



## Mrs. Denese (Witchley) Zammiello

November 24, 1951 - June 19, 2019

UTICA - Mrs. Denese (Witchley) Zammiello, age 67, passed away peacefully in the presence of her family on Wednesday, June 19, 2019 in the comfort of her home.

Born in Utica on November 24, 1951, Denese was the daughter of the late Donald F., Sr. and Pearl (Perritano) Witchley. She was a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School/Class of 1969, and later in life she continued her studies at Utica College of Syracuse University. On July 22, 1972 she married her high school sweetheart, Rocco A. Zammiello, Sr. They were great parents and partners in life for over 31 years prior to Rocco's passing on May 16, 2004.

Denese loved her job at Utica College as Director of Student Activities. She was also a great supporter of all the sporting events of the college. In fulfilling her roles and goals in life, she was decisive and determined, and it was not in her nature to be deterred from accomplishing what she set out to do. As a mother and grandmother, she was selfless in her love for all the generations of her family. Denese deserves great accolades for facing life's adversities with fortitude, especially during her own illness. Denese was raised to embrace her Catholic faith, and she honored her teachings when she attended Mass and Novenas, and became involved in parish life.

Her gracious hospitality was extended to all. She had fine taste in decorating, and accomplished many "self" home improvements. Her favorite pastimes included stopping by the Casino on occasion, shopping...especially for shoes, and spending time in the sun.

Happiness came upon her when she became a grandma known as “Gonie”, and family life became full again. She missed Rock, and as her children are sad to see her go, they know that she is with him again.

Denese is survived by her children and their loves, Rocco A. II and Joanne Zammiello, Tina and Michael Davis II, and Deanna Zammiello; her grandchildren, Taylor, Cameron, and Rocco III Zammiello; and Raquel Davis; her cherished sister, Deborah Monescalchi, and remembering her brother, Donald T. Witchley, Sr. who preceded her. She also leaves her nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins who were very close to one another, and in-laws, Nancy Witchley, Elaine Amerosa, Rosemary and Bob Spina, and Carmen A. Zammiello, Jr. She was also blessed with many wonderful friendships. She was predeceased by her brother-in-law, Anthony Monescalchi, Sr.; and nephew, Donald T. Witchley, Jr.

The family extends their thanks to the ICU and the PCU staffs at MVHS at St. Luke’s Healthcare; Denese’s caregivers Renee and Debbie; and Sister Pat who was so thoughtful and kind to Denese and her children.

Denese’s family commemorated her life at a private time. Those wishing to express an act of kindness in her memory may make a donation to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital online at <https://www.stjude.org>. Envelopes will be available at the service. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Denese’s funeral service and Celebration of Life which will commence on Wednesday morning at 10:30 at St. John the Evangelist Church where her Memorial Mass of Christian Burial will be offered. The family will receive visitors at the conclusion of the Mass. Committal and Inurnment will take place in Calvary Cemetery Mausoleum.

# Cemetery Details

## Calvary Mausoleum

2407 Oneida Street  
Utica, Ny

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

JUN **26**. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. John the Evangelist Church  
60 Oxford Road  
New Hartford, NY 13413  
(315) 732-8521

# Tribute Wall

TZ

“ My condolences to my cousins Rocky , Tina, and Deanna, as well their children. Your mother was a beautiful soul with a spark that always made me smile and feel at comfort whenever she was around. Ill always miss her smile and laugh. As well her dirt cakes and icecream cone cupcakes at birthdays when we were kids. Shes now joined with your father. I see comfort in that, they probably are playin a game of cards!!! Xoxo love tanje

tanje zammiello - June 27, 2019 at 08:04 PM

SC

“ Sharon Campola lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Denese (Witchley) Zammiello



sharon campola - June 25, 2019 at 05:20 PM

SC

“ To Denese's family, I was very sad to hear of her passing. We grew up together and our mothers were close friends. I remember all the wonderful times growing up on Eagle Street, and the fun we had. We even worked together for a while at Met Life. I will hold all these memories close to my heart. Sending prayers to her family. She will be missed.

sincerly,  
Sharon Campola and family

sharon campola - June 25, 2019 at 05:19 PM

ML

“ Denese,  
So many memories of love and especially tons of laughter. You will always remain one of the special people in my heart during the best times of my life. RIP dear friend. ❤️

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**Michele lingo** - June 25, 2019 at 08:42 AM

FB

“ Denese was a special blessing to our parish, St. John the Evangelist in New Hartford. During the winter months over the last three years she served as our parish secretary. Staff and parishioners all loved her kind way with people. And she worked well and helped keep things organized. It was clear to us just how much she loved her family so our heart-felt condolences go out to all her family and friends. May the Lord Jesus bless and keep the soul of such a wonderful person.  
--- Fr. Kevin Bunger, Pastor - St. John's Church

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**Fr. Kevin Bunger** - June 24, 2019 at 11:45 AM

CC

“ My love & sympathy to all of you ❤️ I cut hair with your Dad for years in the 70's. We spent many nights with Denise & Rock. Wonderful friends. Keep your memories close to your heart. No one can take them away. They are together again ❤️ Much love. Chich & Dominick Colacicco

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**Carol Colacicco** - June 23, 2019 at 07:51 PM

RY

“ Thoughts & prayers are with Denese’s Family and friends 🙏. Denise was one of my sorority sisters & good friends in high school. We had many laughs at our weekly meetings and especially at a camp our sorority rented at Sylvan Beach. She will be missed but I have great memories I will hold in my heart. RIP Denese & Rock ❤️



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**Roseanne (Occhiuto) Young** - June 21, 2019 at 01:44 PM

DB

“ For a number of years, Denese worked in the office of Arts and Sciences at Utica College. I appreciated her work and her cheerful ways. Sincere condolences to the family, Dr. Frank Bergmann

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**Dr. Frank Bergmann** - June 21, 2019 at 12:04 PM

TP

“ Payers to the family great memories on Eagle St Aunt Pearl Uncle Don Donald Denese and Debbie RIP Danese

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**Tom Petronio** - June 20, 2019 at 04:37 PM