



Clara C. (Casamento) Martino

September 5, 1937 - March 14, 2009

Mrs. Clara C. (Casamento) Martino, age 71, of New Hartford, passed away after a courageous battle on Saturday, March 14, 2009 in the comfort of her daughter's home with her loving family by her side. Although afflicted with a debilitating condition, Clara continued to inspire the many people in her life by her courage and inner strength, until the day she passed.

Born in Norwich, NY on September 5, 1937, Clara was the daughter of the late Joseph and Grace (Raffaele) Casamento. Following her graduation from Norwich High School she attended Cortland State University where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Education. A skilled and devoted teacher for many years, Clara was committed to education. She first gained a teaching position in Liverpool, NY. On June 30, 1962 in St. Bartholomew's Church in Norwich, she married Joseph E. Martino with whom she shared 46 years in a blessed and loving union. The couple relocated to Utica upon their marriage.

Clara then held employment with the Utica City School District, a position from which she retired after 20 years. She was an intelligent and independent thinker who loved children and the challenge of teaching them. She was blessed with a mild and kind demeanor that allowed her to be well-suited for her profession, and she was always proud of her students' accomplishments. With her nurturing nature, she made a lasting impression on people and gained many enduring friendships. During her retirement years, she offered her abilities as a teacher in Florida. Above all else, her family was her first

priority in life, and they marveled at her commitment as a mother and wife. She was impeccable in her appearance, thorough in her actions, and maintained high standards. She was selfless and considerate, and always concentrated on others. Throughout her severe illness, she served as an inspiration to everyone, for the illness never took her love, spirit, or faith. No matter the obstacles, she conquered them with a positive attitude. She touched many souls, even when she lost the ability to communicate through the beauty of her eyes. During her brighter days, she enjoyed cooking and baking, reading, gardening, solving sudoku puzzles, and playing cards and board games with loved ones. She was a member of the Red Hat Society and a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church.

Clara is survived by her husband, Joseph; her son and daughter-in-law, Joseph N. and Laurene J. Martino of Sauquoit; her daughters and sons-in-law, Celine M. and Vincent J. Visingardi of New Hartford, and Joanna L. and Paul Gerwig of MA; and her grandchildren, Joseph M. Martino, Matthew N. Martino, Stephen M. Martino, Jennifer K. Martino, Marissa C. Visingardi, Joseph V. Visingardi, Andrew D. Gerwig, and Ethan C. Gerwig. Survivors also include her sisters and brothers-in-law, V. Jane Casamento, and Josephine Casamento, both of Norwich, Lucy and John Messina of Marcy, NY, and Patricia and Tom Messina of Ghent, NY; her brother and sister-in-law, Phil and Rosemary Casamento of Norwich; nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and cousins. She was also blessed with many special friends. The family wishes to thank the many relatives and friends who assisted by going above and beyond for Clara throughout her illness, in providing love, comfort, and spiritual guidance.

Visitation will be held Monday from 4:00-7:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. For those wishing to do so, please consider memorial contributions in Clara's honor to the ALS Association of Utica; envelopes will be available at the funeral home. Clara's funeral service will commence on Tuesday morning at 10:30 from the funeral home and at 11:30 at St. John the Evangelist Church where her Mass of

Christian Burial will be celebrated. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Previous Events

Service

MAR 17. 11:30 AM (ET)

St. John the Evangelist Church
Corner of Oxford and Sherman
New Hartford, NY

Tribute Wall



“ *Joanna, Joe, and Family,*

We are so saddened by the news but believe that your beloved mother/wife is in heavenly peace. I fondly remember (as a high school kid) how kind, generous and caring she was to us all. Love from the Wickliffe family – David, Tricia, Charlie and Andrew.##imported-begin##David Wickliffe##imported-end##

March 16, 2009 at 11:35 AM



“ *Dear Joe:*

I didn't know your wife was ill. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Jeannine and I extend our sincere sympathy.

Jim Mauthe##imported-begin##Jim & Jeannine Mauthe##imported-end##

March 16, 2009 at 08:43 AM



“ *Clara, we love you and will miss you always. Your grace, smile and beautiful generous spirit was always a gift to us. We treasure our memories, as you always made us feel more than welcome in your home and of course with your beautiful family. Thank you for sharing them with us! Our love always, Dawn, Marty, Mallory, Zachary, Trevor##imported-begin##Martin, Dawn, Coulombe & Children Mallory, Zach, Trevor##imported-end##*

March 15, 2009 at 09:16 PM



“ *Celine and Vin, We cannot express the sadness we feel at the news of your mom's passing. We know she is at pece now, but we also realize how much she meant to you all and how much she will be missed,
God Bless All of you,
Bill and Valerie Corrigan##imported-begin##Bill and Valerie Corrigan##imported-end##*

March 15, 2009 at 10:05 AM



“ *Aunt Clara:
You were such a role model to me. I'll love you always and forever.
I'll never forget our trip to Italy and all the laughs. I'll take care of Sis.
Rest in peace.
Love Jody##imported-begin##jody bianco##imported-end##*

March 14, 2009 at 04:30 PM