



Michael A. "Mikey" Castelli

April 7, 1989 - November 8, 2021

UTICA, NY – Michael A. “Mikey” Castelli, age 32, passed away after many courageous efforts in his battle against cancer on Monday evening, November 8, 2021; his mom, dad, and “canine bud ‘Ollie’” accompanied him with loving hearts to his last moment on this Earth.

Michael was born in Utica on April 7, 1989 to his beloved parents Patrick A. and Brenda (Rzotkiewicz) Castelli. He attended Albany Elementary School, JFK Middle School, and went on to graduate from T.R. Proctor High School/Class of 2007. He continued his academic pursuits at MVCC. Michael was a valued employee who worked the Front End at Price Chopper in South Utica. There, he fulfilled his tasks and many responsibilities commendably. Michael also honored his work at Graziano’s Lawn Care, where he appreciated and respected his employer, Phil. In fact, Michael saw this experience as a privilege, as he admired his boss and his commitment to “getting the job done right!” A man of quiet demeanor, Michael was known to show his love for family in the simple ways. He adored his mother, and the duo shared countless cherished times together. One of their favorite traditions revolved around Michael’s favorite time of year – the holidays – when Michael and Brenda enjoyed decorating the Christmas tree. Each had their own favorite ornaments, and they blended these trinkets with great strategy, showing each of their talents; it often remained part of the décor of the house until at least March! More importantly, Michael had a secure relationship with his mother, and saw her as someone he could confide in and trust. Brenda was a consistent presence who could help guide Michael, and together, they always realized his objective. Michael partnered with his dad in caring for their lawn and completing the trimming; unfortunately, the work was never quite done to Patrick’s way! Thus, at times Michael would just concede and go in and take a shower. Michael was fortunate to have great parents, and great familial relationships. He was also especially close to his sister Kim, with whom he shared a special bond. The two often defended and protected each other. When the time came for the birth of Kim and Victor’s daughter, Michael transformed into a proud uncle. The minute she entered the world, Michael doted on her. He enjoyed spoiling his niece, and then sending her back home to her parents!

Michael was an avid walker and physically fit. Whether it was with his daily routine of

walking in Proctor Park, or at the track at MVCC, he was known to use his feet as his main mode of transportation. Michael was also a loyal Patriots fan, defending them to the end. Additionally, Michael was a part-time golfer, which enabled him to take in the picturesque scenery. He was a natural when it came to operating the latest technologies and computers. He was also a serious gamer, especially favoring Pokémon. Finally, when it came to food choices, Michael was pretty much a fussy eater and tended to select the simpler choices of meals.

Michael's diagnosis with a rare form of cancer highlighted his immense interior strength. Though not every day was easy and there were certainly difficult times, he committed to running this race imposed on him by his sickness. Michael's courage was admirable to all who knew him.

Michael is survived by his parents, Patrick and Brenda; as well as his sister and brother-in-law, Kimberly M. and Victor Costanza, Jr.; and his adored niece, Nora Irene Costanza. Michael will be fondly remembered by his maternal grandmother, Stella (Garncarz) Rzotkiewicz; and his aunts and uncles, Sharon and Gary Carrock, Sr., Carol Ann Abiusi and the late James P. Abiusi, and Guy Rzotkiewicz and Debbie Schepsis. He will live on in the hearts of his cousins, Gary Jr. and Christine Carrock, and their son, Gary Carrock III; and Jenna and Jon Saporito. Michael's memory will also be cherished by his great-aunt, Lydia Edwards and the late Dick Edwards; and great uncles, Richard Nora, and Bob Nora and his fiancé Ann Anken. He will always be loved and remembered by his canine bud, Ollie (or as Mike preferred to call him, Orbie). Michael was predeceased by his paternal grandparents, Pasquale A. "Pat" and Jeanne (Nora) Castelli; his maternal grandfather, Walter Rzotkiewicz; and his original canine bud, Jingles.

The Castelli family would like to extend their gratitude to Dr. Najam ud Din, Michael's oncologist, as well as the 6th floor staff of MVHS at St. Luke's, who were all fabulous. Additionally, the family wishes to especially thank Christina, Sarah, Mandy, and Tatyana for their kindness, compassion and connection; each was so special to Michael, and his family will be forever grateful.

Visitation will be held Tuesday evening, November 16, 2021, from 4:00 to 6:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Michael's Mass of Christian Burial and Celebration of Life which will commence on Wednesday morning, November 17, 2021, at 10:00 at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish, 648 Jay St., Utica. Interment will follow in Calvary Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

2407 Oneida Street
Utica, NY 13501

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 16. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.
932 South Street
Utica, NY 13501
eannacefh@roadrunner.com

Funeral Service

NOV 17. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary of Mount Carmel / Blessed Sacrament Parish
648 Jay St
Utica, NY 13501

Tribute Wall

KI

“ *Missing you as always, bud.*
Love,
Kim, Vic, and your niece



Kim - June 09 at 01:09 PM

KI

“ *Happy National Brother's Day, bud. Missing you always.*
Love,
Kim 🙌



Kim - May 24 at 06:24 PM

KI

“ *Missing you each and every day, pal.*
Love,
Kim, Vic, and Nora



Kim - May 08 at 06:54 PM

KI

“ *Happy Siblings' Day, bud.*
Love, *Kim*

Kim - April 10 at 05:37 PM

KI

“ *Missing you even more on your niece's special day. Love you, Mike.*
Love,
Kim, Vic, and Nora

Kim - April 08 at 03:27 PM

KI

“ Happy birthday, Mike. Thinking of and celebrating you today.
Love,
Kim, Vic, and Your Favorite Niece

Kim - April 07 at 10:03 PM

KI

“ Missing you each and every day, Mike.
Love, Kim, Vic, and your little Squishy 💙

Kim - March 08 at 12:31 PM

KI

“ Thinking of and missing you, Mike.
Love, Kim, Vic, and your “Noisy Niece” Nora



Kim - February 08 at 01:15 PM

KI

“ Miss you, bud.
Love,
Kim, Vic, and “Squishy” 💙

Kim - January 08 at 05:36 PM

KI

“ Missing you, Mike.
Love, Kim, Vic, and Nora



Kim - December 08, 2021 at 07:00 PM

VA

“ *Vita DelBuono & Steve Altieri lit a candle in memory of Michael A. "Mikey" Castelli*



Vita DelBuono & Steve Altieri - November 17, 2021 at 01:42 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michael A. "Mikey" Castelli.*



November 16, 2021 at 09:28 AM

PM

“ *Dear Pat and Brenda, I am so sorry to hear about Michael. I am praying for you and send my love. Pat Massie*

Pat Massie - November 16, 2021 at 08:44 AM

MC

“ *Pat and Brenda, we were so sorry to hear of Michael's passing. We are neighbors and had no idea of what you all were going through. May God Bless all of you. Praying for Michael and all of you. Mr and Mrs Jim and Joanne Cannistra.*

Mr and Mrs Jim Cannistra - November 15, 2021 at 09:14 PM

BC

“ *Missing you so our hearts are forever broken. Until we meet again love you Mikey XOXO Dad, Mom, and your bud Ollie*



Brenda Castelli - November 15, 2021 at 04:57 PM

DM

“ Brenda, I just read about your son's passing and wanted you to know how truly sorry I am. I am praying for you and your family to find peace and strength in the days ahead.

Debi Furner McAllister - November 15, 2021 at 09:55 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Michael A. "Mikey" Castelli.



November 14, 2021 at 12:46 PM

SM

“ Guy, Carol and Family, My sincere condolences to you on the passing of Michael. Although I did not know Michael, knowing the family many years ago when I lived on Glendale and you on Hoffman, I can't imagine the pain you must have . He was a an accomplished young man that you all must cherish. My prayers are with you and Michael.
Steve Madrak

steve madrak - November 14, 2021 at 10:20 AM

DD

“ Brenda and Pat....so sorry for the loss of your son. I pray for you all and am sending a huge hug. Love you....Dor

Doreen Diidati - November 13, 2021 at 01:11 PM

DS

“ Brenda and Pat, so so very sorry to read about Michael. My heart is breaking for you all. Sending prayers and love and hugs to all. Rest in peace Michael.



Diane Siembab - November 12, 2021 at 11:54 AM

MM

“ Brenda and Pat, We cannot even imagine.....Sending loving thoughts and prayers. Susie and Brion



Maria McIntosh - November 12, 2021 at 10:34 AM

CB

“ Brenda and Pat, please accept our deepest condolences and know that you are in our hearts, thoughts and prayers.



Christine Bogan - November 12, 2021 at 05:52 AM

DL

“ Pat & Brenda, I'm so sorry to hear of Michael's passing. My sincere condolences to you both and your family! 🙏🙏💙

Donna Lacatena - November 11, 2021 at 11:34 PM

DL

“ Donna Lacatena lit a candle in memory of Michael A. "Mikey" Castelli



Donna Lacatena - November 11, 2021 at 11:30 PM

AC

“ “Mikey, I am still in shock and sad. You will always be in my heart. Love you, May you Rest In Peace”
Love Amy Carrock

Amy Carrock - November 11, 2021 at 09:38 PM

SB

“ Rest easy mike.. we will never get you. My heart goes out to your family.. rest easy MB..



Stephanie Bogan - November 11, 2021 at 09:04 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Michael A. "Mikey" Castelli.



November 11, 2021 at 08:49 PM

AN

“ Anonymous lit a candle in memory of Michael A. "Mikey" Castelli



Anonymous - November 11, 2021 at 08:11 PM

SC

“ Mike
We are so heartbroken and we will miss you and remember you forever!! We love you Mikey, Rest In Peace!!
Aunt Sharon and uncle Gary Carrock

Sharon and Gary Carrock - November 11, 2021 at 06:18 PM

PG

Mike
So proud of you how you accepted what was and dealt with it in a way most of us would have not as well as you did !! Going to miss all the quotes we used to say which would give us a good laugh !! Going to miss you, Mike !! Rest without pain !! Love You !! Phillie !!

Phil Graziano - November 11, 2021 at 08:57 PM

CA

“ Spooky / Michat,

We love and miss you.

Auntie Squirrel & Bop

Xoxo



Carol Abiusi - November 11, 2021 at 05:10 PM

JS

“ Mike,

We will miss you forever and we will make sure your memory lives on. We love you 💙

Jenna and Jon

Jenna Saporito - November 11, 2021 at 02:22 PM

NB

“ *Rest In Peace Mike!*



Natalia Bogan - November 11, 2021 at 02:05 PM

KI

“ Mike,

We miss you so much already. You are on our minds and in our hearts always. Love you forever.

xoxo,

Kim, Vic, and your “little owl” Nora

Kim - November 11, 2021 at 02:02 PM

GF

Kim, Vic & Family, So sorry to hear of your loss. Sending Love, thoughts and prayers.

Gina & Tom Cusworth & Family - November 14, 2021 at 10:23 AM

MS

So sorry for your loss. We pray for you to be strong true this hard time for you.

mevlida Sofic - November 15, 2021 at 09:18 AM