

Florence Hendrickson, beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, nurse, and friend, passed away peacefully on March 9, 2025, at the age of 86.

Born on July 31, 1938, in Brooklyn, New York, Florence (née Salvante) spent her early years in Bay Shore, NY before making a life-changing move in 1968 to New Mexico—a place she instantly loved and never wanted to leave.

Florence devoted her professional life to caring for others. She worked as a registered nurse and later as a director of nurses, leading with compassion, strength, and an unwavering sense of responsibility. Even after retirement, her heart for service never slowed—she volunteered for many years with Healthcare for the Homeless, giving her time and skills to those most in need.

Faith was a guiding force in her life. Florence was deeply involved with her church, serving on the board for many years, including time as chair, where her warmth and leadership helped shape her community.

At home, Florence was happiest surrounded by family. Thanksgiving was her favorite holiday, and she delighted in gathering everyone together year after year around her table. She cherished her three sons, four grandchildren, and one great-grandson, all of whom survive her, and who carry her love forward.

Florence was also a woman of quiet joys and creative spirit. She loved to sew, always ready to mend or alter clothes for family and friends, and she spent countless hours beading—her supplies always at hand by the couch. A devoted reader, she enjoyed romance novels, but her favorite author was Richard Bach, whose *Jonathan Livingston Seagull* reflected her own belief in hope, freedom, and possibility.

Florence's life was one of devotion—to her family, her patients, her community, and her faith. She gave generously of herself, leaving behind a legacy of love, strength, and care.

She will be dearly missed and forever remembered.