



Mr. Anthony J. "Cory" Cortese

March 31, 1926 - November 21, 2017

UTICA - Mr. Anthony J. "Cory" Cortese, age 91, left the world "his way" on Tuesday, November 21, 2017.

Born in Utica on March 31, 1926, Anthony was the son of the late Frank and Rosina (Ferraro) Cortese. He was raised and educated locally. A proud veteran of the United States Marine Corps, Cory honorably served in active duty as a Private First Class from 1943-1946 during World War II. He carried out a second tour of duty during the Korean Conflict. On May 2, 1953 he married the former Josephine T. Traglia with whom he shared 29 years prior to her passing on March 3, 1983.

In his early working years in the 1960's, Cory was the owner and operator of Gray's Bedding & Carpet Cleaning. He later held employment with the New York State Inspection Department. Cory cared about his community and its youth, attributes that led to his role as a Scout Master for the Boy Scouts of America, Upper Mohawk Council Troop 5 for many years. An intelligent man, he was also a civic-minded citizen and a dedicated local politician. He had wonderful opportunities in the Utica and state Democratic Parties and had the honor of attending several Presidential Inaugurations. He was the City Democratic Chairman under Rufus Elefante for several years. He was a member of the New York State Retirement System and the Director of the Urban Renewal Project here in Utica in 1968. Anthony was one of the last of his generation.

Cory enjoyed spending time with his friends and taking long rides with his

buddies to relax and catch up on conversation. He loved the St. Lawrence River, summers at Cape Vincent, and fishing and boating with his kids and grandkids. He also loved games of chance and the excitement of Las Vegas and local casinos. He took pleasure in the pastime of playing cards socially and at family gatherings.

Anthony is survived by his children and their loved ones, daughters, Christine A. Cortese, and Mary Ellen Schrader and Gary Falchi; and son, Alfred A. Cortese and Christine Secor. Always close to his heart was the memory of his son Anthony F. Cortese who passed away on October 10, 2002. He also leaves his grandchildren, Joseph C. Cortese; Michael Schrader and Kelley, and Caitlyn Schrader; Jenna Lyn Cortese and Dan, Alexandra Cortese; Anthony "JR" Cortese Jr., and Zachary T. Cortese; great-grandchildren, Nicholas and Peyton; Haley Rose. He will be remembered by his many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and cousins. He was favored by many friendships throughout his life including his lifelong friend, Jack "Turk" Zogby, and his special friend, Richie Enos. He was predeceased by his brothers, Alfred N. "Fred" Cortese, Frank Cortese, Paul Cortese, and Anthony Cortese who passed away in infancy and whose name was passed on to Cory; and his sisters, Rose Annuich, Mary Gifune, Catherine Montana, and Nettie Franchina.

The family is grateful to the staff of the Rome Veterans Administration Clinic, especially Dr. Mahesh Padmanabhan and Laura Radley/RN; and the personnel of the Sitrin Health Care Center for the kind and courteous care shown to Anthony and his family.

Cory's children will carry out his final wish; after his cremation his remains will be scattered in the St. Lawrence River.

Tribute Wall

FC

“ *To our cousins with deepest condolences,*

We have fond memories of boating with Uncle Cory on the St. Lawrence. There was never a dull moment with Uncle Cory around.

Sincerely,

*Frank and Rosemary Cortese
Reno, Nevada*

Frank and Rosemary Cortese - November 28, 2017 at 02:27 PM

CD

“ *Chris, MaryEllen and family:
I am so sorry to read of your dad's passing. What a wonderful smile.
May that be the memory that lingers in your hearts and minds. -
Cathy Altieri Ducato*

Cathy Ducato - November 28, 2017 at 06:07 AM



“ *Deepest sympathy in the passing of your father. I remember going fishing with him and Al and Anthony on the boat. Great man. So sorry for your loss.
Chris Circelli*

Christopher Circelli - November 27, 2017 at 10:50 PM

TO

“ *Mary Ellen & family,
My sincerest condolences on the loss of your father, thoughts and
prayers to all of you !!*

Tony Orsino

Tony - November 27, 2017 at 11:48 AM

FL

“ *MaryEllen and family,*

*Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. May
your dad rest in peace.*

Flo and Tom DeSimone

Flo - November 27, 2017 at 10:48 AM

DD

“ To Chris, Maryellen, Alfred and the entire Corteze Family,

We offer our warmest condolences to you and your entire family. God Bless "Cory" and all of you. God Bless Cory, Josephine and Anthony who live in our hearts.

Time and distance have not between the fond memories I have of our neighborhood, and of our families. Thanks to your dad we enjoyed scouting, boating on the St. Lawrence, fishing, campfires (and who could forget the campside fire-roasted pepperoni sandwiches).

Wishing each of you well, always and my best regards.

Love,

Dominick "Dicky" DeNigro

Dominick DeNigro - November 27, 2017 at 09:26 AM

JT

“ So sorry to hear of Cory's passing, but his ready smile and quick wit will linger for many a year. We first crossed paths during the Assaro administration where we both served in the Urban Renewal Agency. He was my political mentor in many ways and I will always remember his straightforward way of dealing with things. He loved to laugh, I remember, and usually brought smiles to faces around him.

Best to his family and friends...

Joe Tierno

Melbourne Beach, FL.

Joe Tierno - November 27, 2017 at 09:20 AM