



Mrs. Jennifer M. (Mezza) Torres

August 5, 1962 - February 27, 2025

UTICA - Mrs. Jennifer M. (Mezza) Torres, age 62, was reunited with her mother and father after a long, courageous battle with cancer on Thursday, February 27, 2025. At the time of her passing, with her loved ones by her side, Jennifer was welcomed with open arms by the Lord.

Born in New Hartford on August 5, 1962, Jennifer was the daughter of the late Charles “Chuck” and Marie T. (Villella) Mezza. She attended Utica City Schools and was a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School/Class of 1980. In her early years, Jennifer was a member of the Yankee Cadet Drum and Bugle Corps.

Jennifer met the love of her life, Jose “Tony” Torres, and they were later married on October 8, 1988. Jennifer devoted her life to raising her two sons, Charles “Chuckie,” and Anthony Torres who were her pride and joy. She also enjoyed raising their family dog, Uno, who was with them for 14 years. Uno brought Jennifer so much happiness, and the two are now together again.

At one time, Jennifer was employed at the Masonic Care Community of NY. She later began working for the Utica City School District in 2005 as a monitor team leader at General Herkimer Elementary School, where she was affectionately known by all as “Mrs. T”. Jennifer took pride in her job and had a close relationship with the children she cared for, as well as all her co-

workers. Known for blowing her whistle, the children knew that something was wrong if it was going off! Jennifer looked forward to her special holiday parties with her work family.

From an early age, Jennifer was well-known in her neighborhood, the Mezza house was the place to be. Her smile was infectious and always found humor in the silliest things.

She made many wonderful memories with her children and friends during yearly trips to Enchanted Forest Water Safari in Old Forge and visiting her nieces at camp.

In her later years, Jennifer relished spending time with her family, and her incessant cleaning is something they will never forget. Although they would see each other often, Jennifer spent much of her free time talking on the phone with her sisters. She deeply cherished family dinners and spending time with her two sons. The Torres house was always filled with snacks, and the pantry was always open, especially for her niece, Karissa. Jennifer was an avid fan of television and could not be bothered when "her shows"-Grey's Anatomy, and Chicago Med, Fire, and P.D-were on! Although Jennifer was quite a homebody, she still made time to go out to dinner with her two best friends, MaryAnn, and Ang.

One of Jennifer's most recent memories was when she had the time of her life at her son Anthony and new daughter-in-law Kristine's wedding. Jennifer was blessed that she was able to have her mother-son dance with her youngest child.

Through the love and devotion of her husband, sons, sisters, and her brother-in-law, she received the blessings of each of them during her courageous five-year battle. On her last day of life, her wishes were shared with her siblings:

that they continue to walk alongside her husband and her sons and any future family. Although Jennifer told them in her own special way, they already knew what their responsibilities were and provided Jennifer assurance that her wishes would be carried out.

Jennifer is survived by her husband, Jose "Tony" Torres; sons and daughter-in-law, Charles "Chuckie" Torres, and Anthony and Kristine (Moskal) Torres; sisters, LuAnn Mezza, Gina Marie Mezza, and Margaret Ann (Mezza) and Joseph F. Cucharale, Jr.; nieces, Kali Cucharale, and Karissa Cucharale; a fourth sister and beloved family friend, Carol Lee Ferro; and many cousins. Jennifer will be deeply missed by her two "BFFS," MaryAnn Nicotera, and Angela Valeriano. Her memory will also live on in the hearts of her co-workers and numerous friends. Jennifer was predeceased by her paternal grandparents, Joseph and Mary (Campanaro) Mezza; maternal grandparents, Carmine and Jennie (Costanza) Villella; and her beloved Bichon, Uno.

Jennifer's family wishes to extend their gratitude to Hospice & Palliative Care, Inc., especially nurse Crystal. A special thank you as well to Dr. Mary Cunningham and the entire staff of Crouse Medical who took care of Jennifer during her time of sickness.

While our hearts are broken here on earth, we rejoice that Jennifer is finally pain-free, walking freely, and seeing clearly. We know that she is where we all aspire to be, in the presence of the Lord. She certainly has earned her rest.

In keeping with her wishes, Jennifer's family will honor and commemorate her life privately. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave.

This obituary was lovingly written by Jennifer's niece, Kali.

Tribute Wall

GM

“ Jennifer was a fantastic person and unique. She was an awesome mother and a awesome wife. We had a lot of good times together. Make God bless you gus Mazzatti your Brother?

gus Mazzatti - March 08, 2025 at 05:50 PM

MV

“ To the Mezza and Torres family,

My condolences to you all. She was an amazing woman and would do anything to help anyone; I know because she did this for me. My thoughts and prayers will be with her and you all as you go through this difficult time.

Michael Ventura - March 08, 2025 at 03:06 PM

CN

“ Mezza and Torres family. My sincere condolences during this difficult time. Prayers and thoughts are with you. I have the best memories growing up with your family. May she rest in peace.

Corinda De Nigro - March 08, 2025 at 07:32 AM

LP

“ So sorry for your loss. She was loved by all at General Herkimer.

Linda Puleo - March 07, 2025 at 12:05 PM

JM

“ To LuAnn, Gina, Margie, and Family ... Condolences over Jennifer's passing ... My sister Amelia and I have the best memories of all Mezza family members especially during our years together in Corps ... sending all our prayers to everyone from the Montanaro and Massi families ... Joe "The Wolf" ...

Joseph Montanaro - March 07, 2025 at 11:42 AM

TF

“ The VanDreason's and Family purchased the Loving Grace for the family of Mrs. Jennifer M. (Mezza) Torres.



The VanDreason's and Family - March 06, 2025 at 11:39 AM

TF

“ The VanDreason's and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Jennifer M. (Mezza) Torres.

The VanDreason's and Family - March 06, 2025 at 11:39 AM

CT

“ I met Jennifer in high school and the sons of Italy , Ashe was just a wonderful person she always had a smile on her face you just couldn't be sad around her I was very surprised what happened I wish I had known , the time I saw her she was so happy I was just thinking of her the another day prayers for her family 🙏🙏

cindy Trascritti - March 05, 2025 at 09:49 AM

VO

“ To Jennifer’s family and friends,
I was so sorry and saddened to hear about Jenn’s passing and her health struggles over the last few years. I have so many fond memories of her, and with her of our childhood years. So many friendships were born at Mary street and wet more school as well as the playground. What fun we had playing Jax, checkers and in that crazy cement pool! Jennifer was fun and kind. Her smile is something I will remember forever as well our chats whenever our paths crossed. May you all find comfort in your faith, family, friends and memories our true treasures in life. With heartfelt condolences
Vicky O

victoria orsino - March 04, 2025 at 04:35 PM

JB

“ JoAnn Bonacci lit a candle in memory of Mrs.
Jennifer M. (Mezza) Torres



JoAnn Bonacci - March 04, 2025 at 02:57 PM

JC

“ My heartfelt sympathy to the entire Torres and Mezza families for your loss of beautiful Jennifer. This is sad beyond words. I’m sure she’s in the comfort of the Lord with her Mom and Dad who were waiting for her with open arms.
May you find
comfort in all the love she shared while here on earth
May God give all of you peace as well. God Bless.
Jeanne Castronovo

Jeanne Castronovo - March 04, 2025 at 09:40 AM

VB

“ So sad my deepest sympathies to the Torres and mezza family Virginia orsino Boehlert and family



vbooeleert - March 04, 2025 at 09:38 AM

DD

“ Torres and Mezza Family..my condolences and prayers to the family ... I have great memories of our Masonic home crew Jennifer was like a sister to me Rip my dear friend David Deep

David Deep - March 04, 2025 at 07:55 AM

BD

“ Luann and Torres family,

Guy and I were so sorry to hear of Jennifer's passing..Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this sad time.

Guy and Bonnie DelMastro

Bonnie DelMStro - March 03, 2025 at 06:39 PM

RC

“ To my nephew, Joe Cucharale and family , his wife Magrete , Kali and Karissa's . The Mezza and Torres families my deepest sympathy and condolences.



Richard Cucharale - March 03, 2025 at 03:58 PM

FC

“ I remember when Tony and Jennifer first met. I think we knew where things were heading, even before they did. My sincerest condolences go out to Tony and the whole family. They were a beautiful couple and I surely remember the good old days. May she rest in God's eternal peace. 🙏🙏🙏

Frankito Calaprice - March 03, 2025 at 03:35 PM



“ Southern Magnolia Tree was purchased for the family of Mrs. Jennifer M. (Mezza) Torres.



March 03, 2025 at 02:56 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mrs. Jennifer M. (Mezza) Torres.

March 03, 2025 at 02:56 PM

FJ

“ I remember Jennifer's smile when she was walking up Blandina St. It makes me smile even now. You have my deepest condolences Felix and Family.

Felix Mendez Jr - March 03, 2025 at 02:46 PM

LF

“ I can still hear the vacuum from daddy’s window...I can still see Jennifer in her moomoo and Uno walking next to her down from Marie’s to her house and I can still hear Jennifer yelling to LuAnn about whatever it was they were yelling about over the pool fence... those are my “Jennifer” memories from the neighborhood! She was one of a kind and loved for it!
I am so sorry for your loss, my condolences to you all! May she rest peacefully...xoxo Lisa Fraccola

Lisa Fraccola - March 03, 2025 at 01:59 PM

KW

“ Kathleen Whaley lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Jennifer M. (Mezza) Torres



Kathleen Whaley - March 03, 2025 at 01:49 PM

KW

My heartfelt sympathy to her beautiful family

Kathleen Whaley - March 03, 2025 at 01:52 PM

LM

“ Margaret Ann, Lou Ann and Gina, please accept my deepest condolences on the loss of your beautiful sister. She is now with your parents again and no longer suffering. May she R.I.P 🙏💔😭
❤️

Lorrie Moyer - March 03, 2025 at 12:50 PM

L(

“ *The Mezza house was a 2nd home to me growing up! I have many cherished memories from the sleep overs with MargaretAnn, to dinners and family parties.i was always included! Wonderful family, and you will be missed Jennifer 🙏. You are now with Chucky and Marie ❤️*

Lisa Raehm (Trinco) - March 03, 2025 at 12:24 PM