



## Mrs. Maureen J. (Putrelo) Benzo

June 19, 1939 - May 17, 2019

NEW HARTFORD - Mrs. Maureen (Putrelo) Benzo, age 79, was reunited with her Lord and her beloved husband, Kim, when she passed away unexpectedly on Friday, May 17, 2019 at Upstate Medical University with her loving family by her side.

Born in Utica on June 19, 1939, Maureen was the daughter of the late Dominick and Rose (Noti) Putrelo. She graduated from New Hartford High School Class of 1957 and continued her education at Cortland State Teachers College. On October 29, 1960 she was united in marriage to Kim F. Benzo, a loving union of 32 years until his passing on June 8, 1993.

Maureen loved her life's work as a kindergarten teacher, a career that spanned 43 years and a calling that touched the lives of her many students. She taught in area Catholic schools including St. John the Evangelist, Blessed Sacrament and Our Lady of Lourdes and Notre Dame Elementary, the position from which she retired in 2012.

Maureen had a profound love for her children and grandchildren. She never missed a hockey game, a concert or a dance recital. She was ever willing to help with homework, crafty projects and especially baking and decorating cakes.

Maureen is survived by her beloved son, Rocco D. Benzo and Marena Taverne and her devoted daughter, Camille and Julius Fukes. She was blessed with five beautiful grandchildren who were the "light of her life." Alexander, Erika and Riley Fukes and Domenika and Giavanna Benzo. She also leaves her sister Roseangela "RoRo" Putrelo and her companion David Seidel, her in-laws, M. Janet and Emil Paparella, Dolores "Dory" Shaw and Rosemary and Michael Bonacci. Maureen leaves many nieces and nephews, especially Michael Shaw who was very special to her. Also surviving are several great-nieces, great-nephews, many special cousins and good friends. She was predeceased by her sister, Jeanette Bugbee, brothers-in-law, Robert Bugbee, Frank Benzo and John Shaw and a nephew, William Bugbee.

The family is grateful for the kindness and extraordinary care provided at Upstate by Dr. Dragos Manta, Dr. Pardeep Masuta and Dr. Raman Singh, as well as the entire nursing staff in the medical ICU, 6I She was also thankful to her nephew and niece, Deacon Anthony and Lauren Paparella for their uplifting spiritual blessings.

Visitation will be held Wednesday from 4:00-7:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932

South St., corner of Hammond Ave. The family will remain until all visitors have been seen. Maureen's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Thursday morning at 11:30 from the funeral home and at 12:30 at the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes where her Mass of Christian Burial will be offered. Memorial contributions may be made to Upstate Medical University, 750 E. Adams St, Syracuse, NY 13210. Committal prayers and interment will follow in Calvary Cemetery.

# Cemetery

2407 Oneida Street  
Utica, NY,

## Events

**22** Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.  
932 South Street, Utica, NY, US

**23** Church of Our Lady of Lourdes  
2222 Genesee Street, Utica, NY, US, 13502

# Comments

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“ Growing up I spent as much time at the Shafer's as I did my own house. "Cousin Maureen" had a large infectious smile and a light in her eyes...maybe there was some Irish there after all.  
Condolences to all, especially Rocco, Camille and RoRo.  
Susie

**Susan Murray** - May 24 at 06:44 PM

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“ My thoughts and prayers are with the family of Maureen. May she Rest In Peace .  
Such a wonderful person and will be missed !

**Marie Golding** - May 24 at 09:57 AM

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“ Please accept my condolences on the passing of Maureen. I was a colleague of hers at Our Lady of Lourdes School. She was a lovely and fun loving lady. God Bless her and your family. Barbara Wojcik

**Barbara Wojcik** - May 22 at 10:17 PM

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“ Our heartfelt sympathy to Rocco and the entire Putrelo-Benzo family for the loss of a wonderful Mom sister Grandparent and friend.  
God Bless you all through this difficult time.  
Jeanne Castronovo and Family

**Jeanne Castronovo** - May 22 at 09:36 PM

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“ Terrie Dailey lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Maureen J. (Putrelo) Benzo



**Terrie Dailey** - May 21 at 12:23 PM



“ Remembering Shaun's kindergarten teacher from Blessed Sacrament School. Rest in Peace Mrs. Benzo. Shaun and Terrie Dailey

**Terrie Dailey** - May 21 at 12:24 PM

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“ Ro, so sorry to hear of the loss of your sister. She is now united with her family that has gone ahead of her. God bless you and her family and my prayers go out to all.Sandy (Arrigo) Salem

**sandy salem** - May 21 at 03:29 AM

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“ I taught with Maureen at Our Lady of Lourdes. I will always remember the year my class was participating in a program to raise trout in the classroom, and at Christmas time out of the blue she gave me an ornament. It was Santa Clause fishing! Every year since, I have hung that ornament on my tree and have always thought of her. God Bless Maureen.  
Love,  
Donna T

**donna scharf** - May 20 at 09:27 PM

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“ Mrs. Benzo was my Kindergarten teacher at Blessed Sacrament School way back in 1986. She was the smartest, kindest teacher I ever had. I will never forget her. Rest easy, Mrs. Benzo. Until we meet again. <3 "Let your little light shine."



**Angela Smith** - May 20 at 06:10 PM

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“ Ro, Camille and family,  
I am so very sorry for the loss of beloved Maureen. Keeping you in my thoughts and prayers.

**Wendy Ketcham** - May 20 at 02:49 PM

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“ Roe and family,

So sorry to hear about Maureen. I remember her always smiling when she was at your house. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this difficult time.

Love,  
Flo, Tom and Amanda

**Flo DeSimone** - May 20 at 08:37 AM

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“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Maureen J. (Putrelo) Benzo.



May 19 at 11:23 PM

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“ MAUREEN, WAS THE FIRST GRADE TEACHER FOR JOHNNY AND JIM CLAIR, SHE LEFT A BIG IN PRESSON ON BOTH OF THEM. SHE WAS ABLE TO GIVE THEM SELF CONFIDENCE TO GO AHEAD AND THEY BOTH HAVE. I KNOW MAUREEN IS IN HEAVEN WITH HER HUSBAND KIM, AND OUR LORD.



**SANDRA CLAIR** - May 19 at 08:46 PM



“ Rocco, Camille and family please accept my deepest sympathy and no that Maureen and your family will receive God's blessings always..... Your friends and neighbors for many years, Love,  
Frank Ferraro and Family

**Frank Ferraro** - May 22 at 08:40 AM