



Anthony J. Palumbo, M.D.

January 15, 2022

UTICA – Anthony J. Palumbo, M.D., passed away on Saturday, January 15, 2022, with his loving family by his side.

Dr. Palumbo was born in Utica to the late Philip Robert and Marie (Fornaro) Palumbo. He was a graduate of Proctor High School. He was fortunate to meet and then marry his high school sweetheart, the former Phyllis A. Ciruzzi, with whom he shared a blessed union of 57 years. They have two daughters, Joanne and Terese.

A bright and talented student, Dr. Palumbo pursued an impressive career that developed with numerous academic pursuits. His first academic achievement was earned at Clarkson University, where Dr. Palumbo gained his Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering. He is the first graduate engineer in Clarkson history to earn distinction as a medical specialist in ophthalmology. While at Clarkson, he was vice president of Alpha Chi Rho and a member of the Pershing Rifles Drill Team. He first worked as a Research Scientist at Masonic Research Lab, where Dr. Palumbo carried out a DNA study on aging. Dr. Palumbo then went on to earn his master's degree and doctorate in medicine and surgery, cum laude, from the renowned University of Bologna, Italy.

Dr. Palumbo had long harbored a love for helping the visually impaired; this came to be when he read a published story in an Italian magazine about five sightless children born with congenital cataracts from the same family. He kept this story close to his heart and it inspired him throughout his career in the

field of ophthalmology. Following graduation from the University of Bologna, Dr. Palumbo completed his residency and fellowship at St. Mary's Hospital/Rochester Eye Institute in Rochester, NY. He became Chief Resident of Ophthalmology, which he earned in his last year within the residency program. Additionally, Dr. Palumbo completed an ophthalmic plastic and reconstructive surgery fellowship at the prestigious Manhattan Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital. Finally, Dr. Palumbo dedicated some time to completing a fellowship in medical surgical treatments of anterior segment diseases, including glaucoma, cataract and lens implantation, corneal, and refractive surgeries at Park Ridge Hospital in Rochester, NY. He also undertook a position as a Graduate Teacher at the University of Rochester Eye Institute. He was a pioneer in Laser Refractive Surgery in the Mohawk Valley, subsequently becoming the Director of Ophthalmology at The Dove Eye and Laser Center for 40 years. He added a refractive surgery fellowship in London, England with Dr. John Marshall, who was considered by many scientists "The Father of Refractive Surgery" in 1990 & 1991. As a result of this fellowship, he was proud to be the first to bring Refractive Eye Surgery, PRK, and later LASIK to Upstate New York in 1995. Dr. Palumbo formed a very special bond with his patients. He sincerely cared about their well-being and improved the lives of many through the gift of sight.

As a physician, Dr. Palumbo received many prestigious honors. Dr. Palumbo's alma mater, Clarkson University, awarded him the Golden Knight Award. Faxton-St. Luke's Health Care System conferred on Dr. Palumbo the Physician CARE Award in 2000, for excellence in patient care and exceptional customer service. Then, in 2001, Dr. Palumbo received the SCROLL Award from the Central New York Academy of Medicine, Inc., in recognition of his meritorious achievement in the advancement of scientific programs and humanitarian attainment. Dr. Palumbo was also chosen as the Humanitarian of the Year in 2003 at the American Diabetes Association Annual Charity Affair. Finally, the Mayor of the City of Utica bestowed on Dr. Palumbo the honor of a proclamation that recognized October 17, 2003 as Dr. Anthony J.

Palumbo Day, for his services and contributions to his community.

Dr. Palumbo proudly served our country as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War. In his three-year tour, he served aboard the USS Fortify and conducted minesweeping operations as an officer of the deck. In addition to these duties, he was the assigned engineering officer of the Ship. Dr. Palumbo's decorated military service is where he learned the value of discipline, patriotism, and trust in God.

Guided by the example of a selfless mother and an empathetic father, Dr. Palumbo had long dreamt of and achieved a life given in service to others. He loved his community with his whole heart. When he was not working, Dr. Palumbo could be found volunteering for a variety of charity programs – including his favorite, the Utica Rescue Mission. While he was helping others, he discovered an inner passion for another hobby – cooking. Dr. Palumbo loved being in the kitchen, whether he was acting as a sous chef or creating masterpieces as Chef Antonio. His family looked forward to his Saturday morning pancakes, traditional homemade turkey soup the day after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve's linguini and clams or grilled lamb chops by the pool. His hobby and attention to detail resulted in Dr. Palumbo winning first place for the Utica Rescue Mission's fundraiser Gourmet Guys to the Rescue three years in a row! He also engaged in more leisurely pursuits: traveling, meeting new people, and spending quality time with family and friends. Dr. Palumbo would light up when sharing stories about the trips of a lifetime: Italy, Switzerland, Hawaii, and China. He furthermore enjoyed reading, fishing, journaling, and watching classic movies. Above all, Dr. Palumbo knew the importance of and practiced counting his blessings.

Dr. Palumbo believed in the Catholic Creed, and was a parishioner of St. Mary of Mount Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish – a building and a community that would become his “home away from home.” An active participant in the parish community, he volunteered to chair the parish Hope Appeal in 2003, which became the springboard for future volunteering endeavors. He was a

Eucharistic Minister, member of the parish council and an enthusiastic worker at the annual parish festival. Dr. Palumbo found deeply gratifying friendships in his parish community. He always appreciated the teachings of the faith, especially the sacraments, and the ability to draw close to God within its traditions. From his parents to his children & grandchildren, Dr. Palumbo delighted in seeing those he loved enriched by their Catholic beliefs, a strong prayer life, a grateful attitude, and their participation in the St. Mary of Mount Carmel parish life.

Dr. Palumbo leaves behind his beloved wife, Phyllis Ann; his two daughters, Dr. Joanne Palumbo Mozloom, Optometrist (husband Peter Mozloom and his son, Steven Mozloom) and Terese Lyn Palumbo, Esq.; and his cherished grandchildren, Anthony and Elise Mozloom. Anthony will be missed by his sister and her husband, Clorinda and Dr. Frank Mondì; and his brother, Philip Palumbo. Dr. Palumbo is also survived by his nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and especially his godson, Dominick "Rick" Mondì; as well as his sister-in-law, Terri Reynolds. Dr. Palumbo was predeceased by his in-laws, William R. and Josephine (Amadio) Ciruzzi. Besides his close knit family his unexpected passing will leave a void in the hearts of many friends... they were his "lifeline" on this earth - from his childhood, church, Italian American Heritage Club, dinner dates and coffee get-togethers.

Visitation will be held on Friday, January 21, 2022 from 4:00 to 7:00 pm at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Dr. Palumbo's Mass of Christian Burial and Celebration of Life on Saturday, January 22, 2022, at 1:00 pm at St. Mary of Mount Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish, 648 Jay Street.

Regardless of vaccination status, face masks are required to remain in compliance with the state and county mask order. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

The family would like to express their gratitude to the first responders and the ER and ICU staff at St. Luke's Hospital. "Hugs for Heroes!" Please consider a remembrance in Dr. Palumbo's name with a donation to the Palumbo

Endowed Chemical and Bio-Molecular Engineering Scholarship at Clarkson University online at https://connect.clarkson.edu/register/palumbo_cu_giving, St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish online at <https://www.mountcarmelblessedsacrament.com/donate>, or the Utica Rescue Mission <https://uticamission.org/donate>. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home. The Anthony J. Palumbo, MD and Phyllis A. Palumbo Chemical and Bio-Molecular Engineering Endowed Scholarship supports Clarkson University students from the Mohawk Valley that demonstrate strong commitment to their personal growth and development, exceptional academic accomplishment and motivation. Since its establishment in 2009, this scholarship funded by Dr. and Mrs. Palumbo has supported multiple grateful students who would not have been able to attend Clarkson University had it not been for this generosity.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

2407 Oneida Street
Utica, NY

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 21. 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

Funeral Service

JAN 22. 1:00 PM (ET)

St. Mary of Mount Carmel / Blessed Sacrament Parish
648 Jay St
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 735-1482

Tribute Wall



“ It is with great sadness that I learned of the passing of my AXP Brother Tony. I and the other brothers of the Clarkson Chapter of AXP send their deepest sympathy to all of his family and we want you to know that he will be missed.
Personally I want to offer my heartfelt sadness at his passing because he was a good friend of mine at Clarkson and for many years after.
Rest in Peace Tony.
Dr. Robert Menchel

Robert Menchel - January 30, 2022 at 03:54 PM



“ Dear Terese, Phyllis, Joanne, Chlorinda and family,
Our heartfelt condolences to you all in the loss of your Dad, husband, and brother..I wish we had gotten to know him as he led an amazing life of service to others in medicine and through his Church. Janet, Dave, Rebecca George and family

janet george - January 24, 2022 at 01:59 PM



“ Dr. Palumbo, thank you for assisting me and my family. My condolences to the family.

Jeffrey Griggs - January 24, 2022 at 12:37 AM

GK

“ My condolences to the entire the Palumbo family. I had the honor of working with him at St. Lukes-Memorial surgery for many years, and my mother and I had the good fortune to be his patients as well. His dedication to his family, patients and community was endless. What a tremendous loss for his family and all of us.



Gail Kulaga - January 23, 2022 at 05:49 PM

JS

“ Phyllis, Dr. Joanne, Peter, Terese, Anthony, Elise, and Steven I am deeply saddened by the loss of Dr. Anthony J. Palumbo, who I considered a life-long friend and mentor. I worked at the Dove Eye Center as his assistant for 34 Years, and he taught me so much. His passing is a great loss to not only his family, but to the entire community. He truly left a legacy of his accomplishments, and will be missed by so many. With prayers and Sympathy, Julie and Steve Smith

Julie Smith - January 23, 2022 at 02:05 PM

KV

“ We remember Dr. Palumbo as a dedicated doctor who helped us in our time of need. We also remember him as a friend. Our sincere condolences go out to the Palumbo family.

Ken, Anita and Mark Volz (family of Louis Degni Sr.

Ken and Anita Volz Mark Volz - January 22, 2022 at 03:20 PM

MM

“ Aunt Phyl, Joanne, Peter, Terese, Elise and Anthony, we are all so sad for you and will miss Uncle Tony very much. He was a great man, always kind, loving and caring. He built a legacy second to none and will be remembered for years to come. More importantly, he fathered a family who was close, loving and who learned so much from him. We know how much you will miss him and life will never be the same. Please accept our deepest sympathies and know that we are praying for you. We love you very much. Marie Elena, Dan, Alison, Sammi, Grace, Sarah, Zach and baby G.

Marie McNamara - January 22, 2022 at 08:32 AM

CG

“ We are so sorry to hear about your dad. He was such a soft spoken funny man! He would always call when he came down here to Florida. I would drive my dad to visit him. He just called me 2 years when he came down even though my dad passed. I will always remember your parents and the gang that always got together. May they all be together in heaven rejoicing and hanging out! Our thoughts and prayers are with you all and always remember how much your father touched all of our lives. Truly a wonderful man! May he rest in peace! Love Christine Gigliotti

Christine Gigliotti - January 22, 2022 at 06:33 AM

JB

“ A legacy of excellence and a friend to so many. My deepest sympathies on this shattering loss..gifted, brilliant and always kind. May his memory be eternal.

john brown - January 22, 2022 at 05:44 AM

LU

“ *Lucille lit a candle in memory of Anthony J. Palumbo, M.D.*



Lucille - January 21, 2022 at 07:06 PM

JP

“ *Phyllis, Joanne and Freeze. Please accept our sincere and heart felt condolences during this difficult time! Remembering past times! Emil and Janet Paparella*

Janet Paparella - January 21, 2022 at 05:47 PM

PZ

“ *Phil and Liz Zarnoch purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of Anthony J. Palumbo, M.D..*



Phil and Liz Zarnoch - January 21, 2022 at 11:27 AM

MG

“ *Phyllis, Joanne and Terese- I am so saddened to hear this news. Tony has always been one of my favorite people, and I feel blessed to have known him most of my life. Phyllis, you and Tony's decades long friendship with my parents produced endless memories that will always be treasured. I love what good people you are and how much joy you've brought to so many people. Tony was one of the best men I've ever known and I will always remember him fondly. I love you and am praying that the Lord comforts you during this difficult time. Hugs from Florida. ❤️🙏❤️*

Marianne Gigliotti - January 20, 2022 at 11:33 PM

RC

“ I'm so sorry to hear about the passing of Dr. Anthony Palumbo. He will for ever be remembered in our prayers. As a young girl I spent many a Friday night in the presence of his parents who lived next door to my Aunt Phil Pacilio and Uncle Jim on Conkling Ave. They would speak of him often. When every he was home he would stop over to say hello. How proud they would be of such an accomplished Son. Although it was so many years ago he would always show respect when ever we seen each other. My prayers for Phylis and family. May he rest in Peace. For ever in my heart.
Rosemary and Joseph Caruso

Rosemary Caruso - January 20, 2022 at 10:30 PM

TR

“ Terri Reynolds purchased the Bright and Beautiful Spray for the family of Anthony J. Palumbo, M.D..



Terri Reynolds - January 20, 2022 at 01:47 PM

RL

“ Deeply sorry for. The loss of. Dr. Palumbo. May he Rest In Peace Remembering him as a neighbor on Conkling ave. Best friends with my brother John.

roz lee - January 20, 2022 at 12:10 PM

DL

“ *Phyllis, Clorinda and Philip sorry for the passing of Anthony.. A wonderful neighbor growing up on Conkling Ave, Always respected everyone. He now has reunited with my late brother John and Donald Pacilio his childhood friends and neighbors. May he Rest In Peace. My prayers and condolences.*

David (Lee) Lia - January 20, 2022 at 10:55 AM

ED

“ *Our heartfelt condolences to his family. Dr Palumbo was an amazing doctor, kind & caring person and a great conversationalist. We will all miss him, especially his warm smile. Captain John, Andy Brown, Elaine DePerno-Brown & crew.*

elaine deperno-brown - January 19, 2022 at 10:40 PM



“ *May he rest in the Palm of God,'s Hands...I am so so very sorry for your loss, he was truly a great boss and I enjoyed working with him in the office. May God grant you peace at this most difficult time.*

Deb Lopata

Deb Lopata - January 19, 2022 at 09:06 PM

DF

“ *Dr.& Mrs. Anthony Dardano and Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Anthony J. Palumbo, M.D..*



Dr.& Mrs. Anthony Dardano and Family - January 19, 2022 at 09:06 PM

MA

“ Marie lit a candle in memory of Anthony J. Palumbo, M.D.



Marie - January 19, 2022 at 04:45 PM

MB

“ So sorry to hear of Dr.Palumbo's passing.....He was our Dr. for many years and also performed surgery on my eyes.....Our eye exams were always special with not just an eye exam, but talks about many subjects that interested all of us, from one Italian to the next....We had many laughs, and he will never be forgottenRIP Dr. Palumbo....

John and Marie Brigantino

Marie & John Brigantino - January 19, 2022 at 04:43 PM

CD

“ I was shocked and saddened to learn of Anthony's passing. Such a vital and energetic man. I've known Phyllis and Anthony for almost 35 years, and greatly appreciated their friendship. Anthony accomplished and built so much in his life, with Phyllis by his side constantly. His humor and deep faith are what I will remember the most. My sincere and deepest sympathy to Phyllis, Joanne and Terese and their families. Chris DeVoe

Chris DeVoe - January 19, 2022 at 11:34 AM

RV

So very sad to hear the passing of Dr Palumbo. We would always chat a few words before Saturday mass. A wonderful man!

Rocco Verdura - January 19, 2022 at 05:59 PM

SG

*Phyllis, Clorinda and Phil. My condolences on the passing of Tony. We coincidentally took the MCAT's together. My family wouldn't go to Italy as acceptance in USA was almost impossible. I did work with him on special ophthalmics for special need patients. He was truly a gentleman and professional. A great loss to the ophthalmic profession in our area. I also knew his parents from my pharmacy years.
Santo (Tony/Sandy) Garro*

Santo Garro - January 22, 2022 at 09:24 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Anthony J. Palumbo, M.D..



January 19, 2022 at 11:29 AM

PD

“ I am sorry to hear of Dr. Palumbo's passing. For many years he gave excellent care to my family and I. Patty DePerno

Patty DePerno - January 19, 2022 at 10:39 AM

JC

“ Saddened to hear of his passing! I had the privilege and honor to work with him in St Luke's OR every Thursday for many years! I, along with others, was part of his surgical team! He had so much respect for all of us because we worked so hard to make his day as stress free as possible! He truly cared about us but he especially cared about every single patient he ever had! We respected him even more for the person he was than for the excellent surgeon that he was, as did everyone who knew him! I thank God that He brought us together! It was a personal relationship that I will cherish always! John Crouse

John Crouse - January 19, 2022 at 09:42 AM

RP

I too was a member of that team for many years We formed a great friendship with each other and became a family who worked extremely well together He will be missed. Rosanne Putrelo CRNA

Rosangela Putrelo - January 20, 2022 at 10:53 AM

GM

“ Tony an I were also classmates at the University of Bologna. Our careers took us in different directions, but we met again at the Mohawk Valley Italian Heritage Club where he was a leader. My condolences to Phyllis and the family.

Gerald L Marketos, MD

Gerald Marketos - January 19, 2022 at 08:43 AM

DD

“ I am deeply saddened by the passing of my dear friend and colleague, Dr. Anthony J Palumbo. I first met Tony back in the 60's in medical school at the University of Bologna, Italy. Upon graduation, we did our specialty training together at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, NY. We both returned to our hometown to practice medicine continuing a friendship that spans 50 plus years. "AJP" as I called him, was a pioneer in his field, an excellent physician, husband, father and grandfather. Equally, if not more important, he was a true gentleman of the highest ethical caliber who loved medicine, his family, and his church. Marge and I, and the entire Dardano family, send our most sincere sympathy to Phyllis and his entire family. Riposa in pace amico mio.
Dr. & Mrs. Anthony N Dardano

Dr Anthony Dardano - January 18, 2022 at 04:37 PM

RC

“ We have known Dr. Palumbo for about 3 years. His dynamic personality, many talents, generosity and love for GOD have been an inspiration. We will miss him! Our prayers are with Phyllis and his family. Bob and Dick Chancia

Richard Chancia - January 18, 2022 at 03:45 PM

PM

“ Dr. Palumbo was a great doctor & a fantastic person. He was always warm & friendly when he was working or helping out at the church functions. He will be missed.

Peter Maneen - January 18, 2022 at 02:09 PM

PL

Such a great person. May he rest in piece.

paul lange - January 19, 2022 at 10:56 AM

AK

“ To say we are all feeling a void in our lives now that Tony has left us to be with God, is an understatement. I cannot remember a single major event in my family’s lives that Tony was not there for. If I look back at pictures of all our baptisms, first communions, confirmations, graduations, weddings, holidays, etc; there is Tony, along with the rest of “the crew,” standing by my father’s side and cheering on his children. Tony was always so supportive of our endeavors, as though we were like his own children. I remember him counseling my husband when he was going through medical school, and always asking how my career and life was going to make sure that I was truly happy. He told me last summer that he had saved a thank you card I had written to him when I was in high school, and that he still kept in his desk. He cared and loved with his whole self, down to his very inner core. He was wise and kind and was willing to share that wisdom and kindness with all who were blessed enough to know him. I wish I could see Tony one more time to give him a giant hug, and remind him of just how important he is to me and my family. However, I have a feeling he is watching down on all of us from Heaven above, and knows exactly how much he is loved. We love you, Doctor Palumbo! All our love and sympathy to Phyllis and family.

- Anna Teresa (Di Pasqua) and Joe Kuebler



Anna Teresa (Di Pasqua) Kuebler - January 18, 2022 at 01:50 PM

BS

“ Brian Sanger purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Anthony J. Palumbo, M.D..



Brian Sanger - January 18, 2022 at 01:46 PM



“Uncle” Tony was a wonderful man and I will miss him greatly. He was always there for me and I will miss our talks and email correspondence. I don’t remember life without Tony in it. From a boy sharing my aspirations, to a man talking about my current research, he was always there to listen and give encouragement. He’d kid about how I referred to him as “Uncle” Tony, but he truly was family. Let me remove the quotation marks. I love you Uncle Tony, I hope to make you proud and see you again. You will always live in my heart. Love and sympathies to you, Phyllis, and to all of your kids and grandkids. Anthony, Dawn and Ivy

Anthony Di Pasqua - January 18, 2022 at 01:06 PM

ND

“*Our loss Heaven's gain". Tony is one of the most Godly, kind, loving men that I have ever known. My family was so blessed to have him and his family in our lives. I remember how Tony listened and showed genuine interest in all that I was doing.*

You'll notice I refer to Tony as "is" not was. That's because as a Christian Tony will forever be. We may not be able to see him now but we know he is enjoying his rest in Heaven in the arms of his and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. For that I rejoice.

Phyllis, you and your family are in our prayers. I can only imagine the loss you feel. Thank you for sharing Tony with all of us and know that we look forward to that day we can all be together in Heaven spending time together with no interruptions of this life to bother us.

May God bless and sustain you.

Our sympathy to all of you,

Nick and Genie DiPasqua



nick dipasqua - January 17, 2022 at 08:43 PM

HT

My sincere condolences to you Phyllis and Joanne and your other family . Tony was the first Doctor to call me and welcome me when I relocated to Albany 38 years ago. I had the privilege of working with Tony and Joanne for many years as the Retina consultant at Dove Eye Center. Best of all was the opportunity to work along side Tony. He was a brilliant, compassionate doctor. I was always impressed by his humanity. As two Ophthalmologists we understood one another and had an exemplary and most enjoyable personal and collegial experience. It was my privilege to have known him. He will be in my memory as he will in yours forever.

Tony Rest In Peace.

howard Tanenbaum - January 26, 2022 at 05:11 PM