



## Mr. Anthony J. "Fuzzy" DeFazio

June 26, 1942 - November 25, 2023

N. UTICA – With profound sadness, the family announces the peaceful passing of Anthony J. “Fuzzy” DeFazio, at age 81, on Saturday, November 25, 2023. His loving family was by his side.

Born in Utica on June 26, 1942, Anthony was the son of the late Samuel “Sam” and Theresa (LoPiccolo) DeFazio. Raised and educated locally, he was a proud graduate of T.R. Proctor High School. Anthony's life was marked by dedication and service, but above all, by the love he shared with his family and friends.

On September 28, 1963, Anthony married the former Marilyn J. Cavallaro, beginning a journey of love and companionship that would enrich their lives for many years. Together they shared a loving, blessed relationship filled with many beautiful memories, celebrating their 60th anniversary this September. On January 2, 2024 Marilyn passed away and their love and affinity reunited them.

Anthony's professional life was equally impressive, holding a 30-year position at Dodge Graphic Press, from which he retired from a supervisory role. He was a proud member of Graphic Communications International Union. His work ethic was unparalleled, but it was his family and their well-being that truly made him happy. He felt incredibly lucky to have his family and friends,

offering them love and compassion in abundance.

A man of many passions, Anthony's love of music began as a dream at the age of 12 and he was in a band by the age of 15 as a drummer. He played with many local bands and was also a member of the Local 51 Musician's Union. Through the years he shared his talent with various groups and musicians. His enthusiasm for music was matched by his passion for automobiles. Anthony also enjoyed traveling to be with his family in Charlotte, NC and was an avid follower of NY sports teams, especially the Bills, Yankees, and Syracuse Orange.

Anthony was wholeheartedly devoted to his family; their well-being was his greatest joy and happiness. He considered himself incredibly fortunate to be surrounded by his loving family, very special neighbors, and friends. His love and compassion knew no bounds and he was mostly fond of his cherished grandchildren, who were the lights of his life. As a true patriarch, Anthony had a unique gift of making everyone feel special. His presence brought positive energy to any room and he consistently found the good in everything and everyone. His legacy of unwavering positivity and love continues to inspire his family and all who knew him.

Anthony's spirituality was deeply connected to his faith. He was a long-standing member of Mary, Mother of Our Savior Parish, Lourdes Campus, where he found great solace and community.

Anthony is survived by his children and their loves, Lisa M. and Frank J. Nanna, and Anthony S. and Cynthia Pensiero-DeFazio, his adored grandchildren, Francesca M. Nanna, and Christian A. Nanna; twins Riya N. and Anthony J. DeFazio; and Arianna R. Pensiero. He leaves his memory to his siblings, Marie and her late husband Louis Sirianni, Roseanne and Charles Coupe, and Richard DeFazio, and his late wife Jacqueline. He

remembered fondly his brothers who preceded him, Phillip DeFazio and his wife Loretta, and Samuel DeFazio.

The family extends heartfelt thanks to those that checked on the family daily while he was at the hospital as well as the nurses and doctors at Wynn Hospital for their loving care and compassion.

Visitation for both Anthony and Marilyn will be held on Wednesday, January 24, 2024 from 4:00-7:00 p.m. at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. For those wishing, memorial contributions in Anthony's name may be made to New Hope, c/o Big Apple Music, 8441 Seneca Turnpike, Suite E, New Hartford, NY 13413; any donations will be used to refurbish musical instruments and to assist children in being introduced to the world of music; envelopes will also be available at the funeral home. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Anthony and Marilyn's Mass of Christian Burial and Celebration of Life, which will commence on Thursday, January 25, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at Mary, Mother of Our Savior Parish, Lourdes Campus, 2222 Genesee St. Entombment will take place in Calvary Mausoleum.

# Cemetery Details

## Calvary Mausoleum

2407 Oneida Street  
Utica, Ny

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**JAN 24.** 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.  
932 South Street  
corner of Hammond Ave.  
Utica, NY 13501  
(315) 724-6714  
eannacefh@roadrunner.com  
<https://www.eannacefuneralhome.com>

## Funeral Service

**JAN 25.** 10:00 AM (ET)

Mary, Mother of Our Savior Parish, Lourdes Campus  
2222 Genesee St.  
Utica, NY 13502  
<https://www.motherofoursavior.org/CatholicChurch.php>

# Tribute Wall

JK

“ So sorry to hear about the passing of your parents.. they were truly special to us at Riverside Diner and brightened our day whenever they came in. We will miss them deeply.

Jenalle Killino - March 31, 2024 at 05:38 PM

MB

“ Gone too soon!

M.Janet Benzo-Paparella - January 21, 2024 at 03:36 PM

MM

“ Lisa, Tony and family, My sincere condolences on the passing of your Dad. I'm so glad that I got a chance to see and talk to him a few months ago.  
He was such an inspiration and mentor to me earlier in my career when I worked with him at DGP.  
May God comfort all of you in this time of grief of your Father.  
I'm also thinking of you and sending love and prayers to your mom.  
God Bless your family.  
My deepest sympathy,  
Mark Medici

Mark Medici - December 23, 2023 at 07:40 PM

ES

“ Tony and family, my sincere sympathy for the loss of your wonderful dad a sending love and prayers to your mom. □ Erin Sherline Scalise



erin scalise - December 11, 2023 at 04:55 AM

FD

*Dear family of Anthony and Marilyn, I have had the pleasure of knowing them for over 60 years. I did see them recently before dad's passing and the beautiful memories came to life again. May they both rest in peace now together as they always were. Fondly, Marilyn and Fred Demma.*

fred and Marilyn Demma - January 19, 2024 at 08:10 AM

LS

“ Love, Sheena purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mr. Anthony J. "Fuzzy" DeFazio.



Love, Sheena - December 06, 2023 at 10:52 AM

LS

“ Love, Sheena planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Anthony J. "Fuzzy" DeFazio.

Love, Sheena - December 06, 2023 at 10:52 AM

LF

“ Love your Magellan Family purchased the Tender Tribute for the family of Mr. Anthony J. "Fuzzy" DeFazio.



Love your Magellan Family - December 06, 2023 at 10:45 AM

LF

“ Love your Magellan Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Anthony J. "Fuzzy" DeFazio.

Love your Magellan Family - December 06, 2023 at 10:45 AM

RP

“ Lisa and family, Please accept my sincere condolences on passing of your father. May God comfort all of you in this time of grief.

Rick Polera - December 03, 2023 at 03:16 PM

CF

“ Very very sorry to hear this, he worked as a drummer with our band for years, and we loved him very much!  
Cynthia Fanelli

Cynthia Fanelli - December 02, 2023 at 06:26 PM

SG

“ Rich, My condolences .May he Rest in Peace.  
Sandy G.

santo garro - December 02, 2023 at 09:52 AM

S&

“ Santo &. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Anthony J. "Fuzzy" DeFazio.

Santo &. - December 02, 2023 at 08:40 AM

JD

“Mr. D!”

*Is how I always greeted him whenever I bumped into him through the years. He always had a smile on his face and had great genuine interest in what you would bring up in conversation with him.*

*Being close to his family for the brief period of a time in my life is one of the fondest memories I have. He and his wife “Mrs D” who had raised two wonderful children greeted me into their lives with a genuine sincerity and kept a lot of warmth in their home that made me feel right where I belonged.*

*I’ll miss being able to bump into him again in this world but I do know if I can stay as good of a man as he was I will be able to again someday.*

*Mrs. D, Lisa, Tony & entire family, please accept my deepest sympathies for this huge loss in your lives my prayers are with your Husband & father and for all of you. May you find some peace and comfort within each other, your family & friends that surround you and within all the great memories you have shared together.*

*With love,*

*John DeStefano*

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**John DeStefano** - December 01, 2023 at 07:17 PM

CD

“ *Marilyn and Family: I am deeply saddened to hear of your loss. Fuzzy and I go way back to the times we played in a band in the early 60's with Tim and Andy. Fuzzy is my second cousin on my mother's side, and Mom loved him like he was her own. We shared the love of music and laughter, but most of all, the love of family. When we would get together on my return trips to the Utica area, it was as if time had stood still. His smile and his grace were always present. We send our deepest sympathies. Rest in peace my good friend.*

*Chuck and Jean Daniels*

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**Charles A Daniels** - December 01, 2023 at 01:40 PM

NP

“ *DeFazio Family,  
I am very sorry for your loss of Anthony. He was one of the best ,  
easy going, faithful as a friend, Always a smile on his face and a  
great conversationalist.  
Rest in peace Tony and keep us straight my friend.*

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**Nick Parrotta** - December 01, 2023 at 09:10 AM



“ *Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family  
of Mr. Anthony J. "Fuzzy" DeFazio.*



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November 30, 2023 at 02:14 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Mr. Anthony J. "Fuzzy" DeFazio.



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November 30, 2023 at 01:50 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mr. Anthony J. "Fuzzy" DeFazio.



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November 30, 2023 at 01:38 PM



“ Dana Cittadino planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Anthony J. "Fuzzy" DeFazio.

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**Dana Cittadino** - November 30, 2023 at 01:38 PM

DD

“ Well, I was shocked to hear of the passing of Anthony DeFazio. He was my dad's first cousin and I saw him at so many family events. We saw each other about a month ago at another wake in Utica, for a family member.

*I will always remember how kind he was to me and the respect that he had for my dad. We always spoke about music, and he loved to talk about Italy. I am saddened to hear of his loss and for the DeFazio family.*

*May his memories live on like his music and may you get thru these most difficult times together.*

*RIP Cuz... and say hello to my dad and play some music together.*

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**danny desimone** - November 30, 2023 at 01:34 PM

JD

*“Mr. D!”*

*Is how I always greeted him whenever I bumped into him through the years. He always had a smile on his face and had great genuine interest in what you would bring up in conversation with him. Being close to his family for the brief period of a time in my life is one of the fondest memories I have. He and his wife “Mrs D” who had raised two wonderful children greeted me into their lives with a genuine sincerity and kept a lot of warmth in their home that made me feel right where I belonged.*

*I'll miss being able to bump into him again in this world but I do know if I can stay as good of a man as he was I will be able to again someday. Mrs. D, Lisa, Tony & entire family, please accept my deepest sympathies for this huge loss in your lives my prayers are with your Husband & father and for all of you. May you find some peace and comfort within each other, your family & friends that surround you and within all the great memories you have shared together.*

*With love,*

*John DeStefano*

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**John DeStefano** - November 30, 2023 at 11:57 PM

JP

*A good man gone too soon,  
Emil and Janet Paparella*

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**JANET PAPARELLA** - December 01, 2023 at 04:08 PM

CL

*Lisa and Frank, I am sorry for your loss.*

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**Cathy Larrabee** - December 02, 2023 at 06:38 AM

JB

*Sorry for your loss Roseanne. Jim and Betsy Caraco.*

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**Jim and Betsy** - December 03, 2023 at 03:33 PM

SD

*Marilyn, and family. I don't know where to start. "Fuzzy" was the "man". When I started out, I heard him many times, and he would become my dear friend, and co-musician many years later. When I was at "Massouds" I would hear him with the "Fanelli Five, and we would talk music, and become close friends. As fate would have it, we worked together with the "Legends" of the music industry. Sal Alberico, Joe, Vinnie, myself, and "Fuzzy". A talented drummer, a super friend, and a devoted family man, through ups, and downs of his life. I will miss him, God bless my good, and dear friend.  
Sonny Dee.*

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**Sonny Dee** - December 04, 2023 at 03:39 PM

AC

*Lisa & family, My condolences. Great Person. RIP.  
Tony Ciccarelli*

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**Anthony Ciccarelli** - December 09, 2023 at 11:03 AM

GR

*Lisa, Tony, and family. My wife and I wish to express our deepest sympathy for the loss of your parents.*

*We were great friends forever and will miss them terribly. They were beautiful people and we were proud to share our life with them. They will be in our hearts forever. God bless you and your family.*

*Esther and Vin Grimaldi*

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**Grimaldi,s** - January 10, 2024 at 11:26 AM