



Mineko Abbatoy

February 6, 1932 - December 12, 2025

December 12, 2025 of Attica, NY.

Beloved wife of 71 years to John W. Abbatoy; loving mother of the late Dale Abbatoy, Gayle Abbatoy, and Amy (Rodney) Burns; cherished grandmother of John (Stephanie), Kathleen (Alex), Ashleigh (Christopher), Chelsea (Andrew), Robert (Alexis), Patrick John "PJ" (Briana), Ryan, and Colton; great grandmother of Kyla, Kinley, Karoline, and Brooks; predeceased by 3 sisters and 3 brothers; also survived by fur companion Masako, "Heckle & Jeckle", many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Mineko created the Japanese Women's Group of Buffalo and taught the Silver Sneakers Club at Golds Gym in Cheektowaga. She was very compassionate, loving and enjoyed educating others. The family will be present to receive relatives and friends on Tuesday December 16th from 3-7PM at the DANIEL R. SMOLAREK FUNERAL HOME, 2510 Union Rd., Cheektowaga (two blocks south of William St.). A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Wednesday at 9:30AM in St Gabriel's R.C. Church, 5271 Clinton St., Elma. Please assemble at church. Private interment in WNY National Cemetery. Please leave condolences online at www.SmolarekCares.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 16. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (est)

Daniel R. Smolarek Funeral Home - Cheektowaga
2510 Union Road
Cheektowaga, NY 14227

Mass of Christian Burial

DEC 17. 9:30 AM (est)

St. Gabriel's RC Church
5271 Clinton Street
Elma, NY 14059

Please Assemble at Church

Tribute Wall



“ *Dear Mineko-san and to her family
I am very sorry for your loss. Truly, your life
was a blessing and your memory a treasure.
May you rest in peace.
Forever in our Hearts,
Lime Oguri*



?? ?? - December 27, 2025 at 08:41 PM

“ *Baba...*

*My Obaasan, Mineko—
but to all of us children who adored her,
she became Baba—
a tiny name for a tiny woman
who grew into the mightiest thing we knew.
A name that has always meant
love,
comfort,
home.*

*Baba's presence would bend the room—
not with volume,
but with certainty.
With warmth.
With that sharp, delicious humor
that could slice through a heavy day
and make it light again.*

*When I look at her in that big chair,
I see exactly who she always was—
tiny body, royal air,
like the throne itself was grateful she was sitting there.
She didn't pose.
She didn't try.
She was simply the kind of woman
rooms hush for,
time bows to.*

*Nearly one hundred years,
and still sharper than anyone I know—
spunky, blunt in the most delicious way,
funny enough to break me open laughing,
loving enough to gather our whole family
with just one glance.*

*She danced through life
the way some people breathe—
effortless, joyful,
as if rhythm were stitched into her bones.
She'd pull me close,
moving with a brightness
I could never quite match—
her feet faster than mine,
her spirit brighter than any song.*

*It felt like rhythm lived under her ribs.
Like time didn't dare to touch her.*

*She was my strength,
my softness,
my favorite kind of magic.
My heart learned how to love
by watching her live.*

*And now, as my heart trembles
under the weight of loving her so deeply,
I finally understand:
I was raised
by a soft woman with a steel core,
by a tiny body carrying galaxies,
by someone who taught me
that strength does not need to be loud
to be unforgettable.*

*We are grateful for every laugh,
every lesson,
every quiet piece of strength
she placed inside us.*

*Her name is Mineko.
She is Obaasan.
She is Baba—*

*the heartbeat of our home,
the crown in our bloodline.*

*She is our tiny queen, Baba.
Our heart's first safe place.
Our home.*

*And she will always be—
the heart of our family.*

*And her legacy will continue—
in her children, her grandchildren,
her great-grandchildren,
and every life she touched for the better.*

*Rest peacefully Queen.
We love you forever.*

- Beanie



Kathleen Abbatoy - December 17, 2025 at 02:13 PM

KA

“ *Dancing with you was always my favorite.. even if I couldn't keep up with you* 💜💜💜💜



Kathleen Abbatoy - December 15, 2025 at 10:24 PM

KA

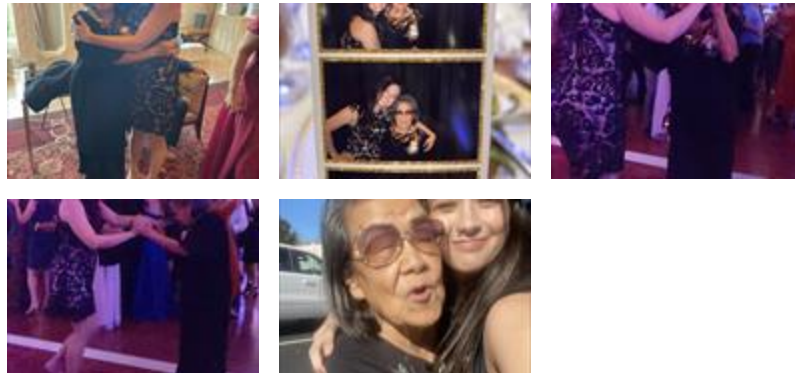
“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Kathleen Abbatoy - December 15, 2025 at 10:20 PM

KA

“ I love you forever and I miss You so Much already. Still doesn't seem real. I'm thankful for every moment, memory and lesson I learned from you. Your legacy will live on forever💜 beanie



Kathleen Abbatoy - December 15, 2025 at 10:15 PM

KA

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Kathleen Abbatoy - December 15, 2025 at 10:09 PM

GA

The Queen of Our Family, led by pure Grace and Integrity

Gayle - December 22, 2025 at 10:41 AM

KA

“ *Her name is Mineko.
and you’ve always been our Obaasan —
but you became “Baba,”
and that name has always meant
love,
comfort,
home.*

Our tiny queen.

*In that large chair,
she looks exactly as we’ve always seen her —
radiant, dignified, gentle,
a woman who carried a whole family
with humor, love, and quiet resilience.*

*She danced through life
with a joy none of us could quite keep up with,
her spirit always brighter,
always lighter,
always leading the way.*

*We are grateful for every laugh,
every lesson,
every soft piece of strength
she placed in us.*

*Baba is — and always will be —
the heart of our family.*



Kathleen Abbatoy - December 15, 2025 at 10:06 PM

DJ

“ Danielle & Jason purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Mineko Abbatoy.



Danielle & Jason - December 15, 2025 at 10:18 AM



“ Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of Mineko Abbatoy.



December 15, 2025 at 07:53 AM

TP

“ The Pawlicki's purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mineko Abbatoy.



The Pawlicki's - December 15, 2025 at 06:52 AM

TP

“ The Pawlicki's planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mineko Abbatoy.

The Pawlicki's - December 15, 2025 at 06:52 AM

MD

“ Michelle & William Danner purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mineko Abbatoy.



Michelle & William Danner - December 14, 2025 at 03:43 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mineko Abbatoy.



December 14, 2025 at 09:06 AM

YA

“ Yoshihiro and Setsue Asai planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mineko Abbatoy.

Yoshihiro and Setsue Asai - December 14, 2025 at 09:06 AM

KT

“ Kaylee Taylor purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Mineko Abbatoy.



Kaylee Taylor - December 13, 2025 at 05:12 PM