



Mr. Rocco A. "Roc" DePerno

July 24, 1940 - June 12, 2020

DEERFIELD - Mr. Rocco A. "Roc" DePerno, age 79, was reunited with his wife when he passed away on Friday, June 12, 2020.

Born in Utica on July 24, 1940, Rocco was the son of the late Carmen and Carmela (Conte) DePerno. He attended St. Agnes Grammar School and was a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School/Class of 1958. A proud veteran of the United States Army, he honorably served his country stateside as a sharp shooter. Upon completion of his military service, he continued his education at Mohawk Valley Technical Institute (MVTI) majoring in Business Management. He then attended Utica College of Syracuse University where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration. On September 21, 1963 he married his high school sweetheart, Carolyn D. Brown, with whom he shared 36 years in a union bonded by love for each other and their family. His beloved Carolyn passed away on November 26, 1999.

His business talents were seen through his employment at Utica Drop Forge, later known as Kelsey Hayes, and lastly known as Utica Corp. Roc held various titles including Data Entry, Director of Purchasing, and Director of Finance. He also served as President of the Kelsey Hayes Employees Federal Union. He retired after a fruitful, fulfilling career. As a father, he had an open-door policy with his kids and their friends. He was fair, had rules, and by today's standards, he was "OCD" on so many levels. Roc allowed for his children to have pool parties, friendly card games, and "The Concord Parties". When he worked around the house with machinery and tools, he shared his skills and safety measures with his kids, valuable information and insight which they retained and utilized until this very day. During the summer, Sylvan Beach was the second home to the DePerno family. He and his father Carmen always worked side by side at the infamous Forest Hotel. There were weekends of fishing, camp fires, and picturesque sunsets completing the day. He and Carolyn enjoyed so many summers when they were raising the boys. They also enjoyed a special vacation spot at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Roc was blessed with virtue of integrity, a hard work ethic, and had a great appreciation for life. He was a meticulous dresser, a smooth dancer, and when he socialized he was always assured to have a great time!

Roc was endowed with an abundance of energy, and he was the focal point of attention

when he walked into a room. An avid golfer, he favored the Westmoreland Golf Club fairways, and as a league bowler, Riverside Lanes was the alley of choice. Of course, Roc was a fan of the NY Yankees and NY Giants. Rocco was a parishioner of Historic Old St. John's Church; he was a man of faith who held the glory of God in his heart.

Rocco is survived by his three boys and daughters-in-law, Richard DePerno, Robert and Sherry DePerno, and Marc and Jamie DePerno; his adored grandchildren, Richard DePerno/USN and his wife Summer, Brandon DePerno, Nicholas DePerno, and Nathaniel DePerno; Michael, and Matthew DePerno; Ryann, and Allyson DePerno. Left to remember his memory are his sisters and brothers-in-law, Lenora Fava and Joseph Spine, and Cynthia and Robert Hobaica. He also leaves his nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins; uncle, John DePerno; in-laws, Joanne Brown, Irene Brown (late husband William Brown), and his late brother-in-law, Lawrence Brown; and longtime friend, Joe Nimey, Jr. He was predeceased by his nephew, Francis "Frankie" Lacatena. The family extends their gratitude to the staff of the Presbyterian Home of Central NY for the compassionate care rendered to Roc during his stay.

Due to current health concerns and in keeping with federal and state regulations, the family will honor Rocco's life privately and funeral services will be held with immediate family only. Memorial donations in Rocco's memory may be made to ALS of Utica online at www.alsutica.org or by mail to ALS of Utica, 9169 River Road, Marcy, NY 13403. All donations will be made in honor of Roc's wife Carolyn DePerno.

Please take a moment to connect with Roc'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.

Cemetery

Calvary Mausoleum

2407 Oneida Street

Utica, Ny,

Comments



“ Richie and family; So sorry to hear of the loss of your dad. My dad loved your father and they spent many years working together and playing golf. Your dad always treated me like family when we got together. So sorry for your loss.

Mike Graham - June 26, 2020 at 02:56 PM



“ To the DePerno family, So sorry for your loss. Lenore & Cindy my prayers and thoughts are with you and his family.

Rita R Davis - June 18, 2020 at 12:35 PM



“ Rich
We are so sorry for your loss . Our deepest sympathy to you and the boys
Mark and Polly

Pauline Hahn - June 16, 2020 at 07:14 PM



“ To the DePerno family,
On behalf of the Whitesboro Athletic Department please know that our prayers and thoughts are with you during this difficult time.



Whitesboro Athletic Department - June 16, 2020 at 04:41 PM



“ Rich and family,
We are very sorry to hear about the passing of your dad!! You are all in our thoughts and prayers!!
Traci and Mike



Traci Fox - June 15, 2020 at 04:04 PM



“ Rich, so sorry to learn of your father's passing. Please accept our most heartfelt sympathies for your loss. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers during this time of loss

Chris Alloway - June 15, 2020 at 02:53 PM



“ Richard and children,

Our deepest feelings can't always find their way from our hearts to words. Both of our families shared so many wonderful times throughout the years. Your father, will forever be remembered in my heart as well as my children's.
Rock was Vibrant Beautiful Soul

Donna Conte and Family

Donna Conte - June 15, 2020 at 02:00 PM



“ Rich and family,

We are so sorry for the loss of your father/grandfather. We will keep you all in our thoughts and prayers.

Love, Russ, Gail and Matt Morreale

Gail Morreale - June 15, 2020 at 01:04 PM



“ Best memories of growing up having you as my big brother. Too many things to list but memories I will always have in my heart. Now you can rest sweet brother and be young again and happy. Kiss Mommy and Daddy for me please. Never a day will go by that I won't think of you and pray for you as I still do for them. And now you and Carolyn are together again as it should always be. Be happy sweet brother and please watch over all of us. You are now free and you are finally at home as you always wanted to be. Love you forever. Cin

Cindy Hobaica - June 15, 2020 at 09:04 AM



“ What a great picture of Rocco! Rocco was my mom's neighbor on the Maple unit, and a fellow bell ringer. I always got a wave or a smile while visiting and a friendly chat. He said many times he wished to leave the place. He can now join mom and many others, and roam free! Good for him, my mom would say! Linda Lowry, Nancy Kratzert's daughter.

Linda K Lowry - June 15, 2020 at 07:39 AM



“ I am heartbroken to read of Roc's passing. I am a volunteer at the Presbyterian Home and spent many wonderful afternoon's visiting with your father. I SO enjoyed his company. He ALWAYS remembered to ask about my son - he followed my David's progress in school and tournament tennis. Your dad was kind to everybody in the nursing home - every single employee and visitor got a friendly hello and he brought joy to all of them. His table with Elaine and Vinny was like the cool kid one in middle school! What s riot they were together - lots of teasing along with genuine caring for each other.
I send my deepest condolences on the loss of a man that I will miss greatly and can only imagine the depth of your loss. Bonnie Fenner

Bonnie Fenner - June 15, 2020 at 07:23 AM



“ Rob,

I am so sorry to hear about your dad. Growing up, your family was always so good to the neighborhood kids. We had a lot of fun at your house and your mom and dad always put up with us ! They raised an amazing family. Hold on to all the great memories. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Mike Scranton

Mike Scranton - June 14, 2020 at 08:01 PM



“ Rich ,
Sorry for the loss of your father. Prayers for you and your family.
Murph

John Murphy - June 14, 2020 at 07:38 PM



“ Rich, Rob and Mark,

My sincere condolences during this difficult time. You family will forever hold a special place with my family. I have so many wonderful memories throughout the years. Your Dad's smile was infectious! He was an admirable man with a work ethic like no other. Sending you strength and warm memories. Together your folks will love in eternity!

Darlene Nimey Baratier

Darlene Nimey Baratier - June 14, 2020 at 02:43 PM



“ Rich, Rob and Mark, I'm so sorry for the loss of your Dad. He was a great man and he loved you boy's so much and always remember the good times. Your Dad and Mom would go out for the night and I would watch you guys and your parents would come home and your dad would say I'm in trouble again with my wife but you boy's had great parents always remember they both love very much.



sue wiggins - June 14, 2020 at 12:30 PM



“ Cindy and Robert, I am so sorry for your loss. Prayers for you and your whole family
Joanne cesarini Courto

joanne courto - June 13, 2020 at 11:00 PM