



## Bernadette "Bessie" (Ciccone) D'Onofrio

January 7, 1920 - November 6, 2006

Mrs. Bernadette "Bessie" (Ciccone) D'Onofrio, age 86, formerly of South St., Utica, and currently of Houston, Texas, passed away on Monday, November 6, 2006, at the home of her daughter Grace, who had been caring for her. Born in Utica on January 7, 1920, Bessie was the daughter of the late Antonio and Marianna (Consales) Ciccone. She was raised here and attended local schools. On April 1, 1949 she married Gennaro "Jerry" D'Onofrio, loving him for 45 years until his passing on September 22, 1994. They were blessed with a wonderful and affectionate marriage and because they were so in love, they were at each other's side always. Bessie missed her Jerry until the day she passed away. The family is comforted by the fact that they are reunited. Bessie's primary focus was her household and family, but she also worked outside the home at General Electric at the Bleecker St. location. A warm-hearted woman who truly was an excellent mother, she took great pride in caring for her home and family. Generosity of heart, strength of character, attention to others' needs and wants, and a hard work ethic portray Bessie's nature. Her finest qualities were her unconditional love, humor and grace of giving. An often remembered comment was, "You're going to miss me when I'm gone, and you will laugh at the things I said". During her leisure time, she enjoyed sewing and preparing for all the holiday entertainment and family events. But her greatest recreational happiness was derived from her summer home at White Lake, and all the wonderful memories built around it. She had a firm belief in her Lord and his unconditional love, and was a communicant of

St. Anthony of Padua Church.

Bessie is survived by her daughters, Grace D'Onofrio of Texas, and Irene D'Onofrio and Dave Harrington of New Hartford; and her son, Gennaro "Jerry" D'Onofrio, Jr. of Texas. She is also survived by her adored grandchildren, William M. Burns, III and his fiancée Erin Taft, Larry Calenzo, II; Bernadette Weston, Joshua Weston; Jacquelyn D'Onofrio, Dalia D'Onofrio, and Shannon D'Onofrio. She was preceded in death by a grandson, Gennaro D'Onofrio III. Also surviving is her great-grandson, Dylan Gady Burns. She was preceded in death by an infant great-grandson, Giovanni Orazio. In addition, her survivors include her sisters, Amelia Graziano of Utica and Clara DePaul of CA; and her brother and sister-in-law, Marshall and Patricia Ciccone of Utica, her beloved nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and cousins; her in-laws, Orazio "Harry" and Alma D'Onofrio, Peggy D'Onofrio, and Theresa Mortarelli. When living in Utica, Bessie was blessed with many wonderful friends, neighbors, and comarès. She was predeceased by her brother and sister-in-law, Henry M. and Marian Ciccone, and her in-laws, John D'Onofrio, Josephine and Joseph Felder, Salvatore Graziano, Angelo DePaul, and Jennie and Angelo Gentile.

The family is grateful to Bessie's daughter Grace, who cared for her mother with such dignity and concern during her long illness.

Visitation will be held today (Friday) from 5-7 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Please omit floral offerings. Mrs. D'Onofrio's funeral will commence on Saturday morning at 9:00 from the funeral home and at 10:00 at St. Anthony of Padua Church where her Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated. Entombment will take place at Resurrection Chapel Mausoleum of Holy Trinity Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

# Tribute Wall



“ Jerry, Irene & Grace,  
We were very sorry to learn of your Mom's passing. Both your Mom & Dad were such special people. We think of them often. May you hold in your hearts all the fond memories that you have shared with both your Mom & Dad. Our prayers to all of you.  
With love,  
Bob & Mary Lou##imported-begin##Bob & Mary Louise  
Sirianni##imported-end##

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November 12, 2006 at 10:57 AM



“ Dear Irene & Family,  
  
My thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of loss. May you gain strength with the memories you treasure of your Mother and the comfort you receive from others.  
Love,  
Mary Gearhart##imported-begin##Mary Gearhart##imported-end##

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November 10, 2006 at 09:13 PM



“ Gerry,Irene & Grace...very sorry to hear of your Mom's passing...My thoughts & prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Don  
Marino##imported-end##

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November 10, 2006 at 08:51 PM



“ Dear Irene and Family,

*Our sincere sympathy is extended to you and your family in the loss of your most precious Mother.*

*May the presence of our Dear Lord and Saviour surround you. May his guidance and strength help you through this your time of need.*

*Sincerely, Sid and Sally Steffen Fursman##imported-begin##Sally Steffen##imported-end##*

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November 10, 2006 at 10:47 AM



“ Dear Jerry,Irene,and Grace,

*I am so sorry to hear of your loss. Just seeing her picture brings back so many happy memories. I was so fortunate to have your mom as my "Godmother" who I loved very much. She was a very Special person who will be missed. My prayers and thoughts are with you all.*

*Love,Sherry##imported-begin##sherry indolfi ##imported-end##*

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November 08, 2006 at 10:47 PM



“ Memories of you, make my heart smile,##imported-begin##Maryann Ciccone Vesnaver##imported-end##

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November 08, 2006 at 01:43 PM



“ Grace, Irene and Jerry,

*I am so very sorry to hear your Mom passed away. I will never forget all the years of growing up and what your family has meant to me. My prayers and thoughts are with all of you and I will never forget you.##imported-begin##Debbie Indolfi##imported-end##*

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November 08, 2006 at 01:43 PM