



Rosalie (Tutela) Ryan Eliades Obituary

Rosalie (Tutela) Ryan Eliades, 87, of Haverhill, MA, passed away peacefully on July 7, 2025, at Anna Jaques Hospital in Newburyport, surrounded by her loved ones.

Born on February 2, 1938, in East Boston, Rosalie was the beloved daughter of the late Richard and Vincenza “Jennie” Tutela. A proud graduate of East Boston High School, Class of 1955, she began her college education at UMass Amherst but returned home due to family obligations. Years later, after raising her five children, Rosalie returned to her academic pursuits, earning a Bachelor’s degree in English, magna cum laude, from Salem State College in 1977, followed by a Master’s degree in English from Boston College. She also held Massachusetts teaching certifications in English and History.

Rosalie had a rich and varied professional life. She worked with distinction at several organizations, including Harvard University’s Development/Stewardship Office, the Interfaith Hunger Appeal, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, the American Heart Association, and Salem State College’s Career Planning and Placement Center. However, her greatest joy came from teaching as an adjunct professor at local colleges and universities—most recently at Merrimack College—where she inspired students with her love of language and ideas.

Rosalie was a lifelong learner and an active member of her community. She belonged to the Italian Genealogical Society of America and the Haverhill Democratic Party. She will be remembered for her sharp intellect, quick wit, deep faith, and abiding love for her family and friends.

She was predeceased by her first husband, Edward G. Ryan, Sr., in 1997, and by her beloved sister, Evelyn Tutela Young.

Rosalie is survived by her devoted husband of 27 years, Stephen Tracy Eliades of Haverhill; her five children: Matthew R. Ryan and his partner Christine Osekoski of Bedford, NY; Cynthia M. Ryan and her partner Michael Dirkes of Newbury, MA; Edward G. Ryan, Jr. of Nashua, NH; Jennifer Ryan Safsel and her husband Paul of Pelham Manor, NY; and Michael J. Ryan and his wife Maureen of Dover, NH.

She also leaves behind her cherished grandchildren: Jennifer Turner, Paul Turner II, Cassandra Kiley Behrendsen and her husband Chris, Rebecca Ryan Curry and her husband Connor, Kelsey Ryan, Leigh Ellen Ryan Magalei and her husband Tyler, Steven Ryan, Daniel Safsel, and Bennett Safsel; and great-grandchildren: Jacob, Isabelle, Eli, Ellie, Sydney, Leo, Callen, and Theo—as well as many loving nieces and nephews.

Family and friends are warmly invited to calling hours on Friday, July 11th, from 4:00 to 6:00 PM at H.L. Farmer & Sons Funeral Home, 106 Summer Street, Haverhill. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday at 12:00 noon at Sacred Heart Church, 165 South Main Street, Haverhill, followed by interment at Westlawn Cemetery, Littleton, MA.

In lieu of flowers, the family will be establishing a college scholarship fund in Rosalie Tutela Ryan Eliades honor for East Boston students to honor Rosalie's generous spirit and lifelong commitment to helping others. Please send an email to her daughter Jennifer Ryan Safsel at jryansafsel@gmail.com if you would like information on how to donate in the future.

To share a memory or offer condolences, please visit www.farmerfuneralhomes.com