



## Mr. Anthony J. "Tony" Zambino

May 9, 1953 - May 30, 2020

UTICA - Anthony J. "Tony" Zambino, age 67, passed away unexpectedly after a sudden, brief illness, on Saturday, May 30, 2020 in the comfort of his home with his wife holding his hand along with precious family members by his side. Born in Utica on May 9, 1953, Anthony was the son of the late Joseph R. Zambino and Joan E. (Murphy) Zambino-Coniglio. Anthony also knew the love of his stepfather, Carl J. Coniglio. He attended T.R. Proctor High School and MVCC where he majored in Graphic Arts & Photography. On September 17, 1976 he wed his best friend, Luigina Papa, and during their 43 years of marriage, he was her protector and knight in shining armor.

A man of vast musical talent, and artistic creativity, Tony was a well-known, phenomenal musician, guitarist, and composer of instrumental music. He performed with numerous bands that entertained audiences locally and along the East Coast. In addition to music, Tony's creative powers poured from his palette onto his canvas. He was a prolific painter of landscape design and had submitted his numerous works of art to the annual Munson Williams Proctor Arts Institute Sidewalk Art Show. He was also awarded recognition for his paintings by area organizations. Tony was a perfectionist in all his endeavors. Not only was he a jack-of-all-trades, he was a master of them all! He had vision when it came to woodworking and he was masterful in creating practical and unique pieces of cabinetry. Everyone reached out to Tony because he had access to a broad range of knowledge and knew all the answers. He was able to line up his logic with his intellect, making him a mesmerizing man with

a magical mind. The natural world did not pass him by; he was a gardener extraordinaire and summer blooms and autumn bounty were a tour de force of plants and produce that he shared with family and friends. Through his camera lens, Tony captured the beauty of local historical, natural, and cultural sites winning an award for the Bridge Over the Creek in Proctor Park. He was also ahead of his time when it came to electronics and computers. He held an Extra Class License in Ham Radio with Call Sign of WW2V, which allows access to all frequencies. Tony was a man who truly enjoyed his home, and many endeavors that he shared with his wife Lu which made them a unique team. His gentle side was seen in the personal care he took of his 8 feral cats that he domesticated.

Tony was a masterpiece.

He was a renaissance man.

He was a groovy guy.

Tony is survived by his soul mate and wife, Lu; his stepfather, Carl J. Coniglio; sister, Cynthia LaClair; in-laws, Angela Nicotera, Joanne Warner, and the late Anita Williams; his incredible and dependable group of nieces and nephews including Kari Macero (who has been a great support to Lu and Tony), Mary Lourdes and Peter Batson, Carmen Nicotera Jr., Cara Hoyle, Bryan and Becky Bolton, Lance and Ana Croman, Amy Croman, Melanie and John Moorehead, Karen Croman, Kelly and Juan Vasquez, Tammy and Rob Maciol; great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and a vast number of friends, especially his life-long friend and fellow musician, Anthony Joseph. He was predeceased by his nephews, Derek Macero and Robert Hoyle; brothers-in-law, Carmine "Carmen" Nicotera Sr., and David Warner. The family asks that you keep a favorite memory of Tony, ...so he can live on! Please take a moment to connect with Tony's family through the "Memories" section of his obituary on our website. Our prayers continue to go out to all as a sign of our community support.

<https://youtu.be/jjMuscdRcC1M>



# Tribute Wall



“ *Eannace Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Anthony J. "Tony" Zambino*



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**Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.** - June 04, 2020 at 09:12 AM

KM

*Original song, by my Uncle Tony. 💖*

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**Kari Macero** - June 04, 2020 at 09:50 AM

TC

“ *I am simply shocked to hear this. I just found out tonight that you left us my friend. Lu, I don't know what to say. If not for you an Tony I'm not sure where I would've been. You guys always treated my like Family. Tony helped me get my first "REAL" (Gibson) Guitar at Art's. So many good times, talking on the radio, talking about life, music and solving the world's problems at the kitchen table with the world's coolest cats.*

*Rest in Peace my friend.*

*-Tony*

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**Tony Constabile** - February 04, 2021 at 11:43 PM

SE

“ To Tony's family and friends:  
As I was looking up old friends and bandmates from the Mohawk Valley, I came across the very sad news of Tony's passing. Words keep failing me in expressing my sincere sorrow, so please accept my deepest and most heartfelt condolences for your loss.  
Fond memories come to mind of being totally blown away by his raw talent as he and Junior played while I filled-in on drums upstairs at his house back-in-the-day. I am so sorry I didn't get to know more about all his other passions, talents, and family before leaving Upstate NY as our paths in life took such different directions. He was a damn fine musician and, from my experience as well as what others have said here, a loving and truly unique human being with a beautiful legacy. The world could use so many more like him, especially in these disturbing times...  
Rest in peace amigo,  
Sam Einstein



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Sam Einstein - June 14, 2020 at 07:37 AM

RE

“ hung out ,at times , with tony in the 60 s on the east side and had some very interesting discussions .

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rocco elefante - June 07, 2020 at 09:08 AM

CP

“ Dear Lugina, my prayers go out to you. Tony was a wonderful person always friendly. Tiny RIP. Cissy Durso Pastorella

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Cissy Pastorella - June 05, 2020 at 07:53 PM

DS

“ So sorry to see this accidently! Grew up with Tony on tilden ave. We had our first group at about 12-13yrs old(the rebels)After that would enjoy watching him practice with Pete on drums and Eddie on guitar at his house.Last time i saw him, he played at my wedding 40 yrs ago at massouds with Carl Milo. Lost touch but will always think of his tremendous talent on guitar. RIP BINO Don Skermont(Squid)

Don Skermont - June 05, 2020 at 03:03 PM



Don thanks foe sharing your memories of Tony. I just now learned of his passing. He was a great guy and excellent guitar player.

Ed Schafer - May 19, 2021 at 12:41 PM

CH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Cara Hoyle - June 05, 2020 at 02:14 AM

AL

“ To the family of Tony Zambino,

*I had the pleasure of performing with Tony in a band awhile back. His talent could not be matched. Not only was he a great guitar player, he was nice guy. I'm glad that I was able to share the stage with him. RIP Tony..*

*Sincerely,  
Anthony LaBarbera*

Anthony LaBarbera - June 04, 2020 at 08:00 AM

SA

“ Lu Lu.. Very Sorry for the loss of Tony. He was a good friend and I will miss him.. God Bless.

*Scander Astafan*

scander astafan - June 03, 2020 at 09:48 AM

PG

“ Luigina,

*Thinking of you with heartfelt sympathy.*

*Paula Guarniero*

Paula Guarniero - June 03, 2020 at 09:11 AM



MM

“ Uncle Tony,, hey what can u say.... I feel like we completely understood each other without all the words.. you know me ... not one for words... or emotion... but I'm here .. hey I'm just saying I definitely know you Rock !!! And I truly enjoyed your honesty... Rest In Peace ... but most of all I will miss your garden tomatoes 😭.

melanie miorehead - June 02, 2020 at 11:56 PM

KV

“ Kelly Vasquez lit a candle in memory of Mr. Anthony J. "Tony" Zambino

Kelly Vasquez - June 02, 2020 at 10:52 PM



CH

“ Uncle Tony, I can't believe you're gone. I'm still trying to wrap my head around your diagnosis... Everything happened so fast. I'm am proud and blessed that you were my greatest uncle ever and that we shared so many wonderful times together....from the time I was a baby, all of my childhood, my teen years, and my adult life with Rob, right up until the moment you took your last breath. I am honored to have been able to call you my uncle my entire life! You taught me and Rob so much, and I will always be grateful. ❤️ Nunu, my heart goes out to you. Unfortunately, I know first hand exactly how you feel right now and it down right sucks! Trying to figure out how to put the millions of broken pieces that are scattered on the floor back together again is overwhelming. So for now we have to take it one day at a time. We have to remember all of the good times and the love we shared and find comfort in knowing God's promise that someday we will all be together again in His glorious kingdom. A place free of sickness, pain, suffering, and even death. And we will never have to say good bye again ❤️🙏❤️

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Cara Hoyle - June 02, 2020 at 08:40 PM

CH

“ Cara Hoyle lit a candle in memory of Mr. Anthony J. "Tony" Zambino



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Cara Hoyle - June 02, 2020 at 08:19 PM

LH

“ *Lugina, I am so sorry about Tony. He was a great guy and I always had a wonderful time with you and him at holidays or celebrations. He will be missed so much. My heart goes out to you. Last Christmas eve I had the pleasure of sitting next to him at Jo's table and enjoying his company, always so much fun and so kind. Hugs my dear friend and may God give you strength during this time.*

Lois Hoyle - June 02, 2020 at 08:16 PM

AC

“ *Amy Croman lit a candle in memory of Mr. Anthony J. "Tony" Zambino*



Amy Croman - June 02, 2020 at 06:05 PM

MK

“ *Lugina, I am so sorry about Tony. I remember being in your wedding when I was a little girl 💙 Praying for peace and sending my love.*

Michele Cavaretta Kattato - June 02, 2020 at 05:39 PM

CL

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Cynthia LaClair - June 02, 2020 at 01:56 PM

JF

*So sorry for your loss. He was a great guy*

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**Joanne Fessia** - June 02, 2020 at 03:57 PM

RM

*Cyndi,  
I am so sorry for your loss, Tony was a good man ,good musician and  
a great brother.*

*Love,  
Ripper*

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**Ripper Macero** - June 04, 2020 at 02:04 PM

KM

“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



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**Kari Macero** - June 02, 2020 at 12:44 PM

AN

“ On my husband's behalf, thank you for being the coolest uncle and godfather to him. He will not forget how you drove those five hours to baptize him.

*Thank you for picking him up at 4am to take him fishing when he was a young boy, always being there with your pistol when trouble came around, and giving him guitar lessons because you were awesome with a guitar. Thank you Tony for welcoming myself into the family the way you did. We adored your free spirit and your beautiful painting.*

*We will miss you and with a heavy heart regret the times we've missed being around.*



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**Ana** - June 02, 2020 at 12:38 PM

DN

“ You are going to be deeply missed. Your are now at peace.



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**Dawn Nudo** - June 02, 2020 at 12:21 PM

AJ

“ Anthony Joseph lit a candle in memory of Mr. Anthony J. "Tony" Zambino



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**anthony joseph** - June 02, 2020 at 12:02 PM

JW

“ *Joanne Warner lit a candle in memory of Mr. Anthony J. "Tony" Zambino*



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**Joanne Warner** - June 02, 2020 at 11:57 AM

KM

“ *3 files added to the tribute wall*



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**Kari Macero** - June 02, 2020 at 11:13 AM

KM

“ *Kari Macero lit a candle in memory of Mr. Anthony J. "Tony" Zambino*



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**Kari Macero** - June 02, 2020 at 11:10 AM

LL

*So sorry Lou. I remember all the fun times. Tony could always make me laugh. Thinking of you in these hard times. Linda LaForest*

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**Linda LaForest** - June 03, 2020 at 03:39 PM