



## Mr. David M. Cerminaro

May 6, 1948 - July 29, 2025

BUFORD, GA/UTICA – Mr. David M. Cerminaro, age 77, went home to the Lord on Tuesday, July 29, 2025. When the final stage of his journey came to closure, he was encompassed by his wife, children, and the love of all his family.

Born in Utica on May 6, 1948, David was the son of the late Anthony F. Sr. and Florence L. (Dillon) Cerminaro. He attended Albany Street Elementary School and was a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School/Class of 1966. As a teenager, while simultaneously courting his future wife, Ursula, David began his working career at PJ Green, Inc. aspiring to the position of computer operator.

Dave would eventually go on to join the Air National Guard in Syracuse—a decision that would shape the course of his professional life. In 1978, he proudly became a serviceman in the U.S. Air Force, stationed at Hancock Field Air National Guard Base, where he rose through the ranks to become a Senior Master Sergeant in Communications. During his time there, he also had the opportunity to earn a degree from Columbia College, which was located on the base. During Operation Desert Storm, Dave volunteered for active duty. Ursula missed him deeply every single day and stayed connected with him as often as possible through the base computer. Dave was deeply committed to his role and the mission of his country. His unwavering dedication and

impeccable work ethic earned him numerous commendations throughout his career. Over the course of more than 33 years, Dave served his nation with honor and distinction, eventually retiring on September 30, 2002.

On April 27, 1968, Dave married his childhood sweetheart, the former Ursula Scotellaro. Their relationship was all-embracing; they shared a rhythm and bond that was a joy for others to witness. They never lost the original love and respect they discovered in their youth and remained a true example of an inspirational marriage to this very day. When the “in sickness” part of their wedding vows was tested, Urs became Dave’s main support system, giving him the strength and confidence to keep moving forward during his battles.

As life’s opportunities unfolded, David and Urs relocated with their family to Clay, NY, in 1980, where they would reside for over two decades. David had always dreamed of moving south, and in 2002, he and Urs made their new home in Buford, GA, which enabled them to be closer to their children who had already made the beauty and lifestyle of the south their home. The sunshine and warmer climate allowed David and Urs to enjoy the outdoors year-round and for Dave, the best perk of all was NO SNOW!

Dave honored his ancestry and was a family man through and through. He was his children’s hero in every sense. He took care of them and made countless sacrifices to ensure their needs were always met. Supportive and strong, he was steadfast in guiding them to stay on the straight and narrow. When his sons-in-law entered the picture, they too looked to Dave for advice and respected him as if he were their own father. His granddaughters gave Dave a whole new lease on life—he absolutely adored them, and in his eyes, they could do no wrong. He relished every moment spent with them, from their births through adulthood. The girls loved hearing stories of Dave’s life journey—learning who their Papi was before they knew him and how he grew into the man they cherished. Dave’s incredible sense of humor entertained and

captivated them, bringing endless laughter—memories they will hold dear forever.

David's positive attitude and friendly nature earned him many lasting friendships. He was kind, helpful, and thoughtful, with a smile that was truly unforgettable. He knew how to love—and how to be loved. Throughout every phase of his life, David expressed deep gratitude for the opportunities he was given.

Dave found much enjoyment travelling on cruises with his beloved wife and close friends. He was meticulous about the appearance of his home's exterior—the lawn and landscaping were always groomed to perfection. He had some healthy competition from his late father-in-law, who was just as much a perfectionist. In earlier years, David and Urs owned a boat that they docked in Alexandria Bay, NY, where they made many cherished memories with friends. Dave also loved dancing to the tunes of the '70s, especially to "Someone Like You" by Van Morrison with his forever dance partner, Urs. Sunday dinners were some of Dave's most cherished times, complete with pasta and meatballs. Dave always raved about Ursula's omelets which could never be replicated no matter how hard anyone else tried. He also spent time happily manning the barbeque grill, but he soon learned that his sons-in-law's skills surpassed his own!

David knew the Lord from childhood and was a devoted, practicing Catholic. He carried his faith into his marriage and into every aspect of his life. He also instilled in his children the importance of their Catholic faith and the value of attending Mass, having good morals, and making proper decisions. David was the kind of father who took his children to church, nurturing in them a love for the Lord—one that has been passed on to the next generation. His Christianity was sincere and steadfast, and he strived to follow the example of

Christ. In recent years, David was a parishioner of St. Benedict Catholic Church in Georgia, where the atmosphere reminded him of the church of his upbringing—he truly felt at home there. He also found community at Prince of Peace Church, where he formed meaningful friendships and took purposeful joy in assisting with repairs and other needs.

David repeatedly asked his children, sons-in-law, and granddaughters to take care of his beloved Ursula when he was gone—a request they are honored to fulfill with the same love and compassion he showed her throughout the years.

David is survived by his wife, Ursula, who was his everything; his son, David M. Cerminaro, Jr.; daughters and sons-in-law, Reneé and Piero Ippoliti, and Melinda and Joseph Clark; adored granddaughters, Cecilia, and Giavanna Ippoliti; siblings and their spouses, Elaine and Robert Sereday, Anthony Jr. and Corinne Cerminaro, and Stephen and Kathleen Cerminaro; numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews; cousins, especially Mary Lou and Tom Allard; and his aunt and uncle, Joan and Tony Diruzzo. David was blessed to have amassed many friendships throughout his life, please know who you are, for that sacred time with you was so special to him. He was predeceased by his father-in-law and mother-in-law, John J. and Eda (Pardi) Scotellaro.

The Cerminaro family extends their sincere gratitude to David's Oncologist, Dr. Tanna, and the nurses and staff of Northeast Georgia Medical Center who were compassionate and outstanding in their care of David and his family. A special thank you as well for the comfort care provided by Northside Hospital Forsyth, they were sensitive and gracious.

Visitation will be held on Monday, August 11, 2025, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. In lieu

of floral offerings, memorial contributions in David's honor may be made to the Tunnel to Towers Foundation online at <https://t2t.org/donate>; envelopes will also be available at the funeral home. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend David's Mass of Christian Burial and Celebration of Life which will commence on Tuesday, August 12, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish, 648 Jay St. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery where full Military Honors will be conferred by the U.S. Air Force.

# Cemetery Details

## Calvary Cemetery

2407 Oneida Street  
Utica, NY

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 11. 4:00 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

## Funeral Service

AUG 12. 10:00 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

MC

“ My dearest friend Urs..  
My heart aches for you, and I am so deeply sorry for your profound loss of your beloved husband Dave...and your family for the loss of their father, grandfather and the rest of your family and friends..  
Your love story with Dave was truly inspiring, a testament to a beautiful partnership that lasted decades.. I can still remember how you first started out in your relationship in high school..  
And how your love and commitment continued all these years .. It was truly special in today's world .. I admire you and know that you and Dave worked hard to preserve your marriage and family.. I know your faith in God will sustain you ..  
May you find peace in the cherished memories you shared, and may you find strength in the love that surrounds you.  
With all my heartfelt sympathy,  
Your forever friend Mare

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**Mare Cardinale** - August 08, 2025 at 07:47 PM

TC

“ Dave was a great brother and brother in law. We will miss him so much.

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**Tony and Corinne Cerminaro** - August 08, 2025 at 11:23 AM

RI

“ The Lord picked the best man to be our father, our protector, our hero. I am forever grateful for all you did for us. Without you, our lives will never be the same, but not a day will go by that you will be forgotten. Your jokes, your guidance, and the memories of our family life together will live on. You are forever in my heart and look forward to the day that we shall meet again.

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**Renee Ippoliti** - August 07, 2025 at 01:41 PM

MI

“ There are not enough words to explain what an amazing man my dad was. He was the greatest husband, dad, papi and everything else in between. The world lost one of the greats but heaven won an angel. I will miss you every day of my life. I love you!

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**Mindy** - August 06, 2025 at 08:13 PM

JR

“ Even though years have passed without seeing each other, Mr. Cerminaro and his family hold a special place in my heart and always will. Thank you for the memories. I will cherish them forever. So long for now Mr. Cerminaro. You will be missed by many. Heaven just got a little better...

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**John Russo** - August 06, 2025 at 07:35 PM

JF

“ Dear Ursula and family. Dave and I went thru basic training together. When we got out Dave stayed with my family for awhile when we finished our training. He would go home on weekends. Enjoyed having him with my family. So sorry to hear he got so sick. He loved you so much Ursula. When we thought we were being activated you and Dave moved your wedding date up. We all got married on the same date April 27 1968. Dave was a great guy. We r so sorry to hear of his passing. You have wonderful family memories. Much love to you and your family. John and Paulette Fortino

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**john and paulette fortino** - August 06, 2025 at 06:30 PM

RS

“ Uncle Dave. I will miss you more than you know. I will miss our many meet ups, gatherings and your awesome sense of humor. To my Aunt Ursula and cousins I love you all dearly and can not express the sorrow I have for you all.

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**Richard Sereday** - August 06, 2025 at 05:25 PM

  
Anthony  
Cerminaro

“ I offer my sincere condolences. I did not know David, but he sounds like a great guy. As far as I know, we are not related, but like David's parents, my grandparents were named Anthony and Florence.

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**Anthony Cerminaro** - August 06, 2025 at 02:46 PM

DJ

“ **GREATEST FATHER EVER!!!** Love and miss you Dad

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**David Jr.** - August 06, 2025 at 01:51 PM

JB

*Ursula & Family,  
Lu & I have known you for more than 50 years! Dave was in my American History Class back at T.R. proctor High School. I “think” we both did OK in Mr. Rondinello’s class. Urs & Dave have been Super friends since before any of us were married. Lots of Great Times together including several vacations. Dave was a Great Friend to many and he will be missed. He will leave a very positive memory for many of us who knew him.  
May Dave’s Soul rest in Peace with our Lord in Heaven.  
Condolences, Love, and Peace  
HUGS to Ursula and all Dave’s Family.  
Joe Buttiglieri*

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**joe Buttiglieri** - August 06, 2025 at 07:26 PM

LB

*Ursula and your beautiful family,  
We share your grief in the loss of David. He was a great father,  
grandfather, and friend. We shared many good times together - always  
laughter in the air. We can never forget the times he and Joe teased us  
about being "spoiled "only children. And . . . He was so fastidious  
about your house and yard. How we laughed when he tried to outsmart  
the squirrels that were messing your pool in NY. We can still hear him  
instigating our parents with political issues and then laughing so hard  
when he achieved his purpose. Dave was a kind, sincere man who will  
be missed by all those whose knew him. Rest in peace my friend. Love  
you. Lu*

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**lucille buttiglieri** - August 08, 2025 at 09:38 PM