



Mrs. Darlene Marie Rice Royal

October 25, 1952 - December 3, 2021

Darlene Marie Rice Royal, 69, of Valrico, Florida, born in Miami on October 25, 1952, entered into eternal rest on December 3, 2021. She enjoyed the beach, fishing, gardening, and butterflies, and was an avid Bucs fan. She is survived by son, David Stickney (Heather); grandsons, David, Caleb, and Mason; longtime partner, Mike; niece, Trista; siblings, Dolores, Joyce, Carole, and Debbie; and many other nieces, nephews, family, and friends.

Expressions of condolence at [HopewellFuneral.com](https://www.hopewellfuneral.com).

Tribute Wall

JF

“*Darlene was an amazing woman. She was neighbors with my Aunt Donna and Uncle David Ingemanson in Valrico. I only met Darlene once, it was during the time my Aunt was in hospice, but it was like I had known her my whole life. She had the most beautiful smile. She helped my Aunt a great deal, even taking her to a Trump rally. She will be missed .*

Jill Frankum - July 13, 2022 at 02:21 PM

TL

“*So sad to hear of Darlene's passing. She was so kind to our Scotty, but that's the kind of person she was. Our condolences to her family and friends. Beverly, Larry and Scott LaPointe, Wildwood Hollow neighbors.*



The LaPointe's - January 21, 2022 at 03:25 PM

JR

“*Darlene was the love of my life. Even though we were only legally married for 10 years, we never terminated the relationship. She chose to divorce me, even to the day when the judge gave her the option to reconsider. She had 2 residences, in Valrio and in Brandon. she was actually here more hours of the week than there, except for the last month of her life when she chose to care for her invalid sister. When I was recuperating from transplant surgery, she stayed with me and cared for me for an entire month. We were a couple who loved each dearly, the exact opposite of your typical divorced couple. She was my best friend and the one person in my life I trusted above all others. Besides the time immediately following our separation, I spoke to her every day for 30+ years. My heart is shattered, beyond repair or rehabilitation.*

james royal - December 17, 2021 at 01:15 PM

DE

“ *Our condolences to Mike and family.*

Derek and Irene Rotolo

Derek - December 16, 2021 at 09:25 AM

DR

“ 🌻❤️ *I love you Sissy*

Debra Rice - December 16, 2021 at 12:02 AM