



Dr. Basil L. Tehan

November 10, 1942 - August 19, 2009

Dr. Basil L. Tehan, age 66, of Utica, passed away on Wednesday, August 19, 2009 at Crouse Irving Hospital in Syracuse with his children by his side.

Born in Utica on November 10, 1942, Basil was the son of the late Louis B. and Victoria "Vicky" (Salem) Tehan. Raised and educated locally, he was a graduate of Utica Free Academy and pursued his collegiate studies at LeMoyne College. He received his Master's Degree and Ph.D. in Physics at Clarkson University. On June 24, 1973 he married the love of his life, the former Bertha Kawam, with whom he shared nearly 28 years prior to her passing on May 9, 2001; Basil and Bertha shared an unconditional love, and he cherished her memory until the last day of his life.

Upon graduation, Basil accepted a position as professor at Clarkson University. He then returned to Utica and for much of his life joined his family business, Tehan's Wholesale, devoting many of his talents and contributing to the success of this unique enterprise. A special accomplishment in Basil's life occurred when the business transitioned into the inception of "Only \$1" retail stores. This venture expanded with tremendous success of which he was very proud. During retirement, he returned to his other passion of teaching when he accepted appointments at area colleges, including Hamilton, MVCC, SUNY Institute of Technology, and HCCC. Basil was a people-oriented person and he took the time to share a moment with others. He was a true gentleman and a devoted family man, passionately proud of his children and family, and his generosity of time and commitment to them was unparalleled. His greatest

attribute was his humble nature which bestowed a legacy of outstanding admirable qualities of his hard work ethic, commitment to family, and his gentle persona. An active man, for many years he was an avid runner. He was a devout member of St. Basil's Melkite Church and served on the parish council, participating in numerous parish activities, and attending devotional novenas.

The Tehan family at this time mourns the loss of Basil's mother, Victoria, who passed away earlier on Wednesday, the day of Basil's passing. Basil is survived by his children, Victoria and Timothy Keil of Cicero, Louis B. and Wendy Tehan of VA, Elizabeth and Daniel Cornell of Cicero, and Joseph Tehan of NV; and his grandchildren, Andrew, Ryan, and Brandon; Olivia, and Lillian. Survivors also include his siblings and their families, Robert J. and Kamleh Tehan of New Hartford, Frederick J. and Kathleen Tehan of Marcy, Richard J. and Joanne Tehan, Steven A. and Kathleen Tehan, all of New Hartford, and Marianne and Seth Gordon of Clifton Park; many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and cousins; his aunt, Elizabeth Salem; and his in-laws, Joseph Kawam, John Anthony Kawam, Nadia Casab, Bernadette Wojcik, Renee Yvette Kawam, and Lorraine Kawam. Basil was also blessed with many loyal and longtime friendships. He was predeceased by his brothers-in-law, George Kawam, and Pierre Kawam; and his sister-in-law, Elizabeth Kawam.

Visitation for Basil and his mother, Victoria, will be shared Friday (today) from 4:00-8:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. The family will remain until all visitors have been seen.

Funeral services will commence on Saturday morning at 9:00 from the funeral home and at 10:00 at St. Basil's Melkite Church where the Divine Liturgy for both will be celebrated by Msgr. Julien Eliane assisted by Deacon Dan Klockowski. Entombment will follow in Calvary Mausoleum.

Previous Events

Service

AUG **22**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Basil's Melkite Church
901 Sherman Drive
Utica, NY

Tribute Wall



“ Eannace Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Dr. Basil L. Tehan



Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. - August 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Dad, we all miss you.##imported-begin##Louis##imported-end##

August 27, 2009 at 10:35 AM



“ Vicky and Family
I am so sorry to hear about the passing of your father and grandmother. Cherish all the wonderful memories and may they help with the sad days ahead.
You are in my thoughts and prayers.
Shirley##imported-begin##Shirley (Ballard) Damico##imported-end##

August 27, 2009 at 07:55 AM



“ Dear Tehan's,

It has been hard for me to go without thinking about your loss.

Our hearts and prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Tony & Lee Massoud##imported-end##

August 22, 2009 at 07:35 PM



“ *My heart goes out to the whole Tehan family. What a terrible loss you have endured this week. I have fond memories of working with this wonderful family over the years and was devastated to hear of Basil and Victoria. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. God Bless.##imported-begin##Heather Matys##imported-end##*

August 21, 2009 at 08:47 PM



“ *Louie and family*

I am so sorry for the loss of your father. You are in my thoughts and prayers##imported-begin##Bethany Schmidt##imported-end##

August 21, 2009 at 09:05 AM



“ *Vicky, Tim & family,*

I am very sorry for your loss even though I never met your Dad or Grandmother, I know they were a big part of your life! Cherish the great memories you had with them and it will get you through this tough time. Our thoughts and prayers are with you!##imported-begin##Kelley and Glenn Hacker##imported-end##

August 21, 2009 at 08:00 AM



“ Always kind, always respectful, always placing the needs of others first, self last. Sums up the philosophy of the Louis Tehan family. Do we realize ouw fortunate we are to have the members of the Tehan family as our neighbors, our friends? And it was a sheer joy to shop at Tehans store(s). We share in the family's loss. John Donne said, "Every man's death diminishes me.....ask not, therefore, For Whom the Bells Toll...they Toll for you and for me" God Bless.##imported-begin##Louis Barile##imported-end##

August 20, 2009 at 08:55 PM



“ Joey, I am so sorry to hear about your dad and grandma's passing. My thoughts are with you and your family at this difficult time.##imported-begin##dana plado##imported-end##

August 20, 2009 at 12:37 PM



“ Dear Tehan Family,
All the Millett's and Bonin's are vacationing at the Jersey Shore and heard about the passing of your dear Mother and brother. We extend our deepest sympathy to all of you.
Margaret Millett & Family
Laurice Bonin & Family##imported-begin##Margaret Millett & Family; Laurice Bonin & Family##imported-end##

August 20, 2009 at 11:37 AM



“ *Richard, Fred, Bob, Steve,*

Basil was always the gentleman..Condolences on the loss of a friend..

*Butch Waszkiewicz##imported-begin##butch
waszkiewicz##imported-end##*

August 20, 2009 at 11:31 AM