



## Mr. David A. Maggi

October 24, 1954 - December 14, 2025

UTICA – Mr. David A. Maggi, age 71, passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, December 14, 2025, reuniting in eternal peace with his beloved parents.

Born in Utica on October 24, 1954, David was the son of the late Louis A. and Anne M. (Biamonte) Maggi. He was a graduate of T. R. Proctor High School, Class of 1972. Immediately following his graduation, he furthered his education at SUNY Oswego, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in History. In pursuit of protecting those in need, David went on to earn his Juris Doctor degree from Georgetown University and upon graduating and passing his District of Columbia Bar Exam, he immediately gained employment with the federal government.

David had a long and distinguished career in public service as an attorney for the United States Department of Commerce. Beginning in the 1980s, he managed the evolution of the Department's ethics practice from an ancillary task of administrative lawyers to the comprehensive stand-alone office it is today. He rose to become the Department's premier ethics official. During his tenure with the Department, David received numerous awards, including both Gold and Silver Medal Awards for his extraordinary service and significant impact in shaping the government-wide standards of conduct.

David oversaw eight presidential transitions where he personally advised

several generations of the Department's most senior employees, and was recognized throughout the Department as an innovative, creative, and thoughtful leader. He was also highly respected in the federal ethics community at large, and routinely served on task forces with ethics officials of other executive branch agencies to resolve common ethics issues and concerns. His expertise in ethics law served as an example and a resource for the U.S. government ethics community, and for officials in other countries interested in instituting procedures to combat government corruption.

While maintaining rigorous standards, David was a benevolent, fair-minded manager. He cared for the employees under his oversight, trained them well, and was adept at promoting their strengths and helping them to be successful. He was a master in generating an esprit de corps within his office. He encouraged creativity, the use of color, props, and other devices to aid in ethics presentations. He was quick-witted and planned the best office parties.

“Mr. Maggi was committed to government service and instrumental in developing ethics policies that guided the Department in maintaining integrity in its programs and among its employees, and the impact of his contributions are extensive. He was respected and beloved by his former staff, his colleagues, and the thousands of employees he served over his long career.” He retired after 45 years of dedicated service.

David was a low-key, easygoing presence who preferred a quiet life and kept mostly to himself. He didn't seek attention, but those who knew him well appreciated his dry, understated sense of humor. David found contentment in simplicity and was valued for his authenticity, thoughtfulness, and the gentle wit that surfaced at just the right moments. David shared a close familial bond with his parents before him and his siblings, where, although they did not communicate daily, they always picked up right where they left off. He did not need to reach out daily for family and friends to know that he cared for them.

On his personal time, David volunteered as a Certified Ombudsman for the Office of the State Long Term Care Ombudsman, where he would venture to numerous nursing homes to advise patients on their rights with the facility. A true testament to his character and protective personality.

A devout Catholic, David was a lifelong parishioner of St. Anthony and St. Agnes Church, carrying on the faith passed down from his parents.

David is survived by his brothers and sisters-in-law, Robert and Maggi Maggi, and Gary and Erin Maggi, nieces and nephews, Benjamin and Sarah Maggi, and Nicholas and Joaneé Maggi; and great-nieces and great-nephews, Harrison Loui, Max, Arianna, Gianna, and Lily. He was predeceased by his niece, Regina Jackson and her husband Van Jackson.

A Memorial Service and Celebration of Life will be held in the Spring at a date and time to be announced.

# Tribute Wall

RS

“ I was devastated to hear of David’s passing. He was my boss for 8 years at the Commerce Department and served as a wonderful mentor. He remained a supportive colleague when I went to the Labor Department to head its ethics unit. And best of all we stayed in contact and became friends. I will miss him greatly. My sincere condolences to his family.

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**Rob Sadler** - January 03 at 10:04 AM

VD

“ I am so sorry to hear of David’s passing. David was my first boss out of law school, and he set the bar tremendously high. He was compassionate, eager to help, incredibly dedicated, and a zealous lawyer. He taught me much of what I know today, and I am deeply grateful that I had the privilege of working with him. He will be sorely missed, and I will always remember him fondly.

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**Valeria Duenas** - December 30, 2025 at 03:28 PM

KS

“ I am truly heartbroken broken to hear of David's passing. He was an amazing leader at the Department of Commerce. His obituary was spot on. He was truly a wonderful person and loved his sense of humor! And you're so right, he knew how to throw some of the best holiday parties and gatherings. I am so very sorry for you and your families loss. This news of him passing definitely hit hard. Prayers and sympathy are with you.

Sincerely,  
Kim Savoy

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**Kim Savoy** - December 30, 2025 at 08:09 AM

RM

“ David and I were fiends for almost half a century. He was a week older than I was, and I never let him forget it. In crazy world that seems to be spinning ever increasingly out of control, David remained a sensible, reliable, good humored, honest, and fair presence in my life. He had a generosity of spirit and a kindness of heart rare these days. EM Foster wrote of Aristocrats of the Spirit, people whose quiet example of goodness and ethical conduct inspires others to better lives. They hold the world together, working tirelessly in service of others without seeking fame or credit or wealth. David was one of those rare birds, an Aristocrat of the Spirit. I am a better man for having known him. The world is something less without him. I am crushed by his loss.

R Mark Musell

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**R Mark Musell** - December 28, 2025 at 10:10 AM

JM

“ My sincere condolences to the Maggi family during this difficult time. David was a passionate advocate for the Ombudsman Program. May you find comfort in knowing his presence made a difference in strangers lives as well. ❤️

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**Jennifer Matcham** - December 22, 2025 at 02:16 PM

GW

“ Sending my heartfelt condolences to the Maggi family. Please know that David's family from the Department of Commerce & the broader ethics community feel your pain. We are heartbroken. The obituary describes David perfectly. He was truly special and will be sorely missed but never forgotten.

Sincerely,  
Gaye Williams

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**Gaye Williams** - December 19, 2025 at 05:49 PM

PS

Dear Maggi Family,

*I am deeply saddened to hear of David's passing. Please accept my heartfelt condolences during this very difficult time. David was not only a respected supervisor, but also a kind person with a wonderful sense of humor who made a lasting impact on everyone around him.*

*He will be greatly missed by his Department of Commerce family, as well as by all who had the privilege of knowing and working with him. My thoughts are with you and your family, and I hope you find comfort in the many cherished memories you shared and in the lives David touched.*

*With sincere sympathy,  
Pam Smith*

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**Pamela Smith** - December 19, 2025 at 10:49 PM

KK

*I was shocked to hear of David's death. My heart goes out to his entire family and I am extending deep and heartfelt sympathy to all of you. I ask the Lord to give you all the help He can give as you grieve.  
Sincerely, Karen C. Kucik*

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**Karen C. Kucik** - December 20, 2025 at 02:07 PM

BD

*I am very saddened to learn of David's passing and hope his family and friends remember David's tender heart and sunny outlook. He was a wonderful colleague and we shared many memories of growing up in New York, his love of flashy cars, his deep knowledge of flags, and his passion for hosting a great holiday party! As a fellow division chief and senior executive, I sought David's advice and council on many occasions. He could always be counted on to provide the most charitable and legally appropriate view on any situation. I will miss him.*

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**Brian DiGiacomo** - December 22, 2025 at 09:52 AM

GM

*To everyone who has left your stories about knowing David, and sharing your experiences with him, thank you. As I've mentioned to other family members, though we all got to see David's sense of humor (which he'd tell you he has), we didn't get to see the "professional life" side, though thinking back he did brag about his office parties. As a family we grew up playing board games (risk, monopoly, conflict, etc) and card games (pitch and hearts). David would often perform certain moves that none of us would understand, but to David it was his deeper understanding that enabled him to apply his "strategy". I can't tell you how many time we would laugh at him (I mean with him), and consequently roll our eyes. But that was David. Being the Executor I was responsible for getting David's affairs in order, which meant going into his apartment to organize and find whatever it was I needed to handle the estate. Having had this experience has brought me closer to David as well. I'll keep David's private life private but it made me see that side which David felt was also important to him. I feel like all of you - I want him back. So again, I want to thank everyone. Your kind words will make this brother think of David with a new perspective.*

*Gary*

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**Gary Maggi** - January 01 at 09:01 AM



*I'm very sorry for your loss. I worked for David for 19 years and learned a tremendous amount during my time working with him. I will miss his humor and good nature and positivity during throughout the years. Thank you. Veronica Workie*

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**Veronica Pettiford** - January 09 at 01:28 PM

FT

*My deepest condolences on David's passing. He and I were colleagues and became close friends as new attorneys in HUD's Office of the General Counsel. Not only was David a great and thoughtful attorney, he was a wonderful person. One of my most precious memories is when I moved from DC to Baltimore and David came to visit and brought such a lovely gift for my toddler daughter. David was a gem.*

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**Faith Thomas** - January 10 at 08:28 PM

LR

*I just learned this sad news and am devastated. Like so many others posting here, I knew David from the Commerce Department where he was my boss. He was also my friend.*

*I have never met anyone like David. He had a joie de vivre that was infectious. I laughed more with him than any other colleague. It was a privilege to know him.*

*His family has my heartfelt condolences.*

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**Laura R.** - April 27 at 02:01 PM