorine and Family*



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**Zorine Sokolovic** - September 23, 2020 at 04:45 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Sophia Saliwonczyk.*



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September 23, 2020 at 11:43 AM



“ *The Pittmans & Biesen families purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Sophia Saliwonczyk.*



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**The Pittmans & Biesen families** - September 23, 2020 at 10:22 AM



“ *A New Sunrise Spray was purchased for the family of Sophia Saliwonczyk.*



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September 23, 2020 at 08:43 AM



“ *There has been much written about Sophia's nut loaf but I better remember a corn beef dinner she served me some 50 years ago.*

*Sincerest sympathies and condolences to the family.*

*Ed Saliwonchyk*

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**Ed Saliwonchyk** - September 23, 2020 at 07:24 AM

KF

“ Sweet Aunt Sophie you will be dearly missed. I will treasure some of the conversations we have had over the years. Keep baking that nut roll up in heaven. RIP ❤️



Karen Fife - September 22, 2020 at 06:05 PM

FS

“ From Bill Struble purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Sophia Saliwonczyk.



From Bill Struble - September 22, 2020 at 03:59 PM



“ Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Sophia Saliwonczyk.



September 22, 2020 at 10:30 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sophia Saliwonczyk.



September 22, 2020 at 09:34 AM