



Hazel M. Nunziata

May 17, 1940 - December 13, 2014

Hazel M. Nunziata, age 74, crossed over to her Lord on Saturday, December 13, 2014 at the St. Elizabeth Medical Center with her loving family by her side. During her last days, she was privileged to be baptized.

Born in Utica on May 17, 1940, Hazel was the daughter of the late William and Elizabeth (Wentworth) Richlin. She was raised in the Utica area. At one time, she was married to Victor Nunziata and to that relationship came the blessing of three children.

Hazel was currently working in her vocation as a seamstress at the Human Technologies Corporation. She loved her job because it gave her a sense of purpose, fulfillment, and respect. A woman of tenacity and resolve, Hazel was the “lord of the jungle”; she sought respect and always demanded the best effort from those she cared for. As the eldest child of her entire family, she was held in high regard for her sense of discipline and loving nature. She was also caring, humorous, and forthright. Hazel was ‘old school’ and her desire was to raise well-mannered, respectful children who were ready to face the world with open minds and open hearts. She knew each of her children and acknowledged their individual needs and personalities. They respected her presence and feared her ‘loving wrath’ if they were out of line. In her circle of life, she could be counted on to provide whatever was needed for her family. Her relationship with her grandchildren was truly unique, as each of them had a special and important role in her life. Hazel was an experienced cook, and she will be remembered for her savory sauce, Thanksgiving stuffing (assisted

by her sister, Rosie), macaroni and potato salad, and her appetizing goulash. She was fond of friendly card games and Bingo at the former Sons of Italy. During her spare time, she enjoyed crocheting, especially blankets. She looked forward to gathering with friends and family for the annual Frog Fest at Verona Beach State Park, attending Catholic Charity dinners with friends, playing matching games, solitaire, and word search games, and of course rooting for the NY Yankees, Buffalo Bills, and NY Giants. A member of the Redeemer Church, Hazel flourished in her faith in the Lord and shared spiritual insight and camaraderie with her church congregation.

Hazel is survived by her daughter, Victoria Rojas and her son, Elvis A. Nunziata. Always close to her heart was the memory of her daughter, Joanne May Thompson, who passed away on April 18, 2012. She also leaves her cherished grandchildren, Dana, Kimberly, Jonathan, Joshua, Justin, Cortney, Gino, Brenden, Angelyce, Sienna, and Faith; her great-granddaughter, Starr-Mya; Hazel's companion, John; Noel Carretaro, her football buddy and friend of over 30 years, her sisters, Donna Lee, Molly Coonrod, Mary Everett, Florence Barksdale, Rosie Watkins, Colleen Stanek, and Margaret Hart; her brothers, Joseph Watkins, Albert Watkins, Marty Richlin, Richard Richlin, and Michael Richlin; many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and her dear friend, Grace Simons, who was helpful to the end. A special thank you to Margaret Hart and Melissa Liss for their ability to stay with Hazel, when no one else could. She was predeceased by her brothers, William Watkins, John Watkins, and William Richlin.

The family is grateful to Pat Rosati NP, the St. Elizabeth Medical Center 4th Floor staff, especially acknowledging Registered Nurses, Naida, Onama, Mary Ann, Katie, Steve, and Arianna, assisted by Dan "the Man"; for providing the best care and respect that any family could ask for.

A Memorial Gathering will be held on Saturday, December 20, from 2:00-4:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Hazel's Celebration of Life will commence on Saturday afternoon at 4:00 at the funeral home immediately upon conclusion of visitation with Pastor Mike

Servello officiating the ceremony.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **20**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 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

DEC **20**. 4:00 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.
932 South Street
corner of Hammond Ave.
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Tribute Wall

VR

“ Vicky Rojas sent a virtual gift in memory of Hazel M. Nunziata



vicky rojas - April 15, 2025 at 04:05 PM

VR

“ I MISS YOU MOM 🌹💜🌹💜🌹💜🌹💜 NOT 1 Day goes by that I do t think 🤔 of YOU.. I WOULD GIVE ANYTHING 2 BE WITH YOU for 2 mins..” I LUV YIY MOMMY” 🙏🙏🙏💜💜💜

vicky rojas - April 15, 2025 at 04:04 PM

DN

“ Today 8 years ago I seen you cry more than I ever did cause god took my mother away from you but now god has all my Ángeles together watching over me I love you nani

dana nunziata - April 18, 2020 at 08:09 AM

DN

“ Tomorrow make it 5 years but i love and miss you you been on my heart heavy idk if your trying to give me a sign to get my shit together or what but i miss you like crazy.... Love you nani

Dana Nunziata - December 11, 2018 at 01:43 PM

DN

“ Nani i miss you so much i cant believe next month will make it 2years you been gone my heart still brakes i miss you like crazy. You gonna be a great grandma agian and i wish i had your homemade stuffing

Dana Nunziata - November 20, 2016 at 12:59 AM



“ happy birthday nani i love you

Dana Nunziata - May 17, 2016 at 12:13 AM



“ nani and her great granddaughter my worl.in one picture i love and miss you every day....god took one Angel but bless me with another just like you 🥰🥰🥰🥰🥰🥰🥰🥰



Dana Nunziata - April 14, 2016 at 07:53 PM



“ i miss you nani this past year has been so hard to now have YOU here ughh i know ur in a better place and with ur daughter for her birthday...i love you and mommy both

Dana Nunziata - January 15, 2016 at 04:52 AM

VD

“ Victoria Her Daughter lit a candle in memory of Hazel M. Nunziata



Victoria her daughter - December 16, 2015 at 09:22 AM

DA

“ I miss you nani you where my back bone and the circle of life with our family❤️❤️❤️

Danna - April 08, 2015 at 08:18 AM

DA

“ I miss you and love you Nani

Danna&starr'mya - February 24, 2015 at 08:55 PM

D&

“ Hi Nani just was laying here with starr'mya. And when I happen to look over I could she you in my daughter... Idk I love you to the moon and back 4ever. And I know your watching down on us..sweet dreams my angel 😊 I love you xoxoxoxoxoxo

Danna &Starr'mya - January 08, 2015 at 11:29 PM

LY

“ Lydia lit a candle in memory of Hazel M. Nunziata



Lydia - January 04, 2015 at 08:25 AM

DS

“ Happy new years nani i love you

Danna and starr'mya - December 31, 2014 at 11:46 PM

DS

“ Nani it almost 2015and it feel so wired not being able to call you and wake you up to say happy new years ughh I'm still not over the fact that your not her with me I feel so lost with out you...i wanna cry but I hold it all in to be strong but it so hard not cry my heart it torn apart I feel like shit

Danna and starr'mya - December 31, 2014 at 10:33 PM

DS

“ This is the first Christmas 🎄 with out you, but I know you her in spirt. Just feel funny not being able to call you and sing 🎤 Grandma 😞 got run 🏃 over by a reindeer... But I know your singing 🎵 it with mommy....love you

Danna and starr'mya - December 25, 2014 at 11:15 AM

DS

“ Happy Christmas 🎄 eve nani we love you and miss you
from starr'mya and Dana

Danna and starr'mya - December 24, 2014 at 10:58 PM

PatnLorair
Ostrander
Piccione

“ PatnLorraine Ostrander-Piccione lit a candle in
memory of Hazel M. Nunziata



PatnLorraine Ostrander-Piccione - December 20, 2014 at 03:08 PM



So sorry for your loss Colleen. May you find comfort in the many wonderful memories you shared. Blessings to all.

PatnLoraine Ostrander-Piccione - December 20, 2014 at 03:09 PM



“ 138 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. - December 19, 2014 at 08:21 PM

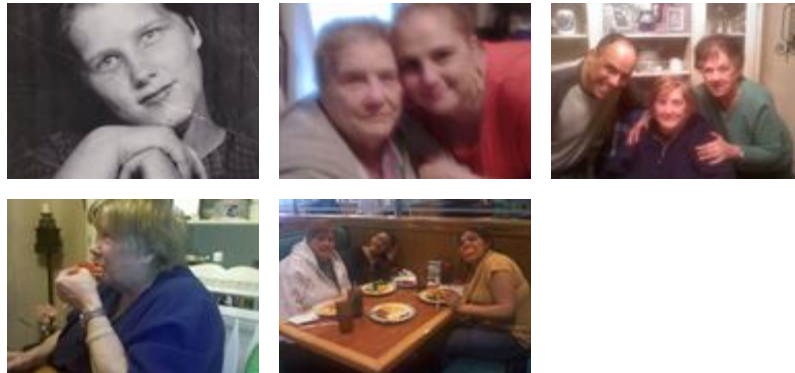
TR

“ *My deepest sympathy to Hazels family on their loss. She was a special and unique person close to my heart, a true friend.*

Theresa Robinson - December 19, 2014 at 08:03 PM



“ 86 files added to the album Life Tributes



Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. - December 19, 2014 at 05:59 PM

EN

“ Elvis Nunziata lit a candle in memory of Hazel M. Nunziata



Elvis Nunziata - December 18, 2014 at 10:32 AM

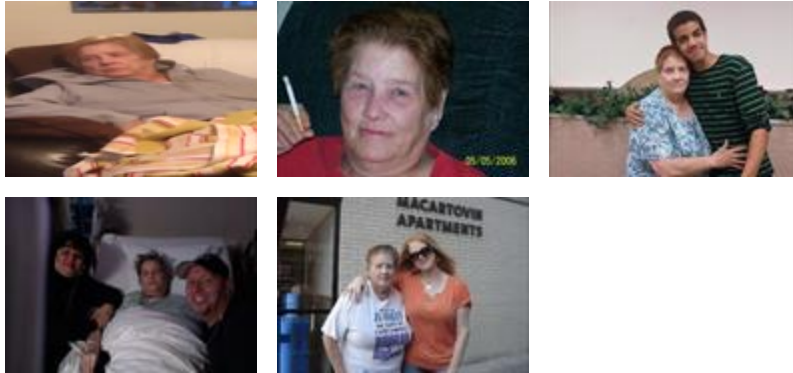
NO

She was like mother to me and best friend , we shared a lot of good time playing cards watching football and breaking chops with each other . She was also the best mother in law you could have never said no to sports and Sunday's was a must... She loved buffalo . By Giants . Yankees and the Rangers one of the biggest NY sport team fan around I miss so much and Sunday's will never be the samelove you hazel and I'm sorry for the family's lost ... God bless to all...


noel - December 18, 2014 at 12:14 PM

EN

“ 17 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Elvis Nunziata - December 18, 2014 at 10:27 AM

 Kristen Paladino

“ So sorry Vicki, Angelyce and Dana for your loss ❤️❤️❤️❤️ thoughts and prayers are with you in this sad time.



Kristen Paladino - December 18, 2014 at 06:33 AM

PL

“ Phyllis Latreille lit a candle in memory of Hazel M. Nunziata



phyllis Latreille - December 18, 2014 at 04:34 AM

ME

“ I remember the first time I met Hazel I was 42 years old I was at my sister Collen's house to meet most of my siblings that I had never known before, Hazel was one of them . When she seen me she came to me and gave me a huge Bear hug and started crying she said the last time I seen you you were just 3 yrs. old, she said to me I don't to let you go. When I got the call that you were leaving us I felt the same way I didn't want you to us . God had other plans we will miss you. Love your sister Mary

Mary Everett - December 17, 2014 at 10:58 PM

VR

“ Victoria Rojas lit a candle in memory of Hazel M. Nunziata



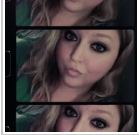
Victoria Rojas - December 17, 2014 at 10:31 PM

MP

“ So sorry for your loss Colleen. My prayers go out to you and your family.



Mary Peycke - December 17, 2014 at 10:21 PM



“ *Danielle Patterson lit a candle in memory of Hazel M. Nunziata*



Danielle Patterson - December 17, 2014 at 08:55 PM



“ *Kimberly Turk lit a candle in memory of Hazel M. Nunziata*



Kimberly Turk - December 17, 2014 at 08:12 PM



“ *Hazel you where the leader of the Pack , we grew apart with uncontrolled circumstances and we also came back together after many years had passed and it just didn't matter, you were my sister and I was your brother. Time nor distance nor circumstances beyond our control could not break that bond .
May you forever Rest In Peace, Love brother Joey, as you and only you called me.*

Joseph H Watkins - December 17, 2014 at 07:32 PM



“ I love you Nani more than word can explain...i know your in heaven watching down on all your love ones but I wasn't and still not ready to say goodbye but for as I see it know it not a goodbye its a see ya later in the next life...may you rest in peace with mommy and all the other angels playing in the sky.... I love you to the moon and back...rip nani

Dana Nunziata - December 17, 2014 at 01:25 PM

ME

“ Melissa lit a candle in memory of Hazel M. Nunziata



melissa - December 17, 2014 at 12:08 PM

GN

“ Hey nani, I was searching your name and this came up. Just wanted you to know I love and miss you like crazy. Not a money goes by were you don't cross my mind. With the stuff that's happened the past couple days you wouldn't be happy with it but everyone's under some type of stress and Sooner or later itll all be back to normal somewhat with pieces of the puzzle missing, but that's life like my dad said, life is a complete circle like a turn around. It repeats it's self over and over and over again. Anyways let pappy and titi know I love them and miss them too. I literally this candle in your memory and I'll lite a real one the moment i get home. Love & miss you blue eyes



Gino Nunziata - December 16, 2014 at 12:22 PM

GN

**moment (stupid auto correct)*

Gino Nunziata - December 16, 2014 at 12:22 PM

GN

**i lit this candle*

Gino Nunziata - December 16, 2014 at 12:23 PM