



Eleanor E. "Ellie" Vella

April 1, 2007

Mrs. Eleanor E. "Ellie" (Shrodi) Vella, of Utica, peacefully entered into the arms of the Lord on Sunday, April 1, 2007, at the St. Elizabeth Medical Center. Her loving family was by her side at the time of her passing.

Born in Auburn, NY, Ellie was the daughter of the late John, Sr. and Emily (Sroczyk) Shrodi. During her wonderful childhood she loved spending time at her grandmother's farm. She was educated in Auburn and also furthered her studies in the area of Business Administration. On April 27, 1957 she married Francis "Frank" Vella with whom she shared 49 years of mutual support and commitment. As a couple, the bond of family was their greatest blessing. Ellie was employed by various local enterprises, including Bendix Corp., Morris Drapery, J & H Outlet, Heller's Upholstery Co., and lastly, the Fashion Bug. Her social skills and people-oriented abilities made her a valued employee and a welcoming salesperson.

A devoted, passionate, committed woman, Ellie loved with all her heart. She was selfless and was admired for her genuine ability to put others above herself. She was blessed with charity from her heart, and in spite of adversity and the difficulties life presented to her, she found joy, humor, and much appreciation in people she knew and loved. She never missed an important event in the lives of her children and grandchildren, and although family celebrations may have assembled at a reasonable time, they always lasted into the wee hours of the night – and so did Ellie. She loved to dance, and as a fashion devotee, her signatures were her hats and scarves. Although she

loved the color purple, she was also a member of the Red Hat Society. Ellie treasured the simple things in life – to see a flower bloom in her garden, to create the sound of laughter until you would cry, and to view smiles over frowns. She loved animals and nature and cherished the years at Cayuga Lake, Long Lake, and Myrtle Beach. She took up the game of golf “by accident”, mastered it, and was a member of 2 leagues! She also bowled, crocheted great treasures of afghans and lap blankets and often donated them to the Lutheran Home in Clinton and to places as far away as Florida, South Carolina, and Georgia. She was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Ladies Auxiliary Malsan-Jones Post. She was a communicant of Our Lady of the Rosary Church.

Ellie is survived by her husband, Frank; her cherished daughter, Francine E. and her husband John Julian of New Hartford; her sons and daughters-in-law, Richard T. and Karen Vella, Paul A. and Christine Vella, and Denis Vella and Rebecca Talerico, all of Utica; and her grandchildren who affectionately called her “Baci” were the pride and joy of her life, Samantha Vella, Nicholas Vella, twins Kyle and Adam Vella, Emily Julian, and Erin Nicole Julian. Also surviving is her sister who was her best friend, Louise A. Shrodi, and Rick Furnal of Rochester; her brother and sisters-in-law, Lawrence and Theresa Shrodi of FL, and Gloria Shrodi of Rochester; her nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and aunts and uncles, including Lottie and Frank Koziol; and her sister-in-law, Josephine Vella. Ellie was blessed with many cherished and devoted friends locally and in Myrtle Beach. She was predeceased by her brother, John Paul “Jack” Shrodi, and her in-laws, Mary and Sam Vella, Thomas Vella, who died during WW II, and Benedetta Crosby.

The family wishes to thank Dr. Dilip Kachare for his many years of compassion and concern, as well as numerous other physicians, including Dr. Andrew Ho of Utica, the Albany Medical Hospital staff who gave her 10 extra years, the St. Elizabeth Medical Center Intensive Care Unit, outstanding in their compassion and committed in their care, the Katherine Luther Home, Gordon Unit and the Therapy Dept., and Father John Comeskey of St.

Elizabeth Medical Center, Father Felix Colosimo, and Pastor Brian McCaffrey of the Lutheran Home.

Visitation will be held Monday from 4:00 – 8:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. By family request, please omit floral offerings. For those wishing to do so, please consider memorial donations in Ellie's memory to Our Lady of the Rosary Church or The Lutheran Homes Foundation; envelopes will be available at the funeral home. Ellie's funeral service will commence on Tuesday morning at 9:00 from the funeral home and at 10:00 at Our Lady of the Rosary Church where her Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated. Interment will take place in St. Joseph's Cemetery in Fleming, NY.

Previous Events

Service

APR **10**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Our Lady of the Rosary Church
1736 Burrstone Road
New Hartford, NY

Tribute Wall



“ Denis --- I know this is belated, but wanted to tell you I hope you and your family's pain has eased. My dad died just before your mom, so I can understand.

Best to you and your family,
Buffy French###imported-begin##Buffy French###imported-end##

July 30, 2007 at 04:20 PM



“ D.Vella and family. I am sorry for the great loss of your mother. i can remember all the times she would yell at us. DENNIS! My heartfelt sympathy.###imported-begin##Matthew J. Hobika###imported-end##

April 14, 2007 at 12:25 PM



“ I am so deeply saddened to learn of Ellie's passing. I have so many fond memories of our years as neighbors on Wesley Ave. I loved our long talks over tea. Ellie was always a "comfortable", fun person to be with. I will cherish the memory of you always, dear, dear Ellie.###imported-begin##Pat Tibbits###imported-end##

April 08, 2007 at 05:36 PM



“ Frank, my prayers are with you and your family at this difficult time I am well aware of your feelings. I do remember as if were yesterday the many laughs and good times we had playing cards and just visiting I am sure Ellie and Lois will be playing a few more hands. I did want to pay my respects in person however I will be in Albany with my daughter who is having shoulder surgery. I'm sure you will understand###imported-begin##Don Parda###imported-end##

April 08, 2007 at 01:06 PM



“ Such sad news to hear, I haven't seen Ellie since I was fifteen. She was a big part of my life, like a mother to me. She made me welcome in her home whenever I would come to see Paul, Dennis, or Rich on Wesley Ave (I was one of those “rowdy teenagers playing cards on the porch)...I have such fond memories of her and will miss her dearly. There is no love like a Mother's love...My Prayers are with you and your family.###imported-begin##Joseph Duffy###imported-end##

April 08, 2007 at 11:39 AM



“ Our prayers are with you and your family at this sad time. Ellie was a good friend and will be missed terribly, She always made us laugh. She always made sure we all got together at The Olive Garden for our yearly get together in Myrtle Beach. It wasn't the same this year without the two of you.###imported-begin##David & Marjorie VanAernam###imported-end##

April 08, 2007 at 10:58 AM



“ I was so sorry to hear of Ellie's passing. the family were neighbors of ours for years and always had a smile and something nice to say. may your faith and strong family bond guide you through this most difficult time. Sincerely, Rich Peenstra###imported-begin###Rich Peenstra###imported-end##

April 08, 2007 at 02:05 AM



“ To Denis and family

We are so sorry to hear about your loss. We wish we could be with you to support you during this time, but our love and prayers are with you all.

Love

The Viti Family###imported-begin###Dan, Theresa , Dominc & Philip Viti###imported-end##

April 07, 2007 at 10:29 AM



“ Dear family and friends of Mrs. Vella,
My deepest sympathy to all.

When I met Denis in Junior High 30+ years ago, I was also lucky enough to meet his family.

Mrs. "V" was always so welcoming when it came to all her children's friends, despite all of our shenanigans. Family and friends always came first as far as she was concerned.

She was so lucky to have such a large family and extended family living locally.

My prayers are with her and all who knew her.

Love,

Nate Golden###imported-begin###Nate Golden###imported-end##

April 06, 2007 at 06:28 AM



“ My mother Lavina was a roommate with Ellie at Kathryn Luther Home Gordan Unit during Jan and Feb of this year and I got to know Ellie then. She sort of adopted me and became a second mom and worried about me when the weather was bad and had me call her when I got home so her and my mom would not worry. She was a good friend to my mom while she was there. My mom and I both were blessed to have known her even for that short time. We will remember your family in prayer. Sincerely, Helen Shaw###imported-begin###Helen Shaw/Lavina Sweet###imported-end##

April 05, 2007 at 01:33 PM



“ to the Vella family, i am so sorry for your lost...but i will always remember how ellie mad us laugh or how we shared our jokes.....she was so pleasent to take care of and i will miss her...Deanna###imported-begin###deanna guidera###imported-end##

April 05, 2007 at 12:20 PM



“ Our deepest condolences go out to Denis and the entire Vella family. When I saw Frank and Denis at my grandfather's funeral recently, I had no idea that Ellie was so ill. I will always remember the childhood memories of taking over the Vella kitchen with a bunch of rowdy teenagers playing cards. Ellie and Frank were always so gracious and hospitable during these events. We would always eat them out of house and home, especially their Jean potato chips. The Vella's were always like a second family to me and Ellie will be greatly missed...###imported-begin###MICHAEL AND TANYA VITI###imported-end##

April 04, 2007 at 12:17 PM



“ Dear Dennis & family members,
We were truly sorry to hear of the death of your mother. Our thoughts are with you.
Marie & Butch###imported-begin##Dominic & Marie Viti###imported-end##

April 04, 2007 at 09:38 AM



“ Frank and Family: I am so sorry to hear of Eleanor's passing. I have many fond memories of her, and the rest of your family, from my childhood. I remember it always being a treat to go to my grandparents, Jim and Ann Sroczyk, and find the Vella's were visiting. Ellie was always so vivacious, so full of life, always thinking of others and so loving. I smile when I think of her. You are all in my thoughts.###imported-begin##Marilyn Fronce Bower###imported-end##

April 04, 2007 at 08:55 AM



“ I know Ellie will be missed deeply by her family and friends, and hope that the warm, loving memories will sustain all of you through this difficult time. There is one brighter star in the night sky, as your Mom is shining down on you. God Bless Ellie and her family.###imported-begin##Debbie Bullis###imported-end##

April 03, 2007 at 09:54 PM



“ Frank,

Our deepest sympathy to you on your loss. We both enjoyed Ellie's infectious laugh, and her good spirits. Roger still takes a quarter out of his pocket when he says a bad word, to put in Ellie's kitty.##imported-begin##Roger & Sandy Kopec##imported-end##

April 03, 2007 at 06:52 PM



“ *I knew the Vella Family growing up, but more recently I had the awesome pleasure of seeing and visiting with Mrs. Vella while she was at the Lutheran Rehab Unit. My Mother in Law was very unhappy there and Mrs. Vella went out of her way to try to make it better for her. My youngest son, Sean, also became good friends with Mrs, Vella and love to sit and visit with her. We even had to go and visit after my Mother in Law was gone.*

She was truly a wonderful woman and will be greatly missed.

My prayers and condolences to Mr. Vella and the entire family

Donna (Snyder) Blenis##imported-begin##Donna (Snyder) Blenis##imported-end##

April 03, 2007 at 02:54 PM



“ *This was very sad news to hear. She was such a loving and caring mom. She always wanted to know how you were doing. She and Frank were like extended family to me. I will always remember for her kindness and love!*

May God Bless Ellie and the Vella Family!

Love,

Joe Patterson##imported-begin##Joe Patterson##imported-end##

April 03, 2007 at 09:40 AM