



## Mr. Carmen E. Guarnieri

January 13, 1926 - February 4, 2015

The life of Carmen E. Guarnieri was a true masterpiece....father, friend, businessman, gentleman....one with a graced heart. Each piece of this mosaic made him the man that people loved and admired. He passed away on Wednesday, February 4, 2015 at the age of 89, in the comfort of his home with his loving daughters by his side.

Born in Utica on January 13, 1926, Carmen was the son of the late Joseph and Angeline (Longo) Guarnieri. He also knew the love and guidance of his step-mother, Lucy (Flemma) Guarnieri. Educated locally, he attended T.R. Proctor High School and as a young man preparing to serve his country, he attended the Roosevelt Aviation School. In 1944, during World War II, Carmen became a proud member of the United States Army Air Corps with the 9th Army Air Corps Division. His training afforded him the position of an airplane mechanic and he held many memories of his tours of duty in the United States and Europe. On May 26, 1947 he was married to the former Mary Jane Mentil. Carmen often said "he met the love of his life in 7th grade and he was so proud that she chose him". His beloved Mary Jane passed away on January 21, 1988.

Born into a family of those with an outstanding work ethic, Carmen was the co-owner and operator, along with his father and brother, of J. Guarnieri & Sons which was established in 1946. The store had several locations, lastly and notably, on the corner of South Street and McQuade Avenue. He retired from the business in 1990. Unaware of how many people's lives he would

continue to touch, he accepted the invitation to enter into a second career, and he became a greeter and longtime associate of the Eannace Funeral Home. He warmed the hearts of many, especially the staff with whom he served as a mentor, shared wonderful times, and was looked upon as a second father.

January 17, 1992 marked a special day in Carmen's life. It was the day he married the former Edith Macera. They were both fortunate to find happiness with one another and enjoy an active social life. Edith passed away on November 4, 2013. While Carmen tended to Edith when she was a resident at the Masonic Care Community, he was so impressed with the staff and the care that they offered, that he became a volunteer in many capacities. He began by assisting with the Catholic Mass on Tuesday mornings, making pastoral visits, sharing the Sacred Host with those unable to attend Mass, and leading prayer services. On Wednesdays, he took the Mid-York Library cart to households, and on Fridays you could find Carmen at the afternoon 'happy hour' in the atrium. One of Carmen's greatest honors was when he was the recipient of the Carolyn Dove Volunteer-of-the-Year 2014-2015 Award which was a truly meaningful moment in his life.

A very spiritual man, Carmen's studies through the Formation for Ministry Program commissioned him to be a certified Lay Minister and through his association with his home parish of St. Agnes, he visited and administered the Holy Spirit to those who were infirm or hospitalized. He was a member of many social and civic organizations inclusive of the Optimist Club, by which creed he lived, the Utica, & Rome Art Associations, the Parkway Senior Center, especially the Friday group who painted together, and as artists would have it, meshed their personalities and created colorful relationships. On a typical Thursday, Carmen would paint with other colleagues from his Art Association where friendships were so meaningful, or you might find him testing his patience on the fairway of Maple Crest with his golfing buddies. Carmen was so proud of his heritage and held memberships at the Italian Heritage Club, former Sons of Italy, and he remembered his time in military

service by being loyal to the American Legion Fort Schuyler Post #1290. He was a member of St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church and was supportive of many of their organizations remaining mindful of the Nocturnal Adoration Society.

It was in 2001 that Carmen traveled to Italy and photographed many beautiful cities. This experience encouraged this self-taught artist to pick up his brush again. Although in earlier years he had painted, he now saw things through different lenses and intensified and broadened his work. "The Other Side of Carmen" saw entries in local shows in the Utica/Rome area as well as the Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute summer sidewalk presentation.

Numerous paintings were awarded honors but it was the handpicked portrait that he gifted many that will be most remembered. When it came to working with wood, Carmen was a craftsman, taking something from sight of eye to production with great detail, once again gifting his children and grandchildren with heirloom treasures. A voracious reader, he loved to learn and favored aviation and World War II literature. Blessed with an abundance of years, Carmen was able to prepare a 'bucket list' which included a hot air balloon ride at the age of 85, sky diving at the age of 86, and co-piloting a glider plane at the age of 87, as well as enjoying a Manhattan at 4:00 p.m. each afternoon. As a man, Carmen was profoundly humble, selfless, and powerfully kind, innate gifts that flowed from him without restraint. The rarity of this type of person makes one take notice. He could always bring a smile to your face and an inner bond seemed to magically occur when you met him. A consummate gentleman, and a gentle man, he was also a proud father and an ever-present dad to his precious daughters with whom he spent many enjoyable summer weekends together at the Hinckley Lake camp. His grandchildren adored him, found him inspiring, idolized his individuality,... and he was their hero. Three of his great-granddaughters also shared his artistic side as they participated and performed with the Maria Christina's School of Dance under the guidance of Maria C. Barresi; to this organization he not only attended each and every

one of their performances to date, but also was a silent giver.

Carmen is survived by his daughters, Jody Guarnieri, and Carmenann Guarnieri, both of Utica; his cherished grandchildren, Robert and Lisa Robertaccio of Hicksville, NY, Cara and Greg Greer, Kristyn and Tony Masone, and Joseph Gigliotti; and his great-grandchildren, Jordan, Tyler, and Jessica Robertaccio; Alana, and Gabriella Greer who shared the same birthday; and Martianne, and Rieley Masone. He will also be remembered by several nieces and nephews, Patty Guarnieri, Joseph and Marie Guarnieri, John and Brenda Flemma, Deborah and Michael Stanley, and Steven Flemma and Cece; and his great-nieces, great-nephews, and cousins. Along the journey of life, we encounter many wonderful friends, and one that has remained loyal to Carmen and he to her, is Nancy who he loved like a daughter. He was predeceased by two brothers and sisters-in-law, Frank R. and Angela Guarnieri, Frank's second wife, Adeline Guarnieri, and John S. and Johanna Flemma; his nephews, Richard Costa, and Michael J. Costa; and his in-laws, Nettie and Tony Costa, and Raymond Macera.

Carmen was truly humbled by the friendship and concern of Dr. Guy Wilcox, and his family will remain grateful to Hospice & Palliative Care, especially Crystal and Georgia. Carmen was honored with the friendship of numerous local clergy, and held great respect for the spiritual guidance of Father Saba Shofany.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Carmen's extended family at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. where visitation will be held on Sunday afternoon from 3:00–6:00; the family will remain until all visitors have been seen. Those wishing to express an act of kindness in lieu of flowers may make a donation in Carmen's honor to either the Carmen E. Guarnieri Children's Scholarship Fund at the Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute or Hospice & Palliative Care, Inc.; envelopes will be available at the funeral home. Carmen's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Monday afternoon at 12:30 from the funeral home and at 1:30 at St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church where his Mass of Christian Burial

will be offered with Military Honors conferred. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

# Cemetery Details

## Calvary Cemetery

2407 Oneida Street  
Utica, NY 13501  
(315) 735-2727

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 8. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.  
932 South Street  
corner of Hammond Ave.  
Utica, NY 13501  
(315) 724-6714  
eannacefh@roadrunner.com  
<https://www.eannacefuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall

GI

“ *Im so sorry to read this. I grew up with Carmen . Every saturday my family would go to the butcher shop it was like my home away from home .. I loved going there such wonderful memories. Rest in peace Carmen god bless.*

gina - March 05, 2015 at 08:27 PM

MG

*Hi i am MATTHEW i know Carmen because he is my great great uncle my papas farther was his brother*

MATTHEW GUARNIERI - September 24, 2021 at 09:18 AM



“ *CARM IS TRULY MISSED HERE AT THE PARKWAY CENTER. WE MISS HIS PRESENCE HERE DURING ART CLASS. OUR CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY FROM ALL OF THE STAFF AND MEMBERS*



Shannon Sykes - February 19, 2015 at 01:51 PM

FM

“ *TO THE FAMILY OF CARMEN, WE ARE SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS, HE WAS AGREAT PERSON, WE MET HIM THRU EDITH. HE WAS KIND & GENTLE, ALWAYS A SMILE ON HIS FACE.ALWAYS DOING FOR OTHERS! JAN & FRANK MARFONE*

FRANK & JAN mARFONE - February 11, 2015 at 07:30 AM

CC

“ Jodi, Carm, and family,  
I will always remember your dad as the wonderful, dedicated man of God that he was. His dedication to the weekly mass, every Tuesday, at Masonic Care Community was an inspiration. It was a joy to see him every time I brought my relatives to mass. My prayers are with you all during this difficult time.  
Sincerely,  
Concetta Carcone

---

**Concetta Carcone** - February 10, 2015 at 08:36 AM

TR

“ Carmen's friendship was a gift to so many at the Masonic Community. Our mom, Rose, really valued it . Because they shared a history, they could communicate with and without words; in English, or in Italian. They will resume this kinship in heaven, we are certain.

---

**the Family of Rose Reesh** - February 09, 2015 at 07:46 PM

DL

“ My deepest and heartfelt sympathy to Carmen's family. From the moment I first met Carmen, I knew God indeed had angels who lived amongst us in human form.  
Carmen will be woefully missed..



---

**deborah leblanc** - February 09, 2015 at 12:31 PM

DM

“ Jody, Carm & family, my sincere condolences on your Dad's passing...my thoughts and prayers are with you. Sadly, the corner family store is something that many young people today will never have the pleasure of knowing...



---

**Don Marino** - February 09, 2015 at 10:05 AM

CS

“ Jodi,  
Your father was a very sweet and kind man, and pretty much everybody agreed the world was a better place with him in it. I can't help but remember right now how, shortly after my mother died, he mailed me a first communion photo of her with her godmother. I can't readily recall the exact relative connection between her Godmother and Carmen, but what I do remember is what a kind gesture that was. That's the kind of thoughtful guy he was.

*My sympathies.  
Cynthia*

---

**Cynthia S'Doia** - February 09, 2015 at 08:32 AM

SG

“ My Dad, Walt Graham misses Carmen at the Masonic Home where he now resides. They became great friends talking daily as they both visited their beloved wives @ Saranac wing. They reminisced the "old days" having both grown up in East Utica and their respective WW11 days. They were very compatible and both extremely knowledgeable and kind.  
Carmen comforted Dad in the ICU unit the morning God took Mom. I'll never forget him for that.  
God bless this special man and his family.  
Steve Graham & Family

Steve Graham - February 08, 2015 at 02:14 PM

SJ

“ My parents and I always enjoyed Mass on Tuesdays at Masonic and seeing Carmen. God Bless the family in this time of sorrow and joy. Knowing he led a good life his reward is with Our LORD.

Susan Martellotto Januszewski - February 08, 2015 at 08:42 AM



“ 164 files added to the album LifeTributes



Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. - February 07, 2015 at 11:12 PM

CT

*Dear Carm, Jodi and family,  
We are very sorry for your loss. Your dad was an amazing man and  
one who will be missed by all.  
God Bless,  
Colleen and Bill Thomas*

---

**Colleen and Bill Thomas** - February 08, 2015 at 10:25 AM



Darlene  
Masone

*Scott & I are so very sorry for your loss. What a great man, he will be  
missed by everyone that had a chance to know him. God has another  
angel now...he will look down & take care of us/*

---

**Darlene Masone** - February 11, 2015 at 06:51 PM

SF

*“ Carm & Jody, So sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. I always  
enjoyed talking with him at Masonic. He lived such an interesting  
life, he will be missed. Rest in peace Carmen.  
Sharon Falange*

---

**Sharon Falange** - February 07, 2015 at 07:36 PM

RC

*“ To Carmen's family, i am deeply saddened to hear of his passing. I  
was fortunate to work with him at Eannace Funeral home for a  
while. He always had a kind thing to say and noticed when you  
needed it most. He could make you smile on the worst days.  
Although he will be greatly missed here, I'm sure he is happily  
beside Edith and providing laughs in Heaven.*

*Robyn Cooper*

---

**Robyn Cooper** - February 07, 2015 at 11:19 AM

UC

“ To the family of Carmen,  
As a little girl when my mom took me to Guarnieri's market, I loved that kind man Carmen. He had the personality that every one loved. He made you laugh and made you feel special. I often saw him over the years when I came back to visit and see him at St. Anthony's church. May he rest in peace.

*Ursula Cerminaro*

---

**Ursula Cerminaro** - February 07, 2015 at 09:22 AM

MT

“ Carm, Jody and family...I just wanted to express my condolences in the loss of your dad. I would always look forward to reading about his birthday experiences or seeing his paintings hanging at the art show....such an inspiration. His kindness and smile while working at the funeral home or as an usher at church were always appreciated and will never be forgotten. Love Lon and Maryann (Calenzo) Thrasher

---

**Maryann Thrasher** - February 07, 2015 at 08:36 AM

BO

“ Carmen will surely be missed by many. He was a true pillar of the East Utica community. He has been the first consoling smile for years at the door of the funeral home and made it easier to walk in the door to pay your respects for family or friends. He will truly be missed. My condolences to his family and his extended family at the funeral home. Possa riposare in pace Carmen.

---

**Bobby Ollerenshaw** - February 07, 2015 at 07:54 AM

LS

“ To my dear two girlfriends! Thank you both for introducing me to the most wonderful and amazing man I ever met ! God put this amazing man on this planet to do His wonderful work for him.to put love and happiness and faith in people and he did his work well. Then God decided it was time for him to rest from all the good work he done and called him back home. You both and your children and grandchildren was blessed to have him in your lives! God be with you both my friends and may he shine on you always! Love your friend Linda Sciortino

---

**Linda sciortino** - February 06, 2015 at 11:43 PM

LM

“ Carmen went to school with my mom-they were very good friends and every time our paths crossed, I always walked away feeling like he was such a special man. He always had a warm smile, twinkle in his eyes and a genuineness about him. Gentle but strong. I attended way too many funerals and celebrations of life and every time he greeted me, I felt like there was an angel in the room watching over those we loved and lost. He had a presence and way of greeting people that made them feel loved, protected and truly cared for. Carmen will be missed-Sending prayers to his family that they find the comfort in others that he gave so many while he was here. God Bless

---

**Lisa Mattison-Bates** - February 06, 2015 at 10:22 PM

KG

“ Can't even begin to describe the love I have for this man- he was one of a kind. Everyone should be so lucky to have a person in their life that could be like Carmen- always giving, always loving, and always there! Carmen thank you for inspiring so many of us at Eannace and giving us someone to look up to. I love you, have loved you from day one, and will continue to love you and all that you mean to me and those you have touched.

karen greco - February 06, 2015 at 10:01 PM

MW

“ I am so sorry to hear Carmen passed away. I got to know him more recently at sdmg. We talked about painting and he always asked how I was doing. He was a true gentleman;. He will truly be missed. Rest in Peace Carmen. Mary Lou (Falange) Wilson.



Mary Lou Wilson - February 06, 2015 at 09:21 PM

DD

“ He truly was a gentle man. Never had a bad word to say and always had a story to tell. I can still see him in the shed up at Hinckley with everything (including nails and bolts) in a particular place and dragging branches while I was trimming the trees. He stopped hauling rocks to drag the branches. Rest in peace, Uncle Carmen. Glad we had so many encounters.

Denise DiGiorgio - February 06, 2015 at 05:18 PM

KC

“ We will all miss Carmen's smiling face and wonderful personality. Such a good man.

Kathy Contino-Turner - February 06, 2015 at 04:39 PM

LL

“ *Carm, Jody and families----Your Dad was truly a wonderful person with a smile for everyone. Anyone that knew him will always remember him. Rest in peace Carmen. Love and prayers. Joe and Liz (Leone) Normat and family.*



---

**Liz Leone-Normat** - February 06, 2015 at 01:16 PM

TS

“ *Carm, Jody and Family, Truly a Man's Man and a Pillar of the Community, we will miss him .. my condolences.*



---

**Thomas Saladino** - February 06, 2015 at 01:03 PM

JZ

“ *Carmen was one of the nicest, kindest people I have ever met. He was a friend of my parents and I will never forget his assistance when they passed away. My deepest sympathy.*

---

**Joanne Zennamo** - February 06, 2015 at 11:21 AM

LB

“ *My near, dear friend, Carm Guarnieri has passed, the wonderful Mayor of South Street. Carm always took the time to be kind. Thank you for your kindness towards others.*

---

**Louis Barile** - February 06, 2015 at 09:56 AM

JW

“ Sending so much love to the family. Carmen was one of the those people you can't forget in this life. He was very special and I was lucky to have shared many memories with him during my time at Eannace. Watch down over all of us Carmen!  
Love, Jenna Ward

---

**Jenna Ward** - February 06, 2015 at 09:08 AM



“ Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers was purchased for the family of Mr. Carmen E. Guarnieri.



---

February 05, 2015 at 08:25 PM



“ Silver Season Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Carmen E. Guarnieri.



---

February 05, 2015 at 04:43 PM