



Dolores L. Calenda

August 18, 1929 - June 18, 2020

UTICA/FRANKFORT - Dolores L. Calenda, age 90, went home to the Lord on Thursday, June 18, 2020 with those she loved most in her heart.

Born in Utica on August 18, 1929, Dolores was the daughter of the late Anthony and Lucy (DeMartino) Calenda. After her father's passing, her mother married Salvatore "Sammy Lou" Chippoletti, and he showed his love and guidance to Dolores and her sister. She was a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School/Class of 1947 and was noted as being the "Best Dressed" of her graduating class.

Dolores was employed as a Bookkeeper at the YMCA and concurrently held a position at Carmen's Pharmacy greeting patrons with style and grace. She subsequently was employed by Garro's Pharmacy where she made many wonderful friendships. Dolores was a devoted daughter, wonderful sister, and terrific aunt. Although she was reserved, her heart spoke volumes through her generosity and kindness. Her physical presentation was impeccable, and she loved to shop. She tended to the landscaping around her home with meticulous attention, planting flowers and maintaining the lawn with much pride. She was hardworking on a professional and personal level. The relationship she shared with her nephew, Franny was so special to her from the moment she laid eyes on him. She had a natural affinity for her two late canine companions, "Inky" and "Brandy". She lived by the motto of being true to her word, her work, and her family and friends. She was baptized into the Catholic faith by Mary Longo and she was a parishioner of St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish.

Dolores is survived by her devoted sister and her husband, Katherine and Francis C. Congelo, Sr.; her nephew, Fran Congelo; aunts, Nancy DeMartino, and Gloria Loiacano; and cousins. She leaves her extended family, Jamie Pullman with whom she shared a great closeness; Deana Grippe who was a great comfort to Dolores, and her neighbors Jane and Peaches. She was predeceased by her step-brother, James Chippoletti.

The family is grateful to the nurses and staff of the 4th Floor at the Foltsbrook Center for Nursing & Rehabilitation, all who provided compassionate care and wonderful nourishment. The family will always remember the kindnesses of Jason and Amanda whose efforts and dedication were most memorable; and Fr. Paul Catena for his blessing and spiritual solace.

The family will celebrate Dolores' life and attend her Mass of Christian Burial privately at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish. Donations in memory of Dolores may be directed to the Activities Department of the Foltsbrook Center for Nursing & Rehabilitation by mail to 104 N. Washington St., Herkimer, NY 13350 or online at www.foltsbrook.com. Entombment will take place in Resurrection Chapel Mausoleum in Holy Trinity Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

"Dolores, may the Lord hold you in the palm of his hands."

Cemetery

Resurrection Chapel Mausoleum

Champlin Ave.

Utica, NY, 13501

Comments



“ On behalf of the Mazzotta family I want to extend our heartfelt condolences and sadness to hear of Dolores passing. Dolores was so wonderful to me and all my siblings and we thought of her as family. Her years working with my Dad and Mom at our family run, Carm's Pharmacy and then Garro's were so very special. Her wonderful personality and dedication to our family business was a light in our life. Dolores and I shared a very special relationship. I absolutely loved to work with her and follow her around while she was running our cosmetics and jewelry department and I was always in awe of how she merchandised our cases, ordered product and arranged gifts for holiday.

I was always in awe of her fashion which was always impeccable. So much so she actually helped give me my love for fashion. As a matter of fact, she influenced me to go to fashion school and after that I had a very successful 24 years in cosmetics and fragrance with Elizabeth Arden. She was like an Aunt to me and I would call her Zia Dolores, she would take me to dinner and to the movies and I remember fondly her Mom. Thank you Dolores for loving us and all that you gave to the Mazzotta family. I hope you see Carm and Lillian in heaven and you shine your light on all us Mazzotta's still. My very best to Kathy and Frances and all her loved ones.

With much love and prayers,
Mary Beth and the Mazzotta Family

Mary Beth Mazzotta - June 24, 2020 at 04:38 PM



“ Kathy and family. We are so very sorry for your loss. We have many fond memories of Dolores from years past. She was a wonderful lady. Please accept our sincere sympathy to all of you at this time.

Butch and Kathy Ventura

Ercole Ventura - June 23, 2020 at 11:49 AM



“ Kathy and Franny
So sorry to hear of Delores's passing. She is now with your mom and her dog, happy and free.

Maryann Conigliaro - June 21, 2020 at 08:34 AM



“ Dear Kathy, Fran and family, so sorry to hear of Dolores' passing. When I did visit her, and when Lucy was there too, she was always so gracious. Always made you feel welcome and at home. She was always meticulous in her appearance and in her home as well. I will always treasure the gifts she brought me for my new home. She's at peace now!!.....Love Gloria Lombardo



Gloria Lombardo - June 20, 2020 at 11:32 PM



“ Kathy and Francis so very sorry Dolores has passed on. Last visit was at her home with Jamie maybe 10 years. She was a great asset to my pharmacy but more so as a friend and confident. Her advice on personal issues remain with me to this day. My daughter Alisha adored her and was saddened that Dolores was gone. As a teen Alisha was helped many times by Dolores and grew to love her like a big sister. May she Rest in Peace.
Santo (Tony) Garro
Melbourne FL.

Santo/Tony Garro - June 20, 2020 at 01:57 PM



“ So sorry to hear about Dolores. I just read the news. I loved her like my mom. Was always kind n special person. I was honored to work with her at Carms n Garro drugs. Incredible heart n I will miss her always. Sorry to Kathy n Fran n family. God bless her

Charles - June 23, 2020 at 07:00 AM



“ Dolores was such a sparkling personality and I loved visiting with her whenever I spent time helping out at Carm's pharmacy. I would do it to spend time with him but in doing so I got to enjoy getting to know her...she was his right hand in running the store portion of his business. I'll always remember her beautiful smile and ready laugh. The family has my condolences! Denise Mazzotta

Denise Mazzotta - June 24, 2020 at 12:59 PM



“ To a very dear friend tho not in touch on a regular basis....RIP
Fondly remembered as “Cully” to me way back in our high school days @ T.R. Proctor where she was always wearing a smile along with the latest fashion from her wardrobe. All will miss that reserved but genuine manner of hers. I know she was welcomed with open arms by her creator. GOD blest her.

A friend from long ago....Lucretia (Bonacci) Zongrone
(AKA...."Cre")

Lucretia Zongrone - July 01, 2020 at 09:51 AM