



## George J. Ritzel

November 26, 1941 - January 16, 2009

Mr. George J. Ritzel, age 67, of Utica, passed away on Friday, January 16, 2009 at the Pines at Utica.

Born in Utica on November 26, 1941, George was the son of the late Joseph A. and Vernice (Buss) Ritzel. He was raised and educated locally, and served his country as a member of the Army National Guard. On June 15, 1974 he was united in marriage to the former Phyllis Marino with whom he shared 34 years in a blessed and beloved union of mutual admiration.

A machine operator by trade, George was employed by Lucas Aerospace Corporation for many years. He was an exemplary husband and father and a loyal friend who earned the respect of those who knew and loved him. He appreciated the outdoors and had a natural ability to participate in a variety of sports. He was an avid golfer, and a running enthusiast; he ran the Utica Boilermaker, the Heart Run, Falling Leaves Race, Millers Mills Sundaes Run, and many other road races throughout the area. He was also a fan of professional wrestling. He had an interest in astronomy and enjoyed the tranquility of observing the stars through his telescope. He was a member of the Moose Lodge of Ilion and North Utica and a parishioner of St. Mark's Church.

George is survived by his wife, Phyllis; and his son, Joseph G. "Joey" Ritzel of North Utica. Survivors also include his sisters and brother-in-law, Nancy Horton of FL, Catherine Mallace of Utica, and Anne and Paul Bruchesky of FL; many aunts and his uncle, James Buss of Central Square; his nieces,

nephews, cousins, and in-laws, Vincent and Marilyn Marino of North Utica. He was predeceased by his mother-in-law and father-in-law, Catherine and Patsy Marino; and his brother-in-law, James S. Mallace.

George's family extends a special thank you to the Pines at Utica for their care and support, especially the 2nd and 3rd floor staff with special mention of Ronald Cramer and Dr. Rodger Breslow.

In keeping with George's wishes, there will be no public visitation. By family request, please omit floral offerings. For those wishing to do so, memorial contributions in George's honor may be made to the Alzheimer's Association or to the Pines at Utica; envelopes will be available at the service. Family and friends are respectfully invited to attend his Mass of Christian Burial which will be celebrated on Friday morning at 11:00 at St. Mark's Church on Keyes Road. The family will receive visitors at the conclusion of Mass. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

# Previous Events

## Service

JAN 23. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mark's Church with receiving line  
440 Keys Rd.  
Utica, NY

# Tribute Wall



“ I happened upon this notice and my heart goes out to the family of George Ritzel. Though I do not know the family I wanted to convey my sympathy and share with you the thought from the bible that I look to at times such as these. Our heavenly Father Jehovah is a God of love and he hates to see us in pain. This thought is supported at Revelation 21:3,4 where it promises that all those in the memorial tombs will come out. What a time of celebration when we will be crying tears of joy instead of sorrow. I again am sorry for your loss. With sympathy,##imported-begin##Jo Edwards##imported-end##

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January 23, 2009 at 12:38 PM



“ Love ya bunches. You will be dearly missed wish we could have gotten to know each other better. Save me a spot in heaven. Till we meet again. Love Always, your niece Wendy.##imported-begin##Wendy Beene (Uncle Georges Niece)##imported-end##

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January 21, 2009 at 05:22 PM



“ To My Loving Brother, I will always be with you in spirit, someday we will meet again in Heaven.. Your sister Nancy##imported-begin##Nancy Horton##imported-end##

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January 21, 2009 at 01:29 PM



“ I will remember you from days gone by, rest in peace my dear brother. love your sister Anne##imported-begin##Anne Bruchesky##imported-end##

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January 21, 2009 at 08:57 AM



“ I too am George's cousin, Linda Weaver Frisco. I remember George always coming to see Grandpa Buss and visiting and staying for dinner with him. He would come up with his Dad . We would come up and visit with them once inawhile, my Mom and me,. May you all have peace knowing George is now in good hands with our Lord. God Bless you all and remember the good memories. Love Linda###imported-begin##Linda Frisco###imported-end##

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January 20, 2009 at 12:50 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to all the family. I was reflecting this morning on the fun times we all had at Grandma and Grandpa Buss house. We never spent lots of time together but when we did (all of us) it was great quality time. I remember George would always have something funny to say and was such a great golfer. He made me laugh many times. These are the "good times" that we need to remember. My love to you all. I know when George arrived in Heaven my Jack stepped out to welcome him, along with all our Saints that have gone before us. My prayers will continue for you all. If you need anything please call. Love you ALL! Sherry###imported-begin##Cousin, Sherry Weaver Broton###imported-end##

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January 20, 2009 at 11:19 AM