



## Mrs. Blodwen M. "Wendy" Benedetto

March 10, 1941 - February 4, 2018

UTICA - Mrs. Blodwen M. "Wendy" (Evans) Benedetto, age 76, passed away on Sunday, February 4, 2018 at the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center with her loving family by her side.

Born in Utica on March 10, 1941, Wendy was the daughter of the late Albert, Sr. and Lula (Seelman) Evans. She graduated from St. Francis De Sales High School in 1959. In April of 1965 she married Rocco R. "Rock" Benedetto, with whom she shared 31 years filled with great wine, gourmet meals and lively conversation. Wendy and Rock's house was the meeting place for many dear friends and family members, who enjoyed midnight clam sauce, Dewars and water, and the music of Frank Sinatra, Miles Davis, John Coltrane and Milt Jackson. Theirs was a deep and enduring relationship, made better by their shared love of a good argument. When Rock became ill, Wendy lovingly cared for him until his death on Valentine's Day of 1996.

Wendy worked at the Utica Chamber of Commerce for many years, where she started off as an administrative assistant, but then took on duties that were far beyond her position. When the president retired, she was named acting interim president – quite an accomplishment for a woman at that time. She spent much of her career working for the telephone company in various capacities, both in her younger and later years. She proudly and passionately served as a union steward for the Communications Workers of America, leading the picket during the NYNEX strike of 1990. Wendy was a woman ahead of her time, graceful and eclectic in style. She stood out in a crowd.

Wendy was a devoted mother to her children, and a loving matriarch to her family. Her children knew the strength of her love, and she instilled in them the belief that they could do anything and be anything that they wanted to be. Having helped her parents to raise her younger siblings, she served as the head of her family, and held everyone together. She was the first one there when someone was sick, or facing a crisis, ready to work, with sound advice and a pot of greens and beans.

Wendy was blessed with a keen mind, a witty sense of humor, and an interest in many pastimes and pursuits. She loved various kinds of music, often traveling to see a show or concert. She volunteered at the Stanley Theater and the original Utica Monday Nite. Wendy had an eye for beauty in everything around her, and when she took up black and white photography after her children were grown, she captured beautiful landscapes, floral scenes, and still life, original compositions that she developed in a dark room. She was a voracious reader, and solved the NY Times Sunday crossword puzzle in pen often in a few hours, something she shared with her late husband.

In Wendy's house, her dog and cats were just as important as any other member of the family. She loved to travel, visiting her children in New York City as often as possible. She loved dining out, playing cards and never missed a Yankees game if she could help it. Wendy was a member of St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish where she served as a collection counter. Through her faith and fortitude, she did her best to maintain her health, hope, and optimism during her illness.

Wendy is survived by her daughters, Roxanne Benedetto and Anthony Passero, and Nicole Benedetto; her best friend and constant companion, Marie Robilotto; her siblings and their spouses, Albert, Jr. and Kathy Evans, Bonnie and Daniel Hebert, Linda Twomey and her late beloved husband Terry, Diane and Daniel Damiano, Donna Planty, Stuart and Susan Evans, and Cynthia and William Lehner. She held close in her heart the memory of her sister Carol Evans who preceded her. She leaves her beloved aunt Nikki

Camardo and several uncles; several nieces and nephews, two of whom are her godchildren, Carolanne Garofalo, and Danielle Novak; several great-nieces and great-nephews, a great-great-nephew and Roxanne's stepdaughter Anna.

The family is grateful to Wendy's trusted physician Dr. Bisham Garg, whose compassion and concern was much appreciated. The family would also like to thank the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center 5th Floor staff who treated her with dignity and respect.

Visitation will be held Thursday from 4:00-7:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Expressions of sympathy in the form of donations in Wendy's memory may be made to the Stevens-Swan Humane Society; envelopes will be available at the funeral home. Wendy's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Friday morning at 10:00 from the funeral home and at 11:00 at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish where her Memorial Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. Joseph Salerno.

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

FEB 9. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish  
648 Jay Street  
Utica, NY 13501  
(315) 735-1482  
<https://www.mountcarmelblessedsacrament.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ Sorry to hear of the passing of Wendy, we were good friends in 1960. She was a very nice friend, I miss her.

Henri Hirschfeld - April 09, 2023 at 11:38 PM



“ European Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mrs. Blodwen M. "Wendy" Benedetto.



February 08, 2018 at 01:28 PM



“ Multicolor Bright Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Blodwen M. "Wendy" Benedetto.



February 07, 2018 at 04:11 PM



“ Simply Lily was purchased for the family of Mrs. Blodwen M. "Wendy" Benedetto.



February 07, 2018 at 03:48 PM

OK

“ Our sympathies, Bruce & Kay purchased the Love's Embrace Roses – White for the family of Mrs. Blodwen M. "Wendy" Benedetto.



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**Our sympathies, Bruce & Kay** - February 07, 2018 at 02:46 PM

GB

“ Family: I'm very sorry to learn of a neighbor/friend, Wendy passing. What a WONDERFUL fun-loving person she was. My wife, at the time, Rocco, Roxanne, Nicole and I spent many enjoyable fun-loving years together. As a neighbor we'd shared lots laugh, dinners, social events and listening to sounds of jazz music. Sorry we'd lost contacts after relocating thirty years ago. Please accept my sincere condolence. Today, I wish you are feeling better than yesterday and tomorrow you feelings are better than today.

*George Baker*

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**George Baker** - February 07, 2018 at 10:41 AM

BF

“ Sharing in your sadness as you remember Wendy. When I was six, Wendy and my sister Pat, while at St. Francis High School, were very good friends. I will always have fond memories of Wendy.

*Beverly A. Frank*

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**Beverly A. Frank** - February 06, 2018 at 11:14 PM



“ *Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers was purchased for the family of Mrs. Blodwen M. "Wendy" Benedetto.*



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February 06, 2018 at 12:21 PM



“ *We were so blessed to have met Wendy here at Black Cat, she was one of our favs. Now at peace.. God Bless*

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**Renee Rowlands Basile** - February 06, 2018 at 11:57 AM



“ *I'm so sorry to hear of Wendy's passing. She was a wonderful person, and I always enjoyed seeing her. Please accept my sincere condolences. Denise Damanda Deline*

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**Denise Damanda Deline** - February 06, 2018 at 09:57 AM



“ *To Wendy's Family: I was saddened to learn of Wendy's passing. I have fond memories of our growing up in the same house on Miller Street in the good old days and all the fun we had. My sincerest condolences to all of you. Frank Calaprice*

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**Frank Calaprice** - February 06, 2018 at 07:52 AM