



Anabela Costa Ferreira

March 22, 1954 - September 4, 2026

Newport, Rhode Island

Anabela Costa Ferreira died in Newport on September 4, 2026. She was seventy-two. Born there on March 22, 1954, to parents who had come from the Azores by way of a long patience, she grew up in a city that still had rooms at the edges and mansions in the middle. She learned English at school and a second set of manners at the table. She never treated either language as a costume.

She spent nineteen years making beds in hotels that did not look like the brochures, later keeping the night desk for people who arrived late from the ferry with a child asleep in the back seat. She kept extra blankets without putting a note on the counter about generosity. When a storm closed the bridge she made coffee until the urn complained. Later she sold sandwiches at a park concession and treated a long line of tourists as weather you could live with if you kept moving.

She married Ruben Ferreira in 1976. They raised a daughter in a bungalow that needed a new roof more often than the budget admitted. Ruben worked the waterfront. Anabela packed lunches that could survive a climb in wind. After he died in 2016 she kept his chair for a year and then gave it to a nephew who needed a place to do homework.

Neighbors remember a woman who would jump a battery in the lot at dusk, who knew which intern needed a second explanation of the register, and who could hear a rice pot without looking. She loved the first fog on the cliff, a linguica sandwich on a Saturday, and the particular quiet after the last key was returned. She died in Newport, in thin air she had always preferred to a heavy heat. The desk is someone else's now. The patience she practiced there is harder to replace than a vacancy sign.

Services

A funeral Mass in Newport. The family welcomes a favorite hymn and a gift to a hospitality-workers' fund.

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