



## Jennifer N. (Cavallaro) Candido

September 18, 1952 - April 22, 2026

N. UTICA – Jennifer N. (Cavallaro) Candido passed away peacefully on Wednesday, April 22, 2026, at the age of 73, after fighting her battle like a warrior and in the comfort and dignity of her home, surrounded by those she loved.

Born in Utica on September 18, 1952, Jennifer was the daughter of the late Nicholas and Mary (Angrisano) Cavallaro. She attended Brandegee Elementary School and was a proud graduate of T. R. Proctor High School, Class of 1970.

On May 5, 1973, she was united in marriage with Alfred Candido, Jr. and from that union came the blessing of their beloved daughter, Brandi Ann. They are proudest of the blended family they created to eventually include Debbie, especially after being blessed with their precious granddaughter, Alexis Nicole.

Jennifer dedicated 32 years to JCPenney, where she built a respected career in the jewelry department as management. She took pride in her work, developed deep knowledge of fine jewelry, and truly enjoyed creating a welcoming, elegant space for customers. The professionalism and style she became known for at work extended far beyond fine jewelry, as Jennifer prided herself on being the face of Penney's and a central cog in the family

she built in a store that she loved. Her best years were said by her to be during the 1990s, when she truly came into her own and became the best version of herself—she “arrived,” a phrase that could be used to describe her growth, maturity, and personal successes.

Jen was one of the hardest workers, but she also made time to “play” hard, too! She was an accomplished bowler in her heyday and participated in leagues several nights a week. Achieving a high score of 268, she was known for her talent and competitive spirit, especially to those at Pin-O-Rama lanes where she could be seen quite often. When she wasn’t bowling, Jen enjoyed many nights spent on the dance floors of favorite places like The Waterfront and the Ramada Inn, where the disco music was loud and an occasional jitterbug was performed. Jen also loved a good casino, and would take a trip anywhere as long as there was a Keno machine to be played. Some of her favorite memories with her mother, family and friends were from trips to Vegas, Del Lago, Atlantic City and the Turning Stone.

A die-hard fan, Jen also spent numerous hours watching just about any sport, but was most passionate for the New York Yankees, Minnesota Vikings, Chicago Bulls, and North Carolina Tar Heels, for which she would find any opportunity to represent her teams with some sort of swag. The only sports she loved more were the ones she proudly watched her granddaughter, Alexis, participate in. Jen quickly became an enthusiast of women’s sports like basketball, softball, rugby and even cross-country because of this.

Jennifer was a woman whose life was shaped by the unwavering strength and wisdom of the women who raised her, but don’t overlook that she was a self-proclaimed daddy’s girl. Surrounded by that circle of care, she grew into a guiding light for her daughter, Brandi, who she raised to become her best friend. Now, Jennifer’s legacy lives on in her granddaughter, Alexis, who embodies the lessons taught through the love, resilience, and quiet power of

women who guide each generation. Brandi's wife, Kim was embraced by Jennifer's heart and brought another special extension of family and friendship, especially with Kim's parents Donna and Bob.

Family was everything to Jennifer and her home was a place of positive energy where everyone was welcomed to gather and enjoy without judgment. Her love for family started in childhood and extended beyond her home with her grandmother, parents, brother and sisters to include her aunts, uncles and beloved cousins. She eventually grew her definition of family to include those chosen friendships she couldn't live without. She gave her all to her "squad", and her strength, wit, and wisdom carried many through life.

She embraced her Catholic faith which was an integral part of her life and love of the church, especially St. Mary of Mount Carmel/Blessed Sacrament, which has always felt like home.

Jennifer is survived by her daughter, Brandi and her wife, Kim "Sully" Candido. She was also blessed with her beloved granddaughter, Alexis Nicole Candido, and Alexis's fiancé, Zachary Cormier, who she couldn't wait to welcome as her "official" grandson. She also leaves to cherish her memory her siblings and their spouses, Nicholas and Nicolette Cavallaro; Geri and Allen Kazmerski, and Joann and James Riccardi, Jr.; nieces and nephews, Dana and Dr. Luciano Iorizzo; Ander Kazmerski and Dr. Casey Zampella; and Jimmy III and Amanda Riccardi; great-nieces and great-nephews, Daniel, Lydia, Charlotte, and Noah; aunts, Caren Angrisano, and Norma Angrisano; and in-laws, Donna and Robert Sullivan. Jennifer also leaves behind a village of people whom she honored and loved so much, especially Cathy, Sue, Chip, Jess, Judy, and Marie, with whom she maintained golden friendships that stood the test of time — and they loved her deeply in return. She was predeceased by her aunts and uncles, Josephine and Walter Parzych, Jack J. Angrisano, Sr.,

Nicholas Angrisano, and her dear friend, Sarah Kelly.

The family extends heartfelt gratitude to oncologist Dr. Sultana Razia and her staff at Slocum-Dickson Medical Group, as well as the staff of the infusion room; to the Wynn Hospital Radiology Team, especially Dr. Kenneth Murphy; to the staff at Hospice and Palliative Care, Inc.; and to Mrs. Diane Boots, End-of-Life Doula. Each of these individuals walked with Jennifer through her final journey with absolute compassion and dignity. Her family remains deeply grateful.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, April 29, 2026, from 3:00-6:00 p.m. at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Jennifer has requested people celebrate in joy instead of sadness and challenges everyone to don their favorite red clothing or sports gear when you visit. In lieu of floral offerings, it would be Jennifer's wish that memorial contributions in her honor be considered to the following organizations, ICAN online at [ican.family/ways-to-give/](https://ican.family/ways-to-give/), the Utica Children's Museum online at [www.uticachildrensmuseum.org](http://www.uticachildrensmuseum.org), the 21 Club of Central New York online at [www.the21club.org/donate](http://www.the21club.org/donate), or Hospice and Palliative Care, Inc. online at [www.hospicecareinc.org/donate](http://www.hospicecareinc.org/donate); envelopes will also be available at the funeral home. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Jennifer's Mass of Christian Burial and Celebration of Life, which will commence on Thursday, April 30, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Mary of Mount Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish, 648 Jay Street. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery alongside her beloved parents.

# Cemetery Details

## Calvary Cemetery

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

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**APR 29.** 3:00 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>

## Funeral Service

**APR 30.** 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish  
648 Jay Street  
Utica, NY 13501  
(315) 735-1482  
<https://www.mountcarmelblessedsacrament.com/>

# Tribute Wall

PM

“ *Al, I learned of Jennifer's passing from my brother. This is a very sad time for you. Although I didn't have the privilege of meeting her, I am sorry for your loss of your life partner. You are in my thoughts/.  
Pam Morschauser*

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**pamela morschausfr** - May 01 at 02:42 PM

SC

“ *Sharon Campola lit a candle in memory of Jennifer N. (Cavallaro) Candido*



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**sharon campola** - April 30 at 06:38 AM

GB

“ *Brandi, Kim, and family,*

*We are so sorry to hear of the passing of Jen she was such a beautiful woman, we are sorry we cannot make services we are still away. Your family is in our thoughts and prayers may Jen rest in peace*

*Gary and Brian*



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**Gary and Brian** - April 29 at 06:18 PM

JM

“ *I am so very sorry for your loss! She was a great lady! I hope she was greeted with quite the party up there!*

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**Jeanna Marraffa** - April 27 at 11:30 AM

LD

“ Many good memories I had with Jennifer starting in the late 70's. She, her cousin Cathy and I bowled together on the same team for 13yrs. The three of us also worked together at J.C. Penney. We were quite a crew together. R.I.P. Jen

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**Lisa Dodge** - April 26 at 09:38 PM

DT

“ Very sorry to hear the passing of our friend which we knew for many years. She will be truly missed by all. May she RIP Godspeed Jen.

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**David and Joanne Taurisano** - April 26 at 06:39 PM

DO

“ I worked with Jen at JC Penny..became friends with her sister ( also known as the beautiful one..Joanne)..She loved Jo and her sister will have such beautiful memories.  
To Jennifers family she is at peace and she is with the Lord's angels. Love and prayers to you all.

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**Dorothy Ouimette** - April 26 at 05:03 PM

SC

“ Brandi and family, Jen was a wonderfu friend, we had been friends for many years. Besides working together, we parties hearty. I loved going to clubs, watching her jitterbug. I never knew how lol. But no matter what, I always was in contact with her. many phone calls. Throughout her battle , I always called to give her my love. I did get to see her before god called her home, I was happy she shared many funny stories about out times together. Brandi such a wonderful caregiver, how she loved you and Lexi. Jen, rest in peace now and dance away. I will keep those memories in my heart and mind. Still love you Jen <3

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**sharon campola** - April 26 at 04:44 AM

LP

“ I am reading this and I am in tears. I have the fondest memories of Jen. She was strong, and I dependant, deteri, and fun. You always knew where you stood with her and sheived her family fiercely. Jens sister Geri and I were the best of friends I high school and I spend a lot of time at the Cavallo house. I was always excited when Jen would be there. She was a blast to be around and I am grateful to have had the time growing up to get to know her. Geri, Joanne, my heart is broken and I am so sorry for your loss. She was one in a million.

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**Linda Piazza** - April 25 at 09:59 PM

LP

So autocorrect isn't kind to me. This is supposed to say I'm reading this and I am in tears. I have the fondest memories of Jen. She was strong, independent, determined and fun. You always knew where you stood with her and she loved her family.fiercely. Jen's sister Geri and I were the best of friends in high school and I spent a lot of time at the Cavallaro house. I was excited when Jen would be there. She was a blast to be around and I am grateful to have had the time growing up to get to know her. Geri Joanne my heart is broken and I'm so sorry for your loss. She was one in a million.

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**Linda Piazza** - April 25 at 10:07 PM

DM

“ Jennifer and I were very close friends in HS. I would visit her at JC Penney. Such a beautiful person. So sorry to hear of her passing and that she suffered so many years.

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**Donna Polizzi Mitchell** - April 25 at 05:40 PM

MM

“ *Im so sorry to hear of Jennifer's passing ! She was a great person I enjoyed working with her at Penny's she was my first call when id have someone in custody for shop lifting! She was always a kind and gentle soul She will be greatly missed by so many ! Rest easy jen!*

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**Marvin Martin** - April 25 at 12:40 PM

JD

*Brandi, Lexi, Al,  
We are so sorry for your loss of Jennifer. She was always nice to us and our family. God Bless, John and Tina DeCotis 🙏*

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**John and Tina DeCotis** - April 26 at 09:29 AM

MI

*Jen.....save me a jitterbug up there. ❤️*

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**Michele** - May 01 at 08:52 PM