



## Mr. Michael P. DeSantis

September 17, 1926 - May 19, 2020

UTICA - Mr. Michael P. DeSantis, age 93, passed in peace with his loving family by his side on Tuesday, May 19, 2020.

Born in Utica on September 17, 1926, Michael was the son of the late Vito "Vic" and Beatrice (Durante) DeSantis. A proud veteran of the United States Army, Mike honorably served his country stateside. In 1950 he married the former Jacqueline "Jackie" Carstens with whom he shared 70 years of love, respect, and family life.

A graduate of Syracuse University and Law School, Mike practiced law from 1950 until the time of his death, starting as a solo practitioner and establishing the partnership of DeSantis & DeSantis in 1977. He was admitted to practice by the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of the State of New York on 7/13/50; by the United States District Court on 2/24/54; and by the United States Court of Appeals on 9/9/74. He received an award from the US District Court for distinguished service as an officer of the court for 50 years. He was a member of the New York State and Oneida County Bar Associations.

Mike was a skilled skeet shooter, participating in many competitions and winning numerous medals including Ottawa Trap & Skeet Club 2005/12 gauge, Canadian Open 1996/12 gauge, New York State Championship 1992/12 gauge, Canadian Open 1997/28 gauge, and New York State Championship 1989/28 gauge.

Michael is survived by his wife, Jacquelyn DeSantis; his children and their spouses, Michael V. and Elizabeth DeSantis, Bradford "Brad" and Lorna DeSantis, and Jill and John Carpenter; his grandchildren, one of the greatest joys in his life, Christopher Michael DeSantis, Mary Elizabeth DeSantis; Evelyn DeSantis; and David Carpenter; and his sister, Lucretia (DeSantis) Hunt. He was preceded by his sister and brothers-in-law, Carmela and Santo Catera, and Fred Hunt. He also leaves his nieces and nephews, Cynthia Hunt Newton; Dawn Catera Lupi and husband Russell, and Damian Catera; and his great-nieces, great-nephews, and friends.

Due to current health concerns and in keeping with federal and state regulations, the family will honor Michael's life privately. Expressions of sympathy in the form of donations may be directed to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital online at <https://www.stjude.org> or by mail to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Please take a moment to connect with Mike's family through the "Memories" section of his obituary on our website.

Our prayers continue to go out to all as a sign of our community support.

# Comments

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“ Mike was a very special person to us. We loved his intensity, sense of humor, and genuine goodness. We are grateful for the opportunity we had to know him.  
Dick and Diane Freeman

Richard Freeman - June 06 at 08:01 AM

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“ Brenda Rodriguez lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael P. DeSantis



Brenda Rodriguez - June 02 at 01:34 PM

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“ Michael, I am so sorry for your loss, for all of your family's loss. Your dad was such a great guy. I used to love our talks about he and your mom going to the Fireside for dancing/music. He has touched a lot of lives and will always be remembered.  
Cheryl Davis

Cheryl Davis - May 28 at 01:52 PM

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“ I first met Michael almost 50 years ago when I was with the DA's office. He was so kind , funny and talented that I always enjoyed seeing him. We would pass in the hallway of our businesses and share old memories. A true gentleman. God bless you Mike and my condolences to his family

Tony LaFache - May 28 at 11:23 AM

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“ My deepest sympathy to the family of Michael DeSantis. I am so sorry for your loss. I worked for him many years ago. He was a great person and a great lawyer. May you all be comforted in your loss. May he Rest In Peace.

Mary Teti - May 27 at 09:07 PM

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“ What a wonderful person. Always quick with a smile and always quick to offer assistance to a young attorney who is just learning the ropes. He was so kind to me when I was starting out. I will always be grateful and I will keep Mike in my memory always.

Pete Antonowicz

Peter Antonowicz - May 26 at 06:22 PM

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“ Mrs DeSantis and family,  
I am so sorry to hear about Mr DeSantis. I always enjoyed his visits and great conversations when he came into my office for his eyeglasses. He was a smart and knowledgeable guy. He was a true gentleman and I will miss his visits. God bless him and all of you.

Sincerely,  
Ed Lasek

ED LASEK - May 25 at 05:42 PM

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“ my deepest sympathy to all of mikes family. .he was my attorney in the late 60 early70,s he was my the best. I will be ever grateful he was a TRUE GENTLEMAN.  
SARI JEAN MARTELLO DELUCA

Sari Deluca - May 25 at 04:18 PM

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“ Dear Lucretia, Dawn, Russ and De Santis Family, So very sorry for your loss. What a remarkable man he was! God bless you all...

Marion Goodwin - May 25 at 04:15 PM

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“ Christopher and Mary Elizabeth,

My condolences on the death of your grandfather.  
My prayers are with you and your family.

God bless you,  
Coach Morrisroe



“ My deepest sympathy to the entire DeSantis family. I met Mike while working at LeFever Arms Company and we also spent time together shooting skeet at the Ilion and Clinton Fish and Game Clubs with many conversations about hunting pheasants. He was a truly kind man and a very respectable Attorney. I will miss him.  
Mike F. Arcuri

Michael F. Arcuri - May 24 at 09:03 AM

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“ Mike was a great work neighbor at 286 Genesee St. Always upbeat, never complained and we enjoyed sharing canoe, fishing and camping experiences in the parking lot or building foyer. Simply a nice guy!  
Dave Jones

David Jones - May 24 at 07:20 AM

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“ I am so sad to learn of mike's death. He was a true gentleman who always greeted me with a smile and "my old buddy and friend". Will miss his tales, his smile and our run ins at grocery stores. May he Rest In Peace. We lost a good one.

frederick murad - May 23 at 11:22 AM

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“ Jackie, I am so sorry for your loss of Mike. I became friends of Mike through skeet shooting, but as you know we became more than friends for over some forty years. I will miss him. Rich Dziekonski

Rich Dziekonski - May 23 at 09:59 AM

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“ Jackie. So sorry on Mikes passing. Didn't expect it seeing you weekly in taking care your property. Mike was the best. Will miss talking with him. I am only a phone call away should you need anything. Mike my Good Friend Rest In Peace.  
Phil Graziano

Phil Graziano - May 23 at 06:24 AM



“ Dear Mike, I'm sorry for the loss of your dad. I concur with the previous comment that he was a true gentleman and very adept lawyer. I enjoyed working with you and your dad over the years from the beginning of my career in 1984. May he rest in peace, and may your family find comfort in the love you all shared those 93 years.

God bless  
Therese Plante  
Court Reporter

**Therese Plante** - May 23 at 05:04 PM

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“ I am very sorry to hear about the passing of Mike. He was a true gentleman and one of the hardest working lawyers that I ever saw full of integrity and honesty and the legal community will miss his genuine smile May he Rest In Peace.  
Louis Brindisi

**Louis Brindisi** - May 22 at 12:48 PM

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“ Michael was one of the loveliest and sharpest lawyers-it was always a privilege to spend a little time with him. He and my husband, Albert, always seemed to enjoy knowing each other. I know how much he will be missed. Sincere condolences. Joan Shkane

**Joan Elizabeth Shkane** - May 22 at 12:13 PM

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“ It was always a pleasure working with Mike over the years and recently at CLE's. He never forgot a common trial we had when was a ADA. Was proud of his family and his son Mike, the football player. He will be truly missed by all of us.  
Rocco L. Versace

**rocco versace** - May 22 at 10:28 AM

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“ Michael was always a gentleman. He was a true pleasure to work with in the courts and beyond. I always had great respect for him and enjoyed his sense of humor and his "sly grin" too. Beautiful family as well. My condolences to all of his loved ones.

**Ralph Eannace** - May 22 at 09:34 AM

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“ Condolences Mr DeSantis you will be greatly missed by all of us who knew him on a professional basis Will miss seeing him at the grocery store and our little chats we had Great attorney who fought for his clients rights

Rest in Peace

Linda Fusaro - May 22 at 08:05 AM



“ Sending our condolences to your entire beautiful family. Our parents, Rose and Mike held a very special place in their hearts for Mike. He was always kind and loving to them and his extended family. Rest now

Rocco & MaryRose DeSantis  
Depew, NY

Rocco and MaryRose DeSantis - May 23 at 08:14 AM



“ Mike was my Mom Grace DeSantis Calandra 's cousin. I am Grace's daughter . So sorry bv to hear of his passing . He was a good man . He will be missed . I got to see and visit with him on one of my trips home to Utica . I moved to Buffalo in1980 to go to work at Roswell Park . After my Mom and Dad died Mike would always check in with my brother and I. We were both teens when my parents died . Mike was a considerate thoughtful man . May he rest in peace, God bless and bring peace to his family .  
JoAnn M. Calandra

JoAnn M . Calandra - May 21 at 11:18 PM



“ So Sorry For Your Loss Mr. Desantis was A Good Fair ManHe Eill Be Missed RIP

Jackson Prince & Workman Families - May 21 at 10:10 PM



“ I love cousin Mike. He always wore a smile and his laughter contagious! What I have learned from him , my grandfather ( also named mike DeSantis) and my Father Ralph DeSantis. Is that family is everything,! He was a big supporter of my husband Mark Williamson as well. I will miss his visits. If you need anything please call. If you would like Taps to be set up or need help with military please contact us. Our hearts go out to you as well as our prayers

Michelle & Mark Williamson

Michelle Williamson - May 21 at 07:06 PM



“ My sincere condolences to the family of Michael DeSantis. I also carry the name Michael DeSantis. Mike has always called me “The Ball Player”. He was always an avid supporter throughout my baseball career. Wrote me letters and supported me in my journey. He also supported me and my family when I entered into the restaurant business. Mike was a man of integrity, faith, loyalty and always family. From time to time I would stop to see him at his son’s practice while he would be there opening mail. Always sharp as a tack. And always asking how family members were doing. He always made his rounds during the holidays to visit all of his family. Mike will be greatly missed. He will always be in my prayers. Rest easy cousin. I’m sure the pearly gates are wide open to accept you. God bless. And always with love!

Mike DeSantis jr and family

**Mike DeSantis Jr** - May 21 at 09:03 PM

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“ Mike was Always a gentleman, and his dad and my uncle Pete Principe cut my hair as a young boy. I always had a good relationship with Mike in our interest of hunting and he knew the Parrotta family very well. I had few police cases with Mike while working at UPD, and he was a good lawyer and fair. May Mike Rest In Peace.

Nick Parrotta

Naples, FL.

**Nick Parrotta** - May 21 at 02:00 PM