



Mr. Anthony "Jay" DiSpirito

November 11, 1930 - July 15, 2025

UTICA – Mr. Anthony “Jay” DiSpirito, age 94, passed away on Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at Magnolia House at the Sitrin Health Care Center.

Born in Utica on November 11, 1930, Anthony was the son of the late Antonio and Maria (Dimeo) DiSpirito. He was a graduate of T. R. Proctor High School, Class of 1948. After high school, he voluntarily enlisted in the United States Navy and served as a meteorologist.

On August 29, 1951, he joined in matrimony with the former Barbara J. Smith. The couple shared a loving and devoted union for 63 years prior to Barbara’s passing on August 10, 2016. In their later years Anthony was devoted to her care.

Anthony spent his career working as a radar technician for the General Electric Company Department of Defense at their Broad Street location, a position from which he retired.

Anthony was a true patriarch of his family. He was a family man through and through. His happiest moments were spent in the presence of his family and loved ones. He also took immense pride in his Italian heritage. He enjoyed all of it from opera to the food to the culture.

He kept physically fit and boasted of his membership at the Fitness Mill up through his late 80s. He was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed fishing and hunting especially with his nephew Anthony "Tony" DiSpirito. Anthony especially looked forward to his annual summer vacation at Sylvan Beach.

A devout Catholic, Anthony was a parishioner of St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church where he was proud to have served as an altar boy in his youth.

Anthony is survived by his children and their spouses, Michael and Patty DiSpirito, Debra and Bruce Messenger, Susan and Frank Grossi, and Jay and Denise DiSpirito; grandchildren, David DiSpirito; Jeremy and Sarah Messenger, Michael Messenger, Katherine Kealty; Natalie DiSpirito and fiancé David Opozda, and A.J. DiSpirito; and great-grandchildren, Liam Messenger, Kaiden Messenger, Emry Messenger; and Anthony Kealty. He fondly remembered his siblings and their spouses who preceded him, Lena and Rocco Carzo, Frank and Joanna DiSpirito, Tina and Richard Moody, Sam and Elizabeth DiSpirito, Catherine and John Odell II, and Florence DiSpirito. He is additionally survived by many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins and in-laws Jackie Smith, and Laney and Antoinette Smith. Anthony was also predeceased by his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Robert and Ethel (Edwards) Lounsbury; and in-laws, Curtis and Margaret Smith, David Smith, and Patty Palladino.

The DiSpirito family would like to extend their sincerest gratitude to the staff of the rehabilitation unit and Magnolia House at the Sitrin Health Care Center for their care and compassion, with a special mention of Anthony's nurse Connie and his aide Jackie for their loving dedication to his well-being. Special thanks are also extended to the staff at Wynn Hospital ICU.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Anthony's Mass of Christian Burial and Celebration of Life which will commence on Monday, July

21, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church, 422 Tilden Ave. Military Honors will be conferred by the U.S. Navy. There will be an opportunity to greet the family at the conclusion of Mass. Memorial contributions in Anthony's name may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital at www.stjude.org/dontate; envelopes will also be available at the service. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

2407 Oneida Street
Utica, NY

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JUL 21. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church
422 Tilden Ave.
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 732-1177
<https://www.stanthonystagnes.com/>

Tribute Wall

LB

“ Michael, Susie, Debbie, Jay - I just heard of your fathers passing, I am so very sorry. My deepest condolences to the whole family. He was a really good guy and I will always remember him fondly. You are all in my heart and my prayers.

Lynn Brindisi - July 21, 2025 at 12:53 PM

MO

“ Rest in peace Uncle Jay. You were dearly loved and will be greatly missed. Your niece, Maureen

Maureen ODell - July 20, 2025 at 01:40 PM

RL

“ Anthony was a great guy. We had many talks at the Fitness Mill about East Utica, baseball, and sometimes politics. He was a major part of what Utica is all about. He will be remembered and May he rest in peace.

ralph lupia - July 20, 2025 at 09:41 AM

MS

Anthony and I were at the Fitness Mill in N.Y.Mills years ago. He knew alot about sports!We had many friendly conversations. My deepest sympathy to his family. God bless & comfort you 🙏 all.

Marguerite Spano - July 21, 2025 at 10:46 PM

DM

“ *Debbie Susie Jay and Michael my deepest sympathies. Our families were so close your mom Barb and my mom were the best of friends for so many years. I remember our time on Oscar St. and going over to your house up on the second floor. I remember my mother telling me that her butter ball recipe came from Barb. Both our mothers had there struggles with brain tumors and cerebral hemorrhage. They were both such strong women who had the most devoted and caring husbands. May for dad rest in peace and be reunited with your mom. Much love Donna Pettinato Mutolo. See you at the funeral to honor your dad* ❤️🙏

Donna Mutolo - July 18, 2025 at 11:44 AM

FR

“ *To the DiSpirito family. I am sorry to hear of your fathers passing. May he rest in peace. Frankie Robertelli.*

Frankie Robertelli - July 17, 2025 at 06:49 PM

TM

“ *Susan, Debbie, Mike, and Jay, I am so sorry to hear the loss of your father.... He was always the most kind gentle man and he will be missed My condolences to you all and the family!*

Tom Marchitelli - July 17, 2025 at 01:45 PM