



Elena Gigliotti

October 11, 1929 - December 22, 2006

Mrs. Elena Gigliotti, age 77, of Utica, passed away peacefully on Friday, December 22, 2006, at the Faxon-St. Luke's Healthcare Center with her family and friends by her side.

Born in Tomaini, in the province of Catanzaro, Italy, on October 11, 1929, Elena was the daughter of the late Luigi and Angela (Pane) Gigliotti. At a young age, she left her native land and settled in Canada. In 1954, she relocated to Utica. On November 10, 1960 she married Anthony J. "Chick" Gigliotti. As a couple, they worked alongside one another with much dedication and shared a common love for their daughter and her family. Elena and Chick were the co-owners and operators of Gigliotti's Restaurant, which was located on the corner of Mohawk and Eagle Streets. A true family enterprise, she loved to cook and brought that skill to the establishment. Elena's fabulous homemade pasta fasula, hot peppers, and other Italian delicacies were enjoyed by many in this community, until she and her husband retired in 1987. The couple shared a 35 year union prior to Chick's passing on December 29, 1995.

As a mother, she was an outstanding woman who shared life's experiences, knowledge, and customs. As a grandmother, she was an amazing source of never-ending love and commitment, and the girls will miss their nani. Special family functions were her life and she was the "glue" that held the family together. A well-loved and respected woman, Elena possessed a great deal of innate wisdom. She was the matriarch and historian of the family, and was

blessed with a strong work ethic and a sacrificing nature. She chose to live her life in service to others and was dedicated to her business patrons, friends and neighbors. All these attributes defined her character, and she was admired as a role model. While challenged with enduring health problems, she received the blessings of the technology of kidney dialysis for over 17 years. She was dedicated to the treatment and often referred to it as her 'job'. Many admired her for her determination and courage. During her leisure time, she enjoyed gardening, canning, knitting, embroidery, crocheting, and watching TV shows Wheel of Fortune and Deal or No Deal. She was a devout and loyal parishioner of St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Church and a longtime and founding member of the St. Anne's Society.

Elena is survived by her cherished daughter and son-in-law, Connie and Marty Forte, III of Utica; and her adored granddaughters, Angela, Regina, and Lucia Forte, all of Utica. In addition, she leaves many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and cousins, especially acknowledging Angie Shaw, and Jackie Marasco-DiBella. Elena was truly a wonderful friend to many, and her daughter is grateful to her mother's friends and feels it would be remiss not to especially remember Marian Jabor, Lucille Taurisano, and Felix Gigliotti. She was predeceased by her brother, Felice Gigliotti of Italy, and a sister and brother-in-law, Josephine and Arturo Tomaino of Argentina; and her in-laws. A heartfelt thank you is extended to Dr. Charles Eldredge, Dr. Ira Tisch, Dr. Lin, Dr. Christopher Max, Dr. Gorzinski, as well as associates Cheryl Perreira, Barb, Joannie and Valerie. Elena's family is wholeheartedly grateful to the entire staff of the dialysis unit of the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center who embraced her throughout the years with much love. A special note of gratitude is given to her fellow dialysis patients, Gloria Swiecki and Nate.

In keeping with Elena's wishes, there will be no public visitation. By family request, please omit floral offerings. For those wishing to do so, memorial contributions may be made to the Dialysis Unit at Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center; envelopes will be available at the service. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Elena's Mass of Christian Burial which

will be celebrated on Tuesday afternoon at 1:30 at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish at Mt. Carmel Church. A prayer or remembrance of Elena would have been so pleasing to her kind soul. Interment will take place at St. Agnes Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave.

Tribute Wall



“ Dear Connie, Marty and Girls, I was so deeply saddened to hear of Elena's passing. She will be missed by many and I truly will feel a void in my life. I am so thankful that we had our special time in October. I really enjoyed my time there with "Mom". She always made me feel as if I was one of her own. My prayers and thoughts are with you at this sad time. My love to you all.

Love, your cousin,
Linda Rastani###imported-begin##Linda Rastani###imported-end##

December 27, 2006 at 04:13 PM



“ We send our deepest sympathies to the family of Elena and hope they find strength during this difficult time. We wish we could be there with you to offer our support. We realize just how much a mother means and is definitely the "glue" that holds families together like you said.

Take care and hope to talk soon.###imported-begin##Giovanni Mancuso and family###imported-end##

December 26, 2006 at 11:16 AM



“ Connie

I'm so sorry about the loss of your mom. I will miss her very much.

David Collicco###imported-begin##David J Collicco###imported-end##

December 26, 2006 at 08:46 AM



“ We are so sorry to hear about Elena, Our mom Dorina always cherished their friendship, they shared so many memories, laughs and cries, she will sadly be missed. May God keep you all strong through these sad times.

Dorinas Family##imported-begin##The Mazzorana Family##imported-end##

December 25, 2006 at 09:48 PM



“ To Connie, Marty, and Girls,
I was shocked to have Butch read me your mom's obit. She was such a strong person who endured so much over the years as far as her health.

Having lost my mom a week before Christmas I know how difficult this is for you, Connie. You and your mom, like me and mine, were one another's best friends....it's going to be difficult for you, but you are your mother's daughter, and like her, you will be strong and move forward just as she had to when she lost her own family and then your dad.

Your mom was an "angel" here on earth, and now she's one in Heaven. I will keep her in my prayers, and you too. Fondly, Bev and Butch##imported-begin##Beverly Schrader##imported-end##

December 25, 2006 at 12:14 PM



“ Connie & Marty:

We are so sorry to read of your mom's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.##imported-begin##Frank, Melissa & Allison Acquaviva##imported-end##

December 25, 2006 at 03:25 AM