

## Ramona's Legacy

My Grandma Ramona was a dancer. She was a skilled and highly acclaimed dancer who opened three studios before she turned twenty years old. She performed with famous choreographers and dancers in New York, Chicago, and Cleveland. Most important to her legacy was the fact that she taught hundreds of young girls and boys how to dance. She used her intellect, experience, and power to teach kids ages 3 to 18 how to hold themselves in perfect posture, shoulders back and feet turned out. I was luckily one of these little dancers. For 11 years, I went to ballet, jazz, and tap class to learn from the best in town, my grandmother. I loved the art of dance, but I loved performing for my grandmother the most.

As time went on, Ramona aged gracefully. She never lost her wit or love for dance, family, and beauty. She sold her studio to her daughter but would guest-teach whenever she could. She never missed a recital or showcase. My grandma lived in a nursing home for two years.

Whenever we would visit her, she would take us into the common area and teach us the basics of ballet, along with a couple of new dance moves. She would absolutely light up when she talked about dance; she was so full of pride and so passionate that it radiated off her aging and beautiful face.

This past summer, Ramona suddenly died at the age of 90. As I stood at the funeral mass in sorrow, I looked down at my feet. They were in fourth position, turned out like a dancer, like my grandma would have wanted.