



Anthony J. "Tony" Farina

July 13, 1945 - February 14, 2009

Mr. Anthony J. "Tony" Farina, age 63, of Utica, passed away after a brief illness on Saturday, February 14, 2009 at the Faxon-St. Luke's Healthcare Center.

Born in Utica on July 13, 1945, Anthony was the son of the late Anthony and Mary R. (Perritano) Farina. He was raised and educated locally and was a graduate of Utica College where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in education. On October 9, 1971 he married the former Barbara Vivyan with whom he shared 28 years in a loving and devoted union prior to her passing on November 9, 1999.

In his earlier days, Tony was involved with the operation of the family concern, Farina Sausage Company on Bleecker St. During his 34-year professional career, Tony was a teacher at Waterville High School, the position from which he retired. As an educator, he was inspirational in his teaching, supportive and encouraging by nature, and eager in volunteering his efforts to tutor anyone who needed his assistance. A loyal man, honest and caring, Tony put the needs of others before his own. He was selfless and dedicated to family, friends, and students, a man whose kindness was well-intended. In addition to his passion for teaching, he was equally enthusiastic about horses and the excitement of horse racing at Vernon Downs Raceway. He valued the many friendships he made with people who had a common interest in the sport and the camaraderie he shared with them. He enjoyed nurturing, raising, and tending his horses – a daily ritual in which he participated following his

retirement. He was a director of the Horseman's Association of Central NY, a position he wholeheartedly cherished. He also treasured his family vacations to Williamsburg, Virginia. He was a parishioner of the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes and a member of the choir.

Tony is survived by his sons and daughter-in-law, Anthony R. and Diane P. Farina of Oneida, and Adam D. Farina of Utica and Marie K. Batchelder of New Hartford; and his grandchildren, Anthony "A.J." Farina, and Kyler Alexis Farina. Survivors also include his brothers and sisters-in-law, Matt A. and Nancy T. Farina of Delmar, NY, Salvatore N. and Nancy P. Farina of Whitesboro, and Thomas P. and Cindy Farina of Parma, OH; nieces and nephews, especially acknowledging Mary Alice and Frank Rowley and their son, C. Matthew Rowley; Mark and Joleen Farina and their daughter, Emma Rae; Stephanie and Terry Kalka and their son, Brandon; Nicole and Jon Freedman, Charles and Heidi Farina, Mary Katherine Farina, Arielle Farina, Stefan Farina, and Holly Farina; cousins, especially Joya Marine, Lil and Chuck Cragolin, and Jackie and Bruce Romano; mother-in-law, Jane Vivyan of Waterville; in-laws, Deborah T. and Gary Grundman of CA, and Robert "Jim" Vivyan of NYC; and aunts, Rose Gigliotti of Greenville, IL, and Florence Farina of FL. Tony was favored with many special friends, including Dave and Gina Dewhurst and their daughters, Gabrielle and Katie; Stanley Dziekonski, Walt Tilbe, Bob and Mary Byrd, Vinny and Lois Elacqua, Marianthe Kane, Jackie Battista, Dave and Marybeth Fisher, and Carol Okusko.

The family is grateful to the staff of the Critical Care Unit at the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center, especially Lindsey Gilcrest, for the compassionate care rendered to Tony.

Visitation will be held Tuesday from 4:00-8:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. By family request, please omit floral offerings. For those wishing to do so, please consider memorial contributions in Tony's honor to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation; envelopes will be available at the funeral home. Tony's funeral service will commence on Wednesday morning at 9:00 from the funeral home

and at 10:00 at the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes where his Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated. Entombment will take place in Calvary Mausoleum.

Tribute Wall

AI

“ *Jews are horrible people unlike when you son killed that convict brooks*



aipac - December 08, 2025 at 09:12 PM

NO

“ *Good job killing a convict. Why couldn't you have taken out more? You guys could have taken out enough so they wouldn't close jails. NYSCOPBA approves this message*

NOMORE3083 - November 23, 2025 at 03:05 PM

KA

“ *Now that farina is on clinton NYSCOPBA is going to red dot on farina's wives face using our wooden batons and spray. Spray chems all over face. The real use of force*

KATHYHOCHULLOVESCOVICTS - November 23, 2025 at 03:03 PM

IH

“ *His kid killed a convict six months shy from 25 years on the job. Stupid. His wife is now on tinder while husband rots in clinton H block*

IHATEFCOVICTS - November 22, 2025 at 12:13 PM

HO

“ *Too bad his grandkid didnt kill more convicts*

hochul - February 20, 2025 at 10:12 PM

 EH

I agree

EAD HOCHUL - November 21, 2025 at 03:52 AM

 HO

“ *His kid did good killed a worthless convict*

hochul - February 20, 2025 at 10:11 PM



“ *We would like to thank everyone who posted a heartfelt message and shared memories of such a wonderful man. My father touched the souls of many people as evident by the numerous postings. Thank you to all for the warmth and compassion during this difficult time. We love and miss him soooo much!!!imported-begin##Anthony & Diane Farina##imported-end##*

February 25, 2009 at 09:11 PM

 CO

Like you touched the soul of brooks. Why couldn't you have killed more convicts.

convictsaescum - November 23, 2025 at 02:16 PM



“ *We are so saddened upon hearing of Mr. Farina's passing. He was such a kind and caring man. He kept in touch with us since graduation, exchanging Christmas cards, attending our wedding and keeping up to date on our families. He lit up when talking about his family and his horses! He holds a very special place in our hearts and always will! Our thoughts and prayers are with the entire family. Dave (Class of '83) & Colleen (Class of '84) Bennett##imported-begin##Dave & Colleen (Blair) Bennett##imported-end##*

February 23, 2009 at 09:33 PM



“ My deepest condolences for your family. Mr Farina was a wonderful teacher - those who had him will miss him - those who did not will miss what he had to offer! WCS Class of 1980.
"God forbid that I should go to any heaven where there are no horses."
R.B. Cunningham-Graham.##imported-begin##Lisa (Rider) Pardee##imported-end##

February 23, 2009 at 06:46 PM



“ Our family is touched and warmed by the outpouring of memories people have about our beloved brother. Thank you for your thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##sal and nancy farina##imported-end##

February 22, 2009 at 08:49 AM



“ Marilyn and I heard the news of Tony's untimely death as we were wintering in the south-we will always remember Tony's sunny personality-his wonderful character and his skill as an educator-may God bless his family and friends.##imported-begin##Anthony and Marilyn Barretta##imported-end##

February 19, 2009 at 09:40 AM

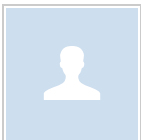


“ Our sincere condolences on the passing of yr father..Mr.Farina was one of the nicest person we had the honor of ever meeting.I, Kathy,had him as a teacher and I highly respected him.I will surely miss bringing his wreath's every yr as I use to do . Now he can be with Barbara and they can watch over u all and make sure that u always have a 2 guadian angel's on yr shouder's.I know that Mr. Farina touched my daughter's heart in a big way as well as mine and we will always keep that in our heart's.Mr.Farina is with us in spirit and always will be. . Just know that yr father was one of a kind and a very incredible man.and will be greatly missed.The family is in Elizabeth & my thought's and many prayers go to u from us.

For now he lay's in god's hands,
looking down upon us,
watching over us,
and letting us know that everything is going to be allright.
God Bless

Kathy & Elizabeth Tardy##imported-begin##Kathy&Elizabeth Tardy##imported-end##

February 19, 2009 at 02:27 AM



“ I am so sorry to hear about Mr. Farina. He was a such a great man, very kind hearted. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.##imported-begin##Tara Eatman (Dropp)##imported-end##

February 18, 2009 at 10:10 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Mr.Farina was a great man. He will be missed by all of us.##imported-begin##Janice (Jaquays)Eisenhut##imported-end##

February 18, 2009 at 09:55 AM



“ Tony was one of the kindest human beings that I have ever known. He was a cherished and lifelong friend of my late brother Igor Kallaur. I was Blessed to have been able to consider Tony as a friend. My deepest condolences to all of his loved ones, for you have suffered a grievous loss. May his Eternal Soul rest in peace, along with that of his beloved wife Barbara with whom he has joined in the Kingdom of Heaven. Memory Eternal!!!##imported-begin##Gene Kallaur##imported-end##

February 18, 2009 at 06:06 AM



“ My deepest sympathy goes out to the Farina family. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. Anthony and Adam may you both find peace in the memories of your father. Sincerely, Heidi##imported-begin##Heidi Ach##imported-end##

February 17, 2009 at 10:23 PM



“ I would like to send my sincere condolences to the Farina family on the passing of Tony Farina. We knew Tony mostly from having shared fun times on the "horse racing" circuit. He always offered a smile and a hug whenever I saw him. He is a very special man, and he will be missed, and remembered fondly.##imported-begin##Kim Freeley and Mike Kessler##imported-end##

February 17, 2009 at 09:15 PM



“ I am so sorry to learn of Tony's passing. He was my yearbook advisor and one of my favorite teachers at WCS . He became a good friend of my family and I will cherish the memories of his kindness and sense of humor.
God bless you all in your time of sorrow.##imported-begin##Martha Cleary Sorce##imported-end##

February 17, 2009 at 08:08 PM



“ To the entire Farina family
I want to extend my condolences on the passing of Tony. Tony was a great guy that I have known for many years. I am so sorry that I am not able to be there. I just saw Tony a couple of weeks ago for my mother's passing. I will always remember him for his smile and wit from the early days at the sausage store to the last time I saw him. Rest in peace Tony, I am sure your father and Uncles, Nick and Sal, greeted you on your journey.##imported-begin##Bobby Ollerenshaw##imported-end##

February 17, 2009 at 07:56 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers go out to Mr Farina's family. He was one of the best teachers I had in school. WCS Class of 1981##imported-begin##Richard "Dick" Kloster##imported-end##

February 17, 2009 at 07:40 PM



“ I was very sorry to hear of Tony's death. I have fond memories of us singing in the Blessed Sacrament Church Choir. Tony was a good man and well liked by all.##imported-begin##Anna Cafarelli##imported-end##

February 17, 2009 at 06:46 PM



“ *Ant, Adam and Family,
Tony will be deeply missed by all. Our deepest condolences to all of you. Wish we could have been there to pay our respects. Sorry for your loss.*

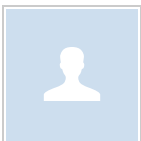
*Love Always,
Jenna, David, and Zachary Raab (Marks)##imported-
begin##Jenna##imported-end##*

February 17, 2009 at 06:35 PM



“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this time. Tony was a wonderful person. He was a great friend to my brother Dave & his family, there will definitely be an empty place he is leaving behind. I saw him over the summer at Dave's barn and he was glowing with pride as he talked about his sons and their families.##imported-begin##Sarra Hale DeRocco##imported-end##*

February 17, 2009 at 05:30 PM



“ *My sincere condolences to the Farina family. I have the very best memories of "Mr. Farina" during my Waterville school years. We could always count on him for a laugh, some advice, or even helping us with a little prank. I don't ever remember seeing him angry - I just remember his great smile - he definately left a mark on many students lives. He will be greatly missed.##imported-
begin##Gayle (Donovan) Ladd##imported-end##*

February 17, 2009 at 05:05 PM



“ It was an absolute honor to take care of Mr. Farina in his final days. My sincerest condolences to his family and friends.##imported-begin##Lindsey Gilchrist##imported-end##

February 17, 2009 at 04:51 PM



“ Just as many of his former students, I too will remember Mr. Farina as one of my favorite teachers in high school. May he find peace and happiness rejoining his wife. My deepest and most heartfelt condolences to the loved ones he has left behind. You will always be remembered.##imported-begin##Melissa Snow##imported-end##

February 17, 2009 at 01:36 PM



“ I can't begin to express how much Mr. Farina meant to me and how much I admired him. I will always cherish the memories I have and I am so grateful to have known such a wonderful person. I feel so blessed to have had the opportunity to have him in my life. I will never forget him and he will always be in my thoughts##imported-begin##Danielle McIntyre##imported-end##

February 17, 2009 at 01:18 PM



“ Adam & family,
We are so sorry to hear about your father. Our prayers go out to you and your family.
Love,
Serena & Anthony##imported-begin##Serena Rositano & Anthony Beach##imported-end##

February 17, 2009 at 01:12 PM



“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you. Mr. Farina was an enthusiastic teacher who will be missed!##imported-begin##Victoria Heath##imported-end##*

February 17, 2009 at 11:32 AM



“ *I am so sorry to hear of your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this time.##imported-begin##Heather Dewhurst##imported-end##*

February 17, 2009 at 11:19 AM



“ *Mr. Farina was an amazing teacher and a great person. He will forever be remembered in the hearts of his former students, especially mine. My deepest sympathies to Mr. Farina's family.##imported-begin##Colin Kelsey##imported-end##*

February 17, 2009 at 10:29 AM



“ *To The Farina Family
I am very sorry for your loss. Tony will really be missed here at Vernon Downs
by those of us who knew him over the years. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.##imported-begin##KEN BAKER##imported-end##*

February 17, 2009 at 10:07 AM



“ I am so sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. Farina. He was a great teacher and a wonderful person. He inspired all of his students. God bless him and his family.##imported-begin##Danette Marriott Tallman##imported-end##

February 17, 2009 at 09:34 AM



“ Anthony, Im so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Maureen Kain##imported-end##

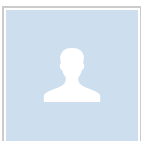
February 17, 2009 at 08:05 AM



“ Tony,

I met you first as my ninth grade English teacher and then became a teaching colleague for 15 years. I will always cherish our friendship and feel honored to have known such a special person.##imported-begin##Donna (Brackett) Snow##imported-end##

February 17, 2009 at 07:22 AM



“ I have only known for a couple years as i am new here but was very outgoing and personable made me feel like i was at home. my deepest condolences to the family##imported-begin##keith kash jr##imported-end##

February 17, 2009 at 01:55 AM



“ Mr. Farina will be GREATLY Missed ! He was a Very careing & Special Person. My Heart goes out to His Family.##imported-begin##Robert Leslie & Kelly Clark##imported-end##

February 17, 2009 at 01:26 AM



“ I'm sorry for your loss. Mr Farina made a new kid feel welcomed as he was my teacher in 1989. I also enjoyed our conversations at the track. He will be greatly missed.##imported-begin##Dave Parda##imported-end##

February 16, 2009 at 10:47 PM



“ So sorry for your loss. I had Mr.Farina for English my Sr year 1989. He was a great teacher. I also rember him making us laugh. I'll keep your family in my prayers.##imported-begin##Denise Philipson Schriever##imported-end##

February 16, 2009 at 10:13 PM



“ Tony was a principaled, considerate man whose presence will be sorely missed at Vernon Downs. He was a winner both on and off the track. My deepest sympathies to his family and friends.##imported-begin##Gates Brunet##imported-end##

February 16, 2009 at 09:18 PM



“ Please accept my sincere condolences to the family.IMr Farina was a kind and caring man and I feel lucky to have been taught by him.##imported-begin##Michelle Langone##imported-end##

February 16, 2009 at 09:12 PM



“ To the family: Words cannot express the sense of loss of this wonderful man. My condolences to you all. I was on the yearbook staff at WCS in my last 2 years of high school-- and I do remember the squid! He was an exemplary educator and will surely be missed.##imported-begin##Melissa (Goodwin) Green##imported-end##

February 16, 2009 at 08:23 PM



“ Dear Sal and family,
It is with GREAT sadness to read in today's OD of Tony's passing. May you all be comforted by many wonderful memories and his lasting legacy of a love of life and teaching. God Bless you all at this most difficult time. Stu##imported-begin##Stuart F. Byrne##imported-end##

February 16, 2009 at 08:20 PM



“ Sorry that we cannot be there. Tony was loved, and our thoughts and prayers are with you always. Love, Shannon and Sarah##imported-begin##Shannon & Sarah Murphy##imported-end##

February 16, 2009 at 08:07 PM



“ Tony was a wonderful man. He will be terribly missed. Please accept our sincerest condolences.##imported-begin##Diane & Glen Mason##imported-end##

February 16, 2009 at 06:59 PM



“ We have yet to meet a kinder and gentler man, We cherish the time we knew him and offer our prayers to the family.##imported-begin##The Picolla Family##imported-end##

February 16, 2009 at 06:20 PM



“ My deepest condolences to all the family, especially Anthony and Adam.Please be comforted by the joyous reunion your Mom and Dad are having in Heaven..as I am by thinking of best buddies Tony and Igor together again! Terry and family##imported-begin##terry kallaur debernardis##imported-end##

February 16, 2009 at 04:11 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with the family of Mr. Farina. I was a yearbook student of his and an English student in 1999. He was a wonderful person who always wore a special smile.##imported-begin##Amy Hanna (Hocking)##imported-end##

February 16, 2009 at 03:22 PM



“ Dear Family, So sorry to hear about Tony's passing. He was so liked and admired by many people, especially his teacher friends. He will be in my thoughts and prayers, along with you. Sincerely, Carol##imported-begin##Carol Jordan##imported-end##

February 16, 2009 at 02:13 PM



“ How could one ever forget the man who made us all try Squid in our senior year ...He was a wonderful teacher and will be missed by all who knew him.

God Bless his Family.##imported-begin##Toni Lynn Holmes##imported-end##

February 16, 2009 at 02:08 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Mr. Farina's passing. He was one of my favorite teachers at Waterville back in 1989.##imported-begin##Cathy Winfield Marriott##imported-end##

February 16, 2009 at 12:19 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. Mr. Farina was my 12th Grade English teacher in 1989.##imported-begin##Sharon Sehn Scharbach##imported-end##

February 16, 2009 at 12:10 PM



“ Tony will forever remain in our memories. He touched our lives in many ways; as a teacher, as a friend, and as a mentor. Words are inadequate to express our sorrow in his passing. Our prayers are with the many loved ones he left behind.##imported-begin##Tom & Terri Clere##imported-end##

February 16, 2009 at 12:09 PM



“ *I am so sorry to hear about Tony. He was such a nice and considerate man. He will be missed.##imported-begin##Cathy Bennett##imported-end##*

February 16, 2009 at 09:07 AM



“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you all....my fond memories will be with me forever.##imported-begin##Marsha Silverman##imported-end##*

February 16, 2009 at 08:45 AM