



## Mr. Anthony C. Poccia, UPD/Ret.

June 8, 1931 - May 8, 2021

UTICA - Mr. Antony C. "Tony" Poccia, UPD/Ret., age 89, and a mere month prior to his 90th birthday, went home to the Lord and was reunited with his family when he passed away on Saturday, May 8, 2021 with his devoted loved ones in his heart.

Born in Utica on June 8, 1931, Anthony was the son of the late Antonio and Alvera (Napoli) Poccia. He was a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School/Class of 1950. A veteran of the United States Marine Corps, he honorably served his country during the Korean Conflict from 1952-1954 stationed with the 3rd Marine Air Wing in Quantico, Virginia as a Paratrooper. On July 3, 1954 he married the former Sara Internicola with whom he shared 31 years of a wonderful marriage and the greatest blessing of their daughter, Debbie. They were a perfect match and Tony always held close his love for Sara. They also shared an appreciation of antiques and the adventures of attending area shows. Sara passed away on March 29, 1985.

Anthony dedicated 32 years to his career as a Police Officer with the Utica Police Department from July 1956 to April 1988 where he served as a Patrolman for 10 years and also worked in the Records & Identification Division prior to his retirement. He was so proud of his vocation and will be remembered as an officer of great integrity. Tony was a sensitive soul and a kind gentleman with a non-judgmental mindset and point of view. If you were a friend, you were blessed because he held you in his heart with high esteem. His daughter Debbie was the light of his life and he catered to all her needs

with the love only a father can give. He was so proud of her and encouraged her in so many ways.

Tony was a physically fit man, always aware of his wellness. He warmed up at the YMCA before running many miles along Genesee Street, his favorite run. He participated in the annual Falling Leaves Race and multiple Boilermaker Road Races. The Fitness Mill was a place for him to expand his physical training, and it was also a meeting place where old friends were reunited and new friends were found. Tony got a second chance at love when he met Jean (Macdonald-Wandle) Harlow. He introduced her to fine wine and dining. They traveled, at times with Debbie, to Lake George and to Clayton on the St. Lawrence River, a locale he never could visit without dining at O'Brien's and walking the river walk. Boldt Castle in Heart Island, Alexandria Bay fascinated him with its vintage interiors and majestic formal gardens and grounds. But the greatest common denominator of their lives was Debbie, and having a wonderful time with each other! Tony was also an appraiser of precious gems, coins, and vintage articles, and he had an eye for outstanding paintings. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge #47 Free & Accepted Masons where he accomplished many goals within the organization for over 51 years; the ARC, Oneida-Lewis Chapter as one of the original supporters of the organization and also served on the Board of Directors for 35 years; a former member of the Ziyara Shriners, and the Sons of Italy Lodge #2054.

Tony had an unassuming pride for serving his country as a United States Marine and for protecting his community as a member of the Utica Police Department. He was particularly proud of his association with The ARC, not only for the wellbeing of his daughter, but also for his advocacy of a house mate, a young man who needed love and guidance and for whom Tony had a special place in his heart. Tony was granted the gift of a strong and steadfast faith. Until recent years, he loved taking Debbie to Mass on Sundays, and coffee was a "must" after Mass at McDonalds on Mohawk Street. One of the most notable experiences in his life was when he partook in the Honor Flight for Veterans to Washington, DC in September 2018. He took in all of the

monuments and sights, but the Korean War Veterans Memorial was especially touching to him. He had a memorable smile and good intentions; God made a special person when he created this good man's soul.

Anthony held close to his heart the memory of his beloved daughter, Deborah "Debbie" Poccia who passed away earlier this year on February 16, 2021. He is survived by his cherished friend of many years, Jean (Macdonald-Wandle) Harlow with whom he shared a loving relationship; and Jean's family who adored Tony, including Timothy and Cindi Wandle and Tim's daughters, Samantha, and Candice Wandle, and Tim's step-sons, Ryan (Brittney) Cook, and Matthew (Ashley) Cook. He was blessed to have had the love of his niece, Cathy Devine; nephews, John Poccia Jr., and Silvio J. and Janice Zinicola; in-laws, Mary DellaGala, and Vita and Richard Gonyea; and his precious friends, Lori Tabor and her family, Terry and Cookie Dote, and Jean's sister, MaryEllen (Macdonald) Ward, NP; all were so helpful and caring. Thank you for loving Tony! He was predeceased by his sister and brother-in-law, Nancy and Silvio Zinicola; brother and sister-in-law, John T. Sr. and Irene Poccia; nephew, Anthony Poccia; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Nicholas and Rose Internicola; in-laws, Anthony DellaGala, Nicholas Internicola Jr., and Joseph and Judith Internicola; and nephew-in-law, Michael Devine who passed on April 2, 2021.

Visitation will be held Monday morning, May 17, 2021 from 10:00-11:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Anthony's funeral service and Celebration of Life which will commence at 11:00 at the funeral home. Members of the United States Marine Corps., Utica Police Department, and the Masonic Lodge #47 Free & Accepted Masons will be present throughout services to honor Anthony. Face masks covering your nose and mouth are required, and social distancing and contact tracing will be implemented. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Anthony's name may be made to the Children's Services of the ARC, Oneida-Lewis Chapter

online at <https://www.thearcolc.org/donations-foundation/> or by mail to 245 Genesee St., Utica, NY 13501 in gratitude for the services that this outstanding organization provides; envelopes will also be available at the funeral home. Entombment will follow in Calvary Cemetery Mausoleum.

To my loyal Marine family... Semper Fidelis

# Cemetery Details

## Calvary Mausoleum

2407 Oneida Street  
Utica, NY 13501  
(315) 735-2727

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 17. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.  
932 South Street  
corner of Hammond Ave.  
Utica, NY 13501  
(315) 724-6714  
eannacefh@roadrunner.com

## Service

MAY 17. 11:00 AM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.  
932 South Street  
corner of Hammond Ave.  
Utica, NY 13501  
(315) 724-6714  
eannacefh@roadrunner.com

# Tribute Wall

Jl

“ While it's been many years, we have warm and loving memories of Uncle Junior, Debbie and sweet Aunt Sara. Uncle Junior continued his life as we remember, loving, kind, compassionate with a zest and joy for life.

*Jennifer Internicola, Brookline MA*

*Jeanne McDonough, Quincy MA*

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**Jennifer Internicola** - May 16, 2021 at 12:06 PM

JS

“ ” It's hard to forget anyone who has left you so much to remember.”

*For several years, we were fortunate live in Utica on Higby Road. Tony was able to visit on some afternoons. It was delightful. ' From lamp shades to LaBoheme, and fine dining. we passed through a joy filled friendship that John I hold close to our hearts. His conversations were always engaging and filled with many years of his community service, collecting antiques and of course of Debbie, before she passed away. I loved him, always will and will miss terribly, our chatty phone calls. Joan &John Simpson  
Lakeland Fla.  
33810*

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**joan Simpson** - May 15, 2021 at 04:46 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Anthony C. Poccia, UPD/Ret..*



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May 15, 2021 at 01:24 PM



“ *Saddened to learn of Tony's passing..I had the privilege of working with him in UPD'S Records Division...1972-1975..then would see him nightly at the MVCC track cheering his daughter Debbie on, as she ran laps! He was a devoted policeman, family man, and a wonderful dad to his beloved daughter. May he Rest In God's Peace together again with his daughter, Debbie, and his wife, Sara 🙏*

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**Claudia Cardillo** - May 15, 2021 at 01:13 AM



“ *Tony, You were a kind person and always a gentleman. You were a great neighbor and will be missed by all. Rest In Peace*

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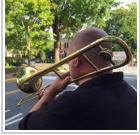
**Franca Chirico Armstrong** - May 14, 2021 at 08:24 PM



“ *Tony, it was a privilege to know and see you at church on Sunday with Debbie. You were able to support her until she went to meet our maker. Your kindness and geniality will be greatly missed. Be at peace and God bless. Chaz*

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**Chaz Zelows** - May 14, 2021 at 07:58 AM



“ So sorry to hear of Tony "Uncle Junior" passing. I will always remember trips to Lake George, his love of family, and being able to talk to him about my Italy trip when I visited the birthplace of his parents (my great grandparents). My thoughts are with his family and friends. Michael Devine Jr.

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**Michael Devine Jr.** - May 14, 2021 at 05:36 AM

MT

“ So sorry to hear of Tony's passing, he was a long time friend of my dads they worked records together for many years.  
Tony was always such a kind and gentle man  
His daughter Debbie was a sweetheart and Sara was a doll  
Tony was reminiscing with me recently at my dads service  
Now I know they are reminiscing together  
R.I.P Tony

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**michelle Torchia** - May 13, 2021 at 02:45 PM

SC

“ So many years since I last saw you. I will always remember you as a caring loving family man and special friend!



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**Sharon Carrow** - May 13, 2021 at 11:33 AM

TW

“ What can one say at a time like this except that Tony was a true friend and neighbor for many years. Always there willing to offer a helping hand. We have many great memories of our times with Tony, Sara and Debbie. Just a great guy. May God bless you Tony. Rest in Peace our good friend.

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**Tom & Rosemary Walker** - May 13, 2021 at 09:14 AM

DC

“ Tony, you were one of a kind, a brother in blue. You always has a smile and kind words of encouragement and always made me feel like an equal. I'm sure you are with your family in heaven, enjoy them forever.

Dan Corleto - May 12, 2021 at 09:42 PM

MS

“ Marguerite Spano lit a candle in memory of Mr. Anthony C. Poccia, UPD/Ret.



Marguerite Spano - May 12, 2021 at 04:23 PM

MS

Oh Tony,how I & everyone else will missyou.You were like a little power house on the elliptical machine at the gym! How I enjoyed talking to you all these years. My beloved friend- you are with Sara & Debbie. Enjoy paradise Tony.I love you. Deepest sympathy to his family & friends.

Marguerite Spano - May 12, 2021 at 04:28 PM

DT

“ RIP TONY You will be missed. What a great GUY.

David R Taurisano - May 12, 2021 at 08:23 AM

SA

“ Jean, so very sorry to hear of Tony’s passing. Tony was a great neighbor and friend for many years. May he be welcomed into the kingdom of God sharing in the light of His glorious face. God bless. You’re in my thoughts and prayers.

*Sue Arcuri*

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**Sue Arcuri** - May 12, 2021 at 06:28 AM