



Eleanor S. (Russo) Russo

April 21, 1927 - April 27, 2011

Mrs. Eleanor S. (Russo) Russo, age 84, formerly of New Hartford and South Utica, and currently a resident of the St. Joseph Nursing Home, passed away on Wednesday, April 27, 2011 at the St. Elizabeth Medical Center with the support of her loving family.

Born in Utica on April 21, 1927, Eleanor was the daughter of the late Carmen, Sr. and Vivian (DeRosa) Russo; she also admired her father's second wife, the late Jessie (Bartolotti) Russo. She was proud of her primary educational years at both Bleecker St. School and Brandegee Elementary School.

She attended T.R. Proctor High School, but Eleanor's primary concern during her teen years was caring for her parents and younger siblings. On November 25, 1948 she wed Samuel L. Russo who passed away on August 8, 2006; she was his strength and source of guidance, caring for his needs during their 57 years of marriage.

Eleanor was well known in the retail arena during her employment years

at the Boston Store and she quickly became a top sales representative. In 1960

Eleanor became a pioneer in the development and staffing of the Child Care Center at the Neighborhood Center, a historic hub of human services, ministering

to the needs of a diverse community. She touched many lives during her tenure

with the Neighborhood Center where she served as the nutritional dietician, retiring in 1991. She could create meals with an international flair in their presentation and there was no cuisine she couldn't conquer. She had ethnic knowledge of many cultures, religions, and beliefs and was often complimented by

those of different backgrounds on her culinary skills. Eleanor applied herself to every obstacle of her life. There was nothing she couldn't do, from ascribing to the mechanical abilities of "Rosie the Riveter" to being at the bedside of a loved one with the gentlest of heart. She was a person of great ideas and cared for those around her in every way. She held a great desire to learn, and her conversations were vast. She did whatever she could, above and

beyond, for all. She was blessed with a great sensitivity to humanity and she followed in the footsteps of Mother Cabrini, a beacon of good works and advocacy for the underprivileged. As the matriarch of her family

and her table, she masterfully prepared multi-cultural holidays and dinners, a tradition she passed onto her children. Her appreciation of faith, family, and people, made her the unique personality and captivating soul that was Eleanor.

Where there was a need, she was a supporter, a true philanthropist, fervently inspirational in her charitable nature. She gave of herself, her time, and her financial capabilities to many important organizations and causes. She loved to

volunteer, especially at the St. Joseph's Nursing Home Activities Department and

her time with the elderly was of such gratification to her. She was a unique woman whose life blossomed by the inspiration of her family, and her non-judgmental attitude of embracing people. She was a devout Catholic who prayed the rosary, and had a special dedication to Novenas and the Eucharist. She kept her faith in those around her and spoke often of having "trust in God".

A parishioner of the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes, she was especially proud of

her friendship and kinship with her pastor, Fr. Joe Salerno. During her spare time she found pleasure in reading, praying, listening to operatic music, and searching out savory recipes.

Eleanor is survived by her sons and daughters-in-law, Samuel L., Jr. and Janice (Furtek) Russo of Utica, and Steven S. and Christine (Przelomiec) Russo of Deerfield; and her grandchildren, Nicholas Russo, and Joshua Russo.

Also left to mourn her passing are her siblings and their spouses, Marie A. Russo, and Elizabeth and Angelo Scarafile, all of New Hartford, Carmen, Jr. and

Congetta Russo, and Linda A. Russo, all of Utica; her step-siblings, Josephine and Angelo Ciancaglioni, and Anthony and Joan Bartolotti; her nieces, nephews,

great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, Arlena Marino, Donald and Marlene DeRosa and Anthony Russo; her in-laws, Marion LaPolla, Madeline Ciriaco, Lena Palumbo, Lavinia Lee

Russo, Mary Russo; and her in-laws and dear friends, Frances Furtek (also her

traveling companion), and Edward and Rosella Przelomiec. She was

predeceased by her brother, Salvatore A. Russo; in-laws, Captain Nicholas D. Russo, UPD, Dominick Russo, Jr., Angeline and Jeremiah Testa, Nicholas Ciriaco, Louis LaPolla, Sr., and Joseph Palumbo, Sr.; her great-aunt, Lena Marino; and cousins, especially acknowledging Joseph Lubertine.

The family extends heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Mathew Ulahannan with whom Eleanor shared a mutually professional and deep rooted friendship; the entire staff of the St. Joseph Nursing Home, especially acknowledging Dr. Dilip Kachare for his care during her stay at the home; the Carmelite Sisters, including Sister Robert Anthony, Fr. David Sambor, Joan Jackubowski, Jane Dabro, R.N. (retired), the nursing staff, and especially her fellow resident, Michael McGuirl. All of these people were special to her during this step in the journey of her life.

The family will gather at a private time to honor and commemorate Eleanor's life. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend her funeral service and Celebration of Life which will commence on Saturday afternoon at 2:30 at the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes where her Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. Joseph Salerno. The family will receive visitors at the conclusion of the service. In lieu of flowers, it is Eleanor's request to please support the St. Joseph Nursing Home Activities Department; envelopes will be available at the service or may be directed to 2535 Genesee St., Utica, NY 13501. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

2407 Oneida Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 735-2727

Tribute Wall

SR

“ Mom, wishing you a Heavenly Christmas! Miss you! Love xoxo
12/14/2023

Steven Russo - December 14, 2023 at 03:51 PM

SR

“ Mom We miss you more than ever! Christine,
Steven, Nicholas & Joshua



Steven Russo - October 20, 2023 at 06:32 PM

NR

“ Love you Nana



Nick R - December 14, 2021 at 01:35 AM

SR

“ Mom we miss you and Dad every day, you
guys are always good in our thoughts and
prayers ! Love always!



Steven Russo - May 16, 2018 at 06:32 PM

SJ

“ Keep having sacred masses and praying the daily rosary for you and dad.

Janice and Samuel L. Russo, Jr.

Samuel L. Russo, Jr - April 27, 2018 at 04:09 PM



NR

“ Nick R. lit a candle in memory of Eleanor S. (Russo) Russo

Nick R. - November 19, 2017 at 09:50 PM



NI

“ Nick lit a candle in memory of Eleanor S. (Russo) Russo

Nick - February 20, 2015 at 11:46 PM



SR

“ Mom you are always in our hearts, miss you and love you always! Christine, Steven, Nicholas & Joshua xxx ooo

Steven Russo - January 28, 2015 at 02:54 PM



NS

“ God Bless you and Sam Sr. always



Nick, Janice and Sam - January 16, 2015 at 01:08 PM

NI

“ Thinking of you Nana...



Nick - October 12, 2014 at 01:42 PM

SR

“ Steven And Christine Russo lit a candle in memory of Eleanor S. (Russo) Russo



steven and christine russo - August 09, 2012 at 06:35 PM

SR

Love-you Mom miss-you Steven & Family

steven and christine russo - August 09, 2012 at 07:00 PM

SR

“ Steven S Russo lit a candle in memory of Eleanor S. (Russo) Russo



Steven S Russo - June 07, 2011 at 12:44 PM

JJ

“ Janice & Samuel L. Russo, Jr. lit a candle in memory of Eleanor S. (Russo) Russo



Janice & Samuel L. Russo, Jr. - May 18, 2011 at 04:26 PM

JJ

“ "If God would allow us to build a stairway to heaven we would ask to climb it so we could visit you."

God Bless your always Janice and Sammy

Janice and Samuel L. Russo, Jr. - May 17, 2011 at 03:47 PM

RL

“ I remember meeting her at her husbands funeral and at the nursing home. She was a beautiful lady with lots of spunk. May the memories of that spunk bring a smile to your lips and warm your heart.

Rose LaBuz - April 29, 2011 at 08:25 AM

NR

“ Nick Russo lit a candle in memory of Eleanor S. (Russo) Russo



Nick Russo - April 28, 2011 at 09:19 PM

SH

“ Susan Halbritter lit a candle in memory of Eleanor S. (Russo) Russo



Susan Halbritter - April 28, 2011 at 08:58 AM

NR

“ She was the best grandmother anyone could ask for. Caring, Loving and Sweet are only a few words that can describe her. She absolutely loved kids and always wanted to be around them too. She was a great cook too! I am really going to miss her. Rest in peace nana, I love you!

-Nick

Nick Russo - April 27, 2011 at 07:30 PM