

Mom was a strong woman, and we are a family of strong women, it was jokingly said by one of the new young men to the family that anyone marrying into this family needed to understand that "women rule" in this matriarchal family!

It was important to her that as women we have the skills and ability to support our selves and our children as the need arises.

We must also say that these strong women marry exceptional men, who are not afraid of the challenge as we forge ahead, following Gramma in our paths of education, career, family responsibility and supporting us during the valleys in life

As I look around the family, I see so many of Bernadette's values playing out in their lives today.

We are grateful for a life well and a legacy of faith, commitment and support. We say goodbye to Gramma Bernadette, but we know that her faith will live on in us and our children.

To give tribute to the values Gramma Bernadette has given us we will pray.

"Beneath the Mantle of your Mercy we take refuge, O Virgin mother of God. Do not disdain our prayers in times of need, but deliver us from every danger, O holy Pure and Blessed one."