



Mr. John A. "Abby" Massoud

February 27, 1927 - February 10, 2024

UTICA – Mr. John A. “Abby” Massoud, gracefully went home to the Lord on Saturday, February 10, 2024, at nearly 97 years of age. John was never without his family by his side, showing their care and offering their prayers.

Born in Utica “Capron” on February 27, 1927, John was the eldest son of the late Joseph and Catherine (Nazick) Massoud. At the age 17, he left high school and joined the United States Navy to honorably serve his country during World War II. He shipped out to the Pacific Theater of Operations and served upon three different ships as a signalman - the USS Augusta, the USS Portland, and the P.T. Tender.

Upon his return from the war, he held positions with construction companies and Bendix Aviation Corporation. A gifted entrepreneur, he and his late brother, George, operated John A. Massoud Food Distributors and White’s Inn, a local tavern located in Washington Mills. He also participated in the family concern, Massoud’s Oud Lounge, Inc., in Washington Mills, the premier and iconic facility for celebratory events and notably weddings. The boys often said that the secret weapon to their success was their sister, Edna, who was positioned in the kitchen and had boundless energy and talent. In 1986, the business was humbly sold, but John could not stay retired, and went every day to contribute to the success of his brother’s endeavor at Massoud’s Tree Farm in Sauquoit. They all have fond memories of John splitting firewood and

being a talented wreath maker.

John possessed great business insight, had a sharp financial mind, and was very astute. Some of his humbling attributes were that of being trustworthy and a man of his word; he possessed a compassionate heart, and his hallmark was his immense generosity. He was a man with a subtle quick wit and his “Johnisms” are quoted to this very day. He was the go-to wise brother and beloved uncle. He was a devoted and involved Uncle. If anyone had an activity, he made sure to be there. He encouraged each person to reach their full potential and worked with them to see that they always did their best. He truly found such joy in giving of himself, and loved that his family affectionately called him “Uncle J.”

John and his siblings were taught by their parents to believe in God, remain close as family, and to work hard and find value in your chosen profession. John was an avid fisherman all his life and enjoyed salmon fishing and pheasant hunting with family and extended loved ones. He also loved race cars, and especially was a fan of local favorites Riche Evans and Lou Lazzaro who raced in this community at the Utica-Rome Speedway. He also enjoyed the excitement of NASCAR races and followed the career of Jeff Gordon.

John created many special memories at the family hideaway, the Onieda Lake Camp. He had a particular favorite spot under the tree, where he spent time with the ducks and squirrels. He also loved spending time at Eddie’s, where he had many friends who gathered at the latter hours of the night to converse. His most cherished moments were the times the family was together, having dinners enjoying delicious Arabic and Italian foods. He was proud of what he accomplished with the love of his family in his life.

John was quietly, but extremely devout. His faith was instilled in him from his youth, and he held it close through his whole life. His home parish was that of

St. Louis Gonzaga Church.

John is survived by his siblings and their spouses, Ann B. and Caleb A. George, PhD., Joseph T. Massoud, Anthony J. "Omar" and Judith (Kinney) Massoud; and his brother-in-law, Bill Lafferty. He fondly remembered his siblings and their loves who preceded him, George Massoud, Edna T. Lafferty, Bernadette and James L. "Jimmy D" Davis, Jr., and Catherine Marie "Kay" and Joseph Tamer. He also leaves to cherish his memory his nieces and nephews, Sandy, Caleb, and Allen; Veronica, Catherine, George, and Norma; Joseph, Melanie, and Stephanie; John, Maggie, J. Matthew, and J. Andrew; Christina, James, and Christopher; and Doreen, and Joseph; as well as many great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins; and his sister-in-law, Janet (Mozloom) Massoud. He and Omar were the best of friends as well as brothers, who could ask for anything more in this life?

The family wishes to extend their gratitude to Dr. Celesta Hunsiker, John's longtime physician with whom he shared a very comfortable trust. Much appreciation is conveyed for the compassionate and attentive care he received from the nurses and entire staff, including Makenzie, of the Presbyterian Home for CNY. They provided him with so much love and attention, and he was very grateful for their care and regard. Each day he was also surrounded by the love of all his family.

Visitation will be held on Monday, February 19, 2024 from 4:00-7:00 p.m. at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. In lieu of floral offerings, memorial contributions in John's honor may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital online at www.stjude.org/donate; envelopes will also be available at the funeral home. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend John's funeral service and Celebration of Life which will commence on Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. at St. Louis

Gonzaga Church, 520 Rutger St., where the Divine Liturgy of the Faithful Departed will be celebrated by Fr. Boutrous El Hachem. Committal services with Military Honors conferred will follow at Christ Our Savior Mausoleum Chapel at Calvary Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Christ Our Savior Mausoleum at Calvary Cemetery

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

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 19. 4:00 PM - 7:00 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

FEB 20. 9:30 AM (ET)

St. Louis Gonzaga Church
520 Rutger Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 732-6019

Tribute Wall

ZH

“ All our prayers and condolences at this time to the Massoud family. I remember his smile and kindness every day I was at the tree farm. Grateful to have known him. A special human being and family!

Zachary Haggas - February 20, 2024 at 10:16 AM

ST

“ To The Family of John Massoud,

My father worked with John for many years at Bendix Corporation and I worked for John for several years when I was young boy at The Massoud Lounge. John was a wonderful man and was very good to me. I have always cherished my years with John and his family at Massouds. My thoughts and prayers are with each of you. May God hold John in the palm of his hand. God Bless Stephen Teti

Stephen Teti - February 19, 2024 at 10:53 AM

KD

“ My deepest condolences to all of the Massoud family. So many memories.

Karen (Wagner) Dean - February 17, 2024 at 07:23 AM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. John A. "Abby" Massoud.



February 14, 2024 at 07:16 AM

JR

“ Jolianne, Kristina and Jonathan Ray planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. John A. "Abby" Massoud.

Jolianne, Kristina and Jonathan Ray - February 14, 2024 at 07:16 AM

MB

“ Marie, Madeleine & AnnMarie Barber purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Mr. John A. "Abby" Massoud.



Marie, Madeleine & AnnMarie Barber - February 13, 2024 at 04:59 PM

MB

“ Marie, Madeleine & AnnMarie Barber planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. John A. "Abby" Massoud.

Marie, Madeleine & AnnMarie Barber - February 13, 2024 at 04:59 PM

JT

“ Joseph and Veronica (Massoud) Telaro purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mr. John A. "Abby" Massoud.



Joseph and Veronica (Massoud) Telaro - February 13, 2024 at 03:50 PM

JT

“ Joseph and Veronica (Massoud) Telaro planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. John A. "Abby" Massoud.

Joseph and Veronica (Massoud) Telaro - February 13, 2024 at 03:50 PM

VT

“ Veronica Telaro lit a candle in memory of Mr. John A. "Abby" Massoud



Veronica Telaro - February 13, 2024 at 03:19 PM

VT

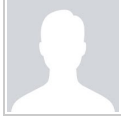
“ Uncle Abby
You were there during every significant event in my life. Every critical childhood moment is marked with a memory of you. I still remember my first solo. You picked me up in your nice car and made me feel like a movie star. I would have felt like that if you had picked me up in a beat-up tractor because Uncle Abby, YOU had picked me up.
You were a man of few words, but your words had an impact. We didn't have long conversations, but we didn't need to. You understood.
My only consolation is that you are happily reunited with the rest of the family in Heaven. I pray that one day we will meet again and can enjoy forever living and worshipping the Lord together.
I love you, Uncle Abby, and thank you for being so good to me.
“Lil” Netsie

Veronica Telaro - February 13, 2024 at 03:04 PM

RV

May you rest in the loving arms of our Lord Jesus

Rick & Marylou Vellone - February 14, 2024 at 04:39 PM



*To Omar & all the Massoud Family,
My name is Tony Domanico & I first met John at Massouds Oud Lounge after getting out of the Navy.
We hit it off like brothers with both of us being in the Navy it was like talking to one of my Navy buddies. Every friday night I went to Massouds to dance to the sounds of Carl Milo band and then Sonny Dee band. John was the ultimate gentleman and we would always talk before I danced the night away Also his brother Omar was always in our conversations,, .He was always so kind and knowledgeable Omar & John were two of the closest brothers that I have ever met. Just a wonderful family and I consider it my pleasure to have known him....
We even met in Miami Florida once to go see a standup comedian named TUBBY BOOTS who was one of the funniest GUYS BACK THEN. We laughed so hard that we cried. Naturally, we both used to reminisce his shows and laugh all over again. I also sold him Insurance which he was very well versed on. John my friend rest in peace and heaven just got another angel.
Tony Domanico
Tucson,AZ*

Tony Domanico - February 14, 2024 at 09:30 PM

KZ

SORRY ABOUT YOUR LOSS MAY HE REST IN PEACE

KAMIL ZOGBY - February 15, 2024 at 05:39 PM

SD

To the Massoud family, I would like to offer my sincere condolences on your loss. I have had the pleasure of knowing and being a part of the Massoud family, as I was the band that played there for 10 years. "Everyday People" My memories run deep, and the laughter and the joys will always be remembered by me, as well as members of the band. John, Omar, Judy, "Knobby", Joey, Joe Tamer, Evelyn, and all of the family that treated me so well, and were the best people to work with. The many weddings, parties, banquets, New Years Eves we shared together, will always be remembered. The snowmobile party at the farm, the take home meals from the kitchen after a wedding will always be remembered. I guess I was lucky to have been in the right place, at the right time when I met John, and he asked me to audition for him at the lounge. The rest is history. Again my condolences to the family, and a huge thank you for letting me be a part of a family. God bless.

"Sonny Dee"

Sonny Dee - February 16, 2024 at 03:11 PM

CS

To the Massoud Family,

My deepest condolences to this wonderful family. My husband and I celebrated the most wonderful day of our life at Massoud's Oud Lounge when our wedding reception was held there back in October 1966. Through the years we would run into either John , or Omar and his wife or Joe and it was like time had never passed. With all the parties, receptions, and patrons they hosted over the years, they never forgot our names. We had a wonderful memorable wedding reception where they went above and beyond to make it so special and I will always cherish their kindness . After losing my husband just six months ago, I was looking at our wedding album and relived that night at Massoud's .Thank you for being the kind wonderful family that you are. Thank you John , May God Bless You and may you now rest in God's Loving Arms in Heaven. And to the rest of the Massoud family May God 's love make your grief bearable.

Carol Scampone

CAROL SCAMPONE - February 19, 2024 at 06:40 PM