



## Mr. Gary G. Specht

January 17, 1954 - August 14, 2018

UTICA - Mr. Gary G. Specht, age 64, passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, August 14, 2018 at MVHS at St. Luke's Healthcare with his entire loving family by his side.

Born in Mendota, Illinois on January 17, 1954, Gary was the son of the late Eugene and Betty Jean (Maly) Specht. In the early 1970's his family made New York Mills their home where Gary attended NY Mills High School. On June 29, 1974 he married the former Mary Delfino with whom he shared a loving and understanding relationship. They were supportive of each other's needs and helped one another to endure life's circumstances in every way. Gary worked as an auto mechanic at National Auto in the Service Department. He had an intuitive knowledge in his area of expertise from intake to disassembling and re-assembling any part of a motor vehicle. He was also adept at assembling model trains, cars, and ships, and his creative nature was seen in his work. In years past, Gary would relax in the open air of God's country where he enjoyed hunting and fishing with his buddy Big Ray. He and his family especially enjoyed the beauty of the 1,000 Islands. His most recent endeavor was building Adirondack chairs for friends and family. He also enjoyed working in his greenhouse, which he built without a designated plan or blueprints.

He loved listening to his music, especially classic rock as he was a guitar player, and being outdoors, taking in the beauty of the day. The earth returned the favor by allowing Gary to grow anything and everything. He was a great

gardener, especially with his tomato plants which he shared with everyone. He was also a NASCAR fan, particularly the Earnhardts and other legends, even seeing some races at Pocono. Recently, the family even drove their Monte Carlo on the Watkins Glen track. Since family gatherings were so important to him, he learned to cook from his mom's recipes, and he was really good at it! His home was a place of peace for him and it was home to many things that he built with his own hands, including a "Hotel" for his adopted cats.

Gary felt blessed to spend time with his son, and he adored his grandchildren from the moment they were born. A generous spirit and a helpful friend, he gave of himself even when he was enduring physical pain. He was loved by many and is loved even more, now.

Gary is survived by Mary, his wife of 44 years; his cherished son and daughter-in-law, Christopher and Natalie Specht; his adored grandsons Ryan and Eric; and his sisters and brothers-in-law, Lynnette Golden, Bonnie and Dale Knapp, and Pamela and John Wren. He was predeceased by his sister, Annette Specht; brother, Daniel E. Specht; and brother-in-law, Robert Golden. He also leaves many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and in-laws, Linda Specht, Victoria Delfino and her partner Susan Butler, and Frank and Tina Delfino. He was blessed with trusting and kind neighbors including Minh Tran and family, Donna and Tom, the Secor family; and longtime family friends, Minnie and Linda LaPaglia. He was also predeceased by his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Paschal "Pat" and Mary Delfino.

The family is grateful to the nurses and staff of the Allen-Calder Wing/3rd Floor and the Emergency Room personnel at St. Luke's for their compassionate, attentive care and medical expertise.

A Memorial Gathering in Gary's honor will be held Saturday from 10:00-12:00 noon at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. His funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Saturday at 12:00 noon at the funeral home with Fr. David Orzel officiating the ceremony. Inurnment will take place in Calvary Cemetery.



# Cemetery Details

## **Calvary Cemetery**

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

# Tribute Wall

LA

“ *Mary and Family,  
We're so sorry for your loss.  
I remember Gary when he lived on Dudley Ave. He lived across the  
street from my in laws. Very frequently he would visit with us on the  
front porch.  
He was always so kind, and we shared many laughs.*

*Linda and Gene Avella*

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**Linda Avella** - August 17, 2018 at 09:59 AM

LK

“ *I will always remember Gary and how he loved camping and fishing!  
He always made camping a good time! Loved his sense of humor  
and of course his food! He will be missed!*

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**Lisa King** - August 17, 2018 at 09:05 AM

LW

“ *I first met Gary Specht way back in 1987, when I would walk my  
daughter to Roosevelt School. He would be outside just about every  
single day, and greet us with a cheery 'good morning' and a friendly  
smile; in fact, I don't think I ever saw him when he wasn't smiling.  
Gary's friendly early morning greetings were a very pleasant way to  
start my day. I know your hearts are aching, and how I wish I could  
ease your pain somehow, but I know I can't. All I can do, is tell you  
that I will always remember Gary Specht's smile and friendly 'hellos'  
each time I drive past his home.*

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**Laurice Wilkinson** - August 16, 2018 at 03:37 PM