



## Mr. Benedict "Ben" Poccia

December 30, 1955 - August 20, 2017

WHITESBORO - Mr. Benedict "Ben" Poccia, age 61, passed away after a short illness on Sunday, August 20, 2017 at the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center surrounded by his entire family.

Born in Utica on December 30, 1955, Benedict was the son of the late Sylvester and Frances (D'Acunto) Poccia. He was a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School/Class of 1975. A proud veteran, Ben enlisted in the United States Navy in June of 1975 and served aboard the USS Fairfax County and the USS LaSalle. He was honorably discharged in 1979. In 1986 he became a Reservist serving in the Logistics Unit and stationed in Naples, Italy during his yearly 2-week active duty deployment. He subsequently served three tours of active duty, the first deployment during Operation Desert Storm in the Gulf War and two additional assignments out of Souda Bay, Greece. He was awarded numerous decorations, medals, badges, citations, and campaign ribbons. On January 4, 1986 he married the former Catherine A. "Cathy" Sossi with whom he shared 31 years. They were supportive of each other's needs in life and shared a respectful relationship.

Ben held a position as a City Letter Carrier for the US Postal Service. He concurrently furthered his education at Herkimer County Community College where he received an Associate degree in Postal Management. He retired in December of 2015 after numerous years of serving the Utica area. In his military life, working life, and private life, Ben worked hard. He was a responsible man and spoke his mind in his own unique way. As a father, his

children were his world and when the grandchildren became part of his life, they warmed his heart. He loved them and cherished the precious moments spent with them. He enjoyed golfing and basketball, and was a fan of the Yankees, Knicks, and Giants. He fashioned a floral garden in his yard and tended to his lawn with perfection. Ben leaves a legacy of love for his family and allegiance to his country. He honored them and held them in his heart. Ben is survived by his wife, Cathy; his daughter and son-in-law, Frances M. and Thaddeus Ota; his son, Jeffrey A. Reinhardt; his grandchildren, Joseph K. Ota, and Margaret Y. Ota; John A. Reinhardt, and Luke B. Reinhardt; and his siblings and their spouses, Mary Theresa and Eugene Quadraro, Fiorentino R. "Tino" and Carleen R. Poccia, and Valerie A. Tofani and Brian Shepardson. He also leaves his nieces and nephews, Diane and Shawn Kain, Allison Quadraro; Emily Poccia; David Tofani; and Roger and Lisa Somero; great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, aunts, Angela Capraro, and Eleanor Pape; in-laws, Joseph and Debbie Sossi; and his best friend and go-to guy, cousin David Capraro. He was predeceased by his in-laws, Joseph and Margaret Sossi.

The family extends their gratitude to the nurses and staff of the ICU at the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center; they were attentive to Ben and especially compassionate and caring to his wife, children, and entire family. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Benedict's funeral service and Celebration of Life which will commence on Saturday morning at 10:30 at the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes where his Memorial Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Fr. Joseph Salerno with Military Honors conferred by the US Navy. The family will receive visitors at the conclusion of Mass.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Simply Lily was purchased for the family of Mr. Benedict "Ben" Poccia.*



August 24, 2017 at 09:48 PM



“ *I am just so sorry to hear this sad news of Ben's passing. I have such warm memories of him. I hope you can draw strength from the love and memories you have to get through this most difficult time.*

**Kristen (Donato) Umyrn** - August 24, 2017 at 09:01 PM



“ *Healing Tears - All White was purchased for the family of Mr. Benedict "Ben" Poccia.*



August 24, 2017 at 04:51 PM



“ *Cherished Memories - All White was purchased for the family of Mr. Benedict "Ben" Poccia.*



August 24, 2017 at 01:58 PM

BK

“ To Cathy and family. Sorry to hear of Ben's passing. He always brighten the day while working with him at Met. A great guy wo will be missed. Heaven is a better place with Ben.

Bill Klimacek - August 24, 2017 at 07:10 AM

MC

“ Benny started Mt Carmel with me, he was my very first crush in kindergarten, he was in our class in the lower grades but we lost him along the way, I'm just sick about this, he was such a nice boy, I never saw him anymore since I left My Carmel in 1970. I am so stunned and so very sorry, I will keep him and his family in my prayers, RIP BENNY, I never forgot you.

Michele Carrick-Cittadino - August 23, 2017 at 05:57 PM

BO

“ My heartfelt condolences to Benny's family, Cathy, children/grandchildren, Mary Theresa/Gene, Tino/Carleen, Valerie and the extensive family he leaves behind. I was deeply saddened to hear of Benny's passing in the early part of the week. Anytime we would run into each other we'd sit and chat of the old days growing up and the most recent was just a few months back. I'm truly grateful to have known Ben and to call him a lifelong friend of over 50 years. That smile of his will truly be missed. Through the difficult time ahead, share all the memories and keep that smile in your thoughts to help you get through it. I will keep all of you with Benny in my prayers and may he RIP.

Bobby Ollerenshaw - August 23, 2017 at 12:38 PM

AV

“ My sincerest condolences to the Poccia and extended family.  
Ann Marie (Palleschi) Vallese

Ann Marie Vallese - August 23, 2017 at 11:31 AM

DD

“ *My deepest sympathy to the entire Poccia family, you are I my thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.*

*With Sympathy,  
Donna Magaro Dye*

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**donna magaro dye** - August 23, 2017 at 10:38 AM

CH

“ *Dear Tino, Carleen and family,*

*We are so sorry for your lost.  
Please know our thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

*Love,  
The Chambrone family*

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**Chambrone** - August 23, 2017 at 10:09 AM

FL

“ *Cathy and family,*

*We are so sorry for your loss. You are all in our thoughts and prayers. Ben is at peace now. He will continue to watch over all of you from above. God Bless you all.*

*Flo, Tom and Amanda DeSimone*

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**Flo** - August 23, 2017 at 07:29 AM