



Mrs. Helen M. (Arent) Talerico

November 8, 1930 - January 23, 2025

UTICA – Mrs. Helen M. (Arent) Talerico, blessed with 94 years on this earth, passed away on Thursday, January 23, 2025, with her devoted family by her side.

Born in Herkimer on November 8, 1930, Helen was the daughter of the late William F. and Mary I. (Fuss) Arent. She relocated to Utica with her family when she was 12 years old and was a proud graduate of Utica Free Academy/Class of 1948. Later in life, she attended Utica School of Commerce.

Helen was wed to John J. Talerico, Sr., on May 18, 1958. Their union was blessed with the gifts of children and friendship until John's passing on January 27, 2008.

At one time, Helen worked for Utica Mutual Insurance before leaving to raise her children. When she reentered the workforce, she held clerical positions at The Hartford Insurance Company.

Helen had a thirst for knowledge and could always be found devouring one book or another. She made almost daily visits to the library and could read a book a day. Some of her children's fondest memories of growing up with her are those trips to the library.

A movie buff, Helen especially enjoyed true crime series and was a self-proclaimed detective. She was a music enthusiast with a talented voice—so much so that a song was specifically written for her to record. She sang at family weddings and in various choirs. She was also an aspiring actress and was involved with the Utica Players in her younger years.

Helen enjoyed being around others and was skilled in engaging them in conversation. She had a knack for really getting to know who people were. In her free time, Helen enjoyed going for walks and rooting for the NY Yankees. She also possessed a dry sense of humor. Above all else, it was Helen's maternal nature that shone like a beacon; she was considered a "second mom" to many. She was a natural caretaker and was trusted to care for her sisters-in-law and friends whenever they called upon her.

Helen honored her family and friends with her famous thoughtful cards. Her messages were always paired with personalized poems and sealed with stickers. Whether for a special occasion or just an "I love you," these creative gifts truly were her ministry.

Helen is survived by her children and their spouses, John Jr. and Luanne Talerico, Diane (Talerico) and Byron Salmon, and Rebecca Talerico and Denis Vella; and grandchildren, who affectionately called her "Grandma T.," John, Jessica, and Samantha; Jacob and Michelle Salmon, Joel and Medlee Salmon, Jordan Salmon; and Frank Gulla. She was preceded by her grandson, Philip Gulla, Jr. in June of 2021. She leaves to cherish her memory her great-grandchildren, Jude, James, and Brooklyn; many nieces and nephews and their families; and her in-laws, Dario A. Monescalchi (the late Rosemary Monescalchi), and Rita Conte (the late Rick "Gus Conte) with whom Helen shared a special bond. She was additionally predeceased by her brother and sister-in-law, Alfred and Nancy Arent; sister and brother-in-law,

Irene and Alanson Dunn; and in-laws, Angeline and Alfred “Bud” Maunz, Frances and Frank Centolella, Eva and James A. Paciello, Carmella “Fay” and Joseph J. Cittadino, Margaret and Ray Gimelli, Johanna “Jenny” and Charles L. Barber, Josephine and Nicholas Bronga, Joseph and Rosemary Talerico, Albert and Lillian Talerico, and Paul and Carol Talerico.

Visitation will be held on Friday, January 31, 2025, from 4:00-6:00 p.m., at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Helen’s funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence at 6:00 p.m. at the funeral home. For those unable to attend, you may be present virtually at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82399907109>. In lieu of floral offerings, memorial contributions in Helen’s honor may be made to All Things Global Ministries online at www.atgm.org/donate; envelopes will also be available at the funeral home. Interment will take place in St. Mary’s Cemetery.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 31. 4:00 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

Funeral Service

JAN 31. 6:00 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.
932 South Street
corner of Hammond Ave.
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 724-6714
eannacefh@roadrunner.com

Tribute Wall

JM

“ Aunt Helen sing with the angels, read all day long, embrace all the love ones you have missed. You will be missed but all of us have so many memories to cherish. Just please do me a favor and still send me a sticker (sign) for my birthday. I sure will miss your beautiful cards with stickers and handwritten notes. All the phone calls of hello from up stairs and down stairs. Let's not get started on Aunt Helen and her Yankee's. So many memories.... Oh I also have to mention my Aunt had the most beautiful flawless skin not a darn wrinkle. We all should be so lucky! I will miss you and love you forever.

Jackie Maunz-Carbone - January 31, 2025 at 05:31 PM

PB

“ Pam Barber lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen M. (Arent) Talerico



Pam Barber - January 31, 2025 at 04:09 PM

PB

And Helen was the best lady you could ever know she was a beautiful lady and she was loved by everyone you're gonna be missed aunt Helen

Pam Barber - January 31, 2025 at 04:11 PM

BE

“ Beth Elsenbeck lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen M. (Arent) Talerico



Beth Elsenbeck - January 27, 2025 at 05:01 PM

BE

Tee has been in my life since I was a teenager. She was a second Mom to me. I will miss her dearly. I will always cherish the memories of her Christmas and Birthday cards over the decades! She was always beautiful inside and out! (Her perfect porcelain skin). John, Diane and Becky -She was so proud of her children! Sending love and hugs your way. ❤️

Beth Elsenbeck - January 27, 2025 at 05:11 PM

AS

“ Anna Sardina lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen M. (Arent) Talerico



Anna Sardina - January 27, 2025 at 02:23 PM

CC

“ Helen most affectionately called Tee was the most beautiful, kind hearted woman I have ever known. She always had a big heart. I loved her like a second mom! I could always trust her and her advice. Tee was very much loved and very special woman. She will be truly missed.

Christine Campbell - January 26, 2025 at 09:06 PM

NM

Luanne and John. What a beautiful obituary. Helen was obviously very much loved and admired. I am very sorry for your loss and hope that beautiful memories will in time bring a smile.

Natalie Massita

Natalie Massita - January 27, 2025 at 12:17 AM

EP

My condolence's to the family of Helen, she was a wonderful person with a kind heart. I met Helen at Utica School of Commerce and always remembered her thoughtfulness.

Elizabeth Patterson-Moyer - February 05, 2025 at 06:56 PM