



Mrs. Donna M. (Giacovelli) Johnston

December 5, 1945 - July 8, 2018

UTICA - Mrs. Donna M. (Giacovelli) Johnston, age 72, passed away peacefully in the comfort of her home surrounded by her loved ones on Sunday, July 8, 2018.

Born in Utica on December 5, 1945, Donna was the second daughter of the late Leonard and Edith (Primarolo) Giacovelli. She attended Utica schools and from a young age worked in the family business Lynton's Restaurant where family and friends always gathered. On August 1, 1976 Donna was united in marriage to Alan J. Johnston. Together they established Johnston's Auto Body and worked side by side until Alan's passing on September 16, 2004. She most recently was employed by Parkway Drugs on Culver Ave.

The greatest joys in Donna's life were her daughter Dana and her granddaughters Sydney and Jensen. She was a loving mother and grandmother and adored her 3 girls. She was their number one fan, never missing a school event, a gymnastic meet or a chance to be together. Her happiest days were spent with them.

Donna will be sadly missed by the love of her life, her daughter Dana Farouche Todd, her "son in law" Joseph Testa III who went above and beyond in helping to care for Donna these past few weeks, her cherished granddaughters Sydney Todd and Jensen Todd who were her heart and a beloved nephew Zachary Santino, whom she considered a son. She is also survived by her loving sisters Lynarda Girmonde and Deanna Santino who were always by her side, and her nephew and nieces who she loved like her

own, Sam Girmonde, Dena and Greg Gorea and Donielle Staton. In addition to many great-nieces and nephews she leaves behind Alysa Suppa, members of the Johnston family especially acknowledging in laws Linda and John Hoke and their family, and many cousins in the Giacobelli and Primarolo families. Special mention should be made of her feline companion Oliver who always made her laugh. She was predeceased by her husband Alan, her parents Leonard and Edith and her brothers-in-law Dee Dee Girmonde and Ronnie Santino.

The family will honor and commemorate Donna's life at a private gathering. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend her funeral service and Celebration of Life which will commence on Saturday morning at 11:00 at St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church where her Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. Mark Kaminski. Interment will take place in St. Agnes Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

We love you Nonna and will miss you forever,
Always your Beauty and Always your Baby

Tribute Wall



“ *Tree Soko lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Donna M. (Giacovelli) Johnston*



Tree Soko - July 15, 2018 at 12:05 PM



she will be missed by many, love Lorraine Riscica and Theresa

Tree Soko - July 15, 2018 at 12:17 PM

TP

“ *Lynarda and Deanna,
We were so sadden to hear of Donna's passing today. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. We are sorry we did not hear sooner so we could have offered our support yesterday at the services. It is hard when life happenings keep families from seeing each other. we must try to find ways to connect more often. We pray that Donna receives God's blessings and that you find some peace.
God Bless and lots of love,
Tony and Sara Primarolo*

Tony and Sara Primarolo - July 15, 2018 at 10:49 AM

RD

“ To the loving Johnston families, Deanna, Zack , Dana and Lynarda ~ we are sending our love, healing prayers and our heartfelt sympathy to you with the loss of your special & beautiful woman. The unconditional love, generosity & kindness she gave to our Father will always be in our hearts and we are forever grateful. Dad always spoke so highly of Donna with respect ~ and with mutual appreciation. Her smile radiated from that big and generous heart. She was cherished by so manyand will be so greatly missed ..but she will always be in the hearts of her loved ones. May she now rest in peace .
With Love Always from the DeMulder & Fairbairn families.

Rhonda DeMulder - July 12, 2018 at 07:16 PM

GW

“ With my deepest condolences to Dana and children, Lynarda and Deanna. So sorry for your loss. She was such a special person. Beautiful inside and out.



Gail Seminaro Williamson - July 12, 2018 at 01:36 PM

MV

“ To Donna's Family - I am so very sorry for your loss. I worked with Donna at the drug store for several years when I moved back home and she was very much a friend. I can't tell you how much I enjoyed our chats, laughs (her laugh was the best), and even some rough days. She loved all of you so much, and I loved catching up with her about how proud she was of her family. She's such a beautiful woman and I'm so glad I knew her - I'm thinking of you all.

Maria Vallese - July 12, 2018 at 10:10 AM

MM

“ A very special woman who always had a smile and kind word for everyone. She was always happy to see friends and relatives and I will always remember her spunk and laughter! So very sorry for your loss Dana. You and your family are in our prayers <3

Marie Mondy McNamara - July 12, 2018 at 06:58 AM

SS

“ What a special woman. A mother, Nonna, Aunt, sister and nurturer to all. She was beautiful, kind, and so funny in her own ways. I'll remember her little bun and that cute laugh. Her perfect lipstick, how she called everyone fresh- and you know she loved you if she called you Mom/Mommy!
Sunday dinners, gymnastics meets, birthdays, holidays.. she'll always be with you all. She'd never have it any other way- she loved her family so fiercely. Sending my love and prayer.
God bless.

Samantha Stevenson - July 12, 2018 at 05:58 AM

SD

“ Sheila Doolen-Cook lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Donna M. (Giacovelli) Johnston



Sheila Doolen-Cook - July 12, 2018 at 02:15 AM

SD

Love and miss you my beautiful friend.

Sheila Doolen-Cook - July 12, 2018 at 02:17 AM

JC

“ Heartfelt sympathy to Dana and her beautiful family, Lynarda and Deanna and families. Donna was a sweet friend who will definitely be missed by many. May you all find comfort in the beautiful memories made throughout her lifetime. May she be surrounded by angels forevermore. Fred and Jeanne Castronovo

jeanne castronovo - July 11, 2018 at 06:24 PM

LR

“ Lori Reinertson-Owens lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Donna M. (Giacovelli) Johnston



lori Reinertson-Owens - July 11, 2018 at 04:58 PM

CS

“ Christine Smith lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Donna M. (Giacovelli) Johnston



Christine Smith - July 11, 2018 at 02:06 PM

BS

“ Beverly Stoio-Castello lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Donna M. (Giacovelli) Johnston



Beverly Stoio-Castello - July 11, 2018 at 01:07 PM

SR

“ A Mother & Grandmother who loved unconditionally is how Donna will be remembered. So sorry for this loss at such a young age. My thoughts and Prayers are with the entire family. May your memories of Donna sustain you until you meet again. Until then, she is your Guardian Angel.

Siri & Bill Reardon - July 11, 2018 at 10:04 AM

SB

“ Dana, im so sorry for your loss you and your kids were so close to your mom and their grandmother. your mom was good to me I will miss her. my thoughts and prayers go out to you and your daughters, donna may you rest in peace.

sal barbero - July 10, 2018 at 10:19 PM

SC

“ Dana and family - so sorry for your loss. I have missed Donna being at the store. She was always so nice. Sandy Claeys (Kim Myers' mom)

Sandy Claeys - July 10, 2018 at 06:03 PM