



Carolyn A. (Zammiello) Spanfelner

January 17, 1937 - May 20, 2017

UTICA - Mrs. Carolyn A. (Zammiello) Spanfelner, age 80, passed away on Saturday, May 20, 2017 at the Abraham House. At the time of her passing, her daughter Julie was at her side.

Born in Utica on January 17, 1937, Carolyn was the daughter of the late Charles and Julia (Cognetti) Zammiello. She was raised in Herkimer and was a graduate of Herkimer High School/Class of 1954. She continued her education at SUNY Oswego where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education in 1958. At one time, she was married to Joseph E. Spanfelner and to that relationship came the blessing of her children.

Carolyn began her career in education at Frankfort Elementary School where she taught for three years. In 1961 she accepted a teaching position in the Utica City School District assigned to Albany Elementary School and Thomas Jefferson Elementary School. She completed her career in 1994 where she had been full time at Jefferson. For the following 20 years, she was employed as a substitute teacher, a second career she enjoyed each day until November of 2011. Carolyn had an affinity for children and education, and she always knew she wanted to be a teacher. She made learning “fun” and she made a lifetime of friendships with her students and fellow co-workers.

Carolyn was a woman of courage and constraint, and she faced life’s adversities with fortitude and forbearance. She was a wonderful mother who provided for her children and graciously gave them the values they would need in life. Through her guidance, they became wonderful parents and good,

productive people. She was proud of them and her grandchildren who loved their Nana. Carolyn enjoyed the family camp in Old Forge. For generations, it was a happy haven where relatives gathered for many seasons of summer fun and loving times. Carolyn had the privilege of living close to her parents and sister, and they looked out for one another and had a wonderful life... never perfect, but good. She was a communicant of the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes and prayed the Rosary every night with intentions for peace within her family.

Carolyn is survived by her daughter, Julie M. Spanfelner of Utica; her sons and daughter-in-law, Christopher J. and Rosie Spanfelner of Florida, and Joseph T. Spanfelner of New Jersey; her grandchildren, Cameron Spanfelner, Elizabeth Spanfelner, and Julia Spanfelner; and her sister and brother-in-law, Charlotte L. and Rocco M. Gaeta of Utica. She also leaves her nieces and nephews, especially acknowledging, Cheryl and R.J. Bateman, and Gregory M. Gaeta and Julie McCarthy; great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, in-laws, and unmatched, longtime and loyal friends, Barbara Moriarty, Jeanne Christopher, Rosalie Fallove, and Anita Didio, and Tina Leone as well as a host of good people and co-workers who graced her life throughout the years. She was predeceased by her brother, Robert Charles "Bob" Zammiello.

The family extends their gratitude to the staff of the Abraham House for the compassionate care and comfort rendered to Carolyn during her final days; and Carolyn's caregiver, Luanne White, for her dedication and loving ways. Visitation will be held Monday from 4:00-7:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Memorial donations in Carolyn's honor may be made to the Abraham House online at www.theabrahamhouse.org for the care and dignity they provide loved ones during their final days; envelopes will be available at the funeral home. Carolyn's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Tuesday morning at 9:00 from the funeral home and at 10:00 at the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes where her Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. Joseph Salerno. Interment will take place in St. Agnes Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Cemetery Details

St. Agnes Cemetery

601 Arthur Street
Utica, NY

Tribute Wall

LB

“ My deepest sympathy goes out to all of Carolyn's family. She was a wonderful friend and an outstanding teacher. I met Carol my first day as a fifth grade teacher at Albany Street School. She voluntarily became my mentor and we taught beside each other for several years. She was a compassionate woman who loved her family and her students. I have only fond memories of Carol. RIP my friend.
Love and prayers,
Lucille Buttiglieri



Lucille Buttiglieri - May 22, 2017 at 07:39 PM



“ Multicolor Bright Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Carolyn A. (Zammiello) Spanfelner.



May 22, 2017 at 11:48 AM

PS

“ Julie, So sorry to hear about your mom. Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. Please get in touch with me to get together to visit or go out when you are ready. I miss our fun times together!!!!

Pauline Smith

Pauline Smith - May 22, 2017 at 10:57 AM

YF

“ Your Ameriprise Family purchased the White Sympathy Standing Spray for the family of Carolyn A. (Zammiello) Spanfelner.



Your Ameriprise Family - May 22, 2017 at 10:26 AM

FS

“ Julie, very sorry for your loss. May your mother rest in peace.

Francine Sansone - May 22, 2017 at 10:01 AM

MN

“ Julie and Family

I am so sorry for your loss. Your Mother was a great lady and will be truly missed.

My condolences, Michele Nicoletta

Michele Nicoletta - May 22, 2017 at 07:24 AM

SS

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Carolyn was my son's teacher as well as my colleague. I worked with Carolyn at Jefferson for many years. Although I had not seen her for a few years, I thought of her often. I am truly saddened by her passing. Sandy Spina

Sandy Spina - May 22, 2017 at 01:55 AM

SB

“ to the spanfelner and gaeta family so sorry for your loss, may she rest in peace.

sal barbero - May 21, 2017 at 11:17 PM

LI

“ Julie, Charlotte, our memories go way back to the days of family get togethers as Kids and especially our Mothers. They were like sisters, spoke everyday. Carol and I use to laugh at them, until recent years when we realized "we had become them""❤️ Even though we did not see each other often...we were cousins forever💕

linda - May 21, 2017 at 05:31 PM

JZ

“ I remember Carol well from when I taught in Utica Schools. She was a nice person. So sorry for your loss.

Joyce Zongrone - May 21, 2017 at 04:52 PM

AD

“ Chris, Joe, Julie So sorry to hear of your Moms passing you all know you are in are thoughts and prayers

Anthony & Elizabeth Decarolis - May 21, 2017 at 02:56 PM

PT

“ Please accept condolences from my six children and I all whom were students of Carolyn's at Albany Street School. Carolyn was a compassionate and caring person in and out of the classroom! She was fun and funny and a had a quick wit as well as an enjoyable laugh.

Patricia Tedesco - May 21, 2017 at 02:09 PM