



Mr. Galeb J. "Gally" Karam

February 2, 1922 - November 26, 2010

Mr. Galeb J. "Gally" Karam, age 88, of Utica, passed away on Friday, November 26, 2010 at the St. Luke's Home with the love and support of his family.

Born in Utica on February 2, 1922, Galeb was the son of the late Tady G. and Ouida (Doun) Karam. Raised and educated locally, he attended T.R. Proctor High School. A veteran of World War II, he honorably served his country in the United States Navy. He was awarded the Asiatic-Pacific Area Service Medal with 6 stars and the Philippine Liberation Ribbon in recognition of his service during those campaigns. On May 4, 1947 he was joined in marriage to the former Eugenie "Jeanie" Elasmarr with whom he shared 44 years prior to her passing on May 12, 1991. Gally and Jeanie were blessed in a well suited relationship as true life partners and best friends who honored the bonds of family.

When he was a young man, Gally began his working career with his brother, Fred, at Karam Produce, where he expressed concern and commitment throughout the years to this successful family business. He later held employment as a driver for area trucking industries including Gorea Trucking, M & M Trucking, and Fanelli Express. Re-entering the workforce, he accepted a dispatcher position at the Utica Department of Public Works, a job that gave him a great sense of purpose and fulfillment during this time of his life. He maintained the work ethic of his generation and was always on the go. He honored his heritage, traditions, and ethnic foods of his culture and was

involved in the lives of his family, never missing a special occasion. Gally was equally proud of “all his children”, never differentiating the generations, and he loved all of them passionately. He was a great conversationalist, very knowledgeable in many areas and was fluent in Arabic, speaking it whenever the opportunity arose. He loved classical music and the voices of the virtuoso tenors, Luciano Pavaratti and Mario Lanza. He was a lifetime member of the Knights of Columbus 4th degree, the American Legion Fort Schuyler Post #1290, and the Teamsters Local #82. Gally possessed a strong, simple inner faith, and was a parishioner of St. Louis Gonzaga Church and at one time a member of the Holy Name Society.

Gally is survived by his beloved family, his daughters and sons-in-law, Judith and Alfred Blanco of Newburgh, NY, and Rosanne and Joseph Hebert of Utica; and his son and daughter-in-law, Joseph and Phyllis Karam of Newburgh. He was Giddo to all of his grandchildren, Joseph and Kristen Blanco, Gina and Tom Gandolfini, Alfredo Galeb and Erin Blanco; Daniel Hebert, Kathryn Hebert; Theresa and Raymond Renzo, and Joseph Karam and fiancée Brianne Mahoney; and his great-grandchildren, Alfred Blanco, Jack, Paige, and Finn Gandolfini, Aidan Blanco, Carmella Renzo, and Raymond Renzo; and the anticipation of his 8th great-grandchild. Survivors also include his nieces and nephews, especially acknowledging Darlene Karam, Anthony and Gail Sfeir and family, Diane Cecilia and family, Joanne and David Taurisano, and Bernie and Richie Sunderlin and family; his great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and in-laws, Marian Karam, and Ava Karam. His family members were his best friends and social companions, but he truly enjoyed the friendships and time shared at Karam’s Bakery. He was predeceased by his brothers and sister-in-law, Wade J. Karam, Fred J. and Agnes Karam, and Ernest Karam; his sisters and brother-in-law, Lillian and Anthony Sfeir, Sr., and infant sister, Abreza; and his in-laws, Emil Elasmarr, and James and Victoria Elasmarr.

The family is appreciative of the Clark West staff at the St. Luke’s Home; their care, compassion, and patience is to be commended. Thanks also to his

caregivers Brandy Pagan and Donna Rydzeski, who were “his girls”; his physicians, Dr. Emile Wassel and Dr. Yekaterina Kashtanova; the Dialysis Unit personnel at the Faxton-St. Luke’s Healthcare Center for their commitment to his care; and a special thank-you to Fr. Faris and Deacon Paul Salamy for their prayers and pastoral visits which were so inspiring.

Visitation will be held Sunday (today) from 2:00-6:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. The Prayer of Incense will be offered on Sunday evening at 5:30 at the funeral home. The Knights of Columbus will offer ritualistic services at 4:00. Those wishing to express an act of kindness may make a donation to St. Jude Children’s Hospital or Hospice & Palliative Care, Inc. in honor of Gally’s late wife; envelopes will be available at the funeral home. Galeb’s funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Monday morning at 10:00 from the funeral home and at 11:00 at St. Louis Gonzaga Church where the Divine Liturgy for the Faithful Departed will be celebrated by Chorbishop John D. Faris. Committal prayers and Military Honors will follow at Christ Our Savior Chapel in Calvary Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Christ Our Savior Mausoleum at Calvary Cemetery

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

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **28**. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.
932 South Street
corner of Hammond Ave.
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 724-6714
eannacefh@roadrunner.com
<https://www.eannacefuneralhome.com>

Service

NOV **29**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Louis Gonzaga Church
520 Rutger Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 732-6019

Tribute Wall



“ Eannace Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Galeb J. "Gally" Karam



Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. - November 26, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ The death of Galeb (Gally) Karam is the loss of another link to a culture that was so enjoyable and respected. In recent years when the burdens of old age and illness diminished the great energy and vitality that Gally always possessed, it was comforting to return and relive the memories of the “glory days” on Mary and Elizabeth Streets. For those few who remain today, the days and nights spent with Galeb and “Jeannie” among parents and friends at 750 Elizabeth Street continue as a pleasant interlude in these times of economic and political turbulence. Madeline and I have been fortunate to have enjoyed many pleasant days with Gally and we are the better for having done so. More importantly, all our children each have their pleasant memories with their Uncle Gally. We will miss Gally very much and at this time of sadness and sorrow we can only say to his children, Judy, Rosie and Joey, their husbands and wife, and all their children, that all of you are blessed forever for being a large part of his life which was filled with great love and devotion; a life that will serve as a role model for all of us to follow as we each make our journey to the better place in which Gally now lives with all his loved ones who have gone before him.

May his soul rest in peace, and may God watch over all his family and loved ones.

Joseph & Madeline Hobika and family.

JOSEPH HOBIKA - December 01, 2010 at 09:53 AM

DG

“ *Roseann & family*
We are all deeply saddened on your loss. Your dad will always remain in your hearts. Our deepest sympathy with you always.
Denise & Jim Giruzzi & family

Denise & Jim Giruzzi - November 30, 2010 at 11:51 AM

DC

“ Rosanne I was so sorry to hear of your Father's passing. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers .I really enjoyed chatting with him on my daily walks to West with my MOM

Donna Cardillo - November 29, 2010 at 07:47 AM

JB

“ 2 files added to the album Photos



Joe Blanco - November 27, 2010 at 07:48 PM

DM

“ Denise Mahoney lit a candle in memory of Mr. Galeb J. "Gally" Karam



Denise Mahoney - November 27, 2010 at 07:56 AM

DM

“ Thank you, Gally for all the love you shared with our family. We will always remember you and the great person you were. RIP, "Giddo". We love you..... Tim and Denise Mahoney

Denise Mahoney - November 27, 2010 at 07:55 AM