



John W. "Jack" LaRocco Sr.

June 17, 1929 - November 3, 2011

Mr. John W. "Jack" LaRocco, age 82, of Utica, passed away on Thursday, November 3, 2011 at the St. Elizabeth Medical Center.

Born in Utica on June 17, 1929, John was the son of the late James and Mary A. (Pflieger) LaRocco. He was brought up in Utica and attended local schools graduating with the Class of 1947 at T.R. Proctor High School. A veteran of the United States Army, Jack enlisted in October 1948. While in service in Germany, he met Gertrud Wagner and they fell in love. On a winter's day, December 28, 1952, they were married. The couple relocated to the Utica area in 1968 where they have since resided and shared nearly 59 years together.

Following a successful military career which led him to many locations throughout the world, Jack accepted a position with the United States Postal Service as a Maintenance Supervisor, the job from which he retired in 1988. At home, John spent many enjoyable hours at his pastime job of constructing and designing layouts for his model trains. He was a parishioner of St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish.

Jack is survived by his wife, Gertrud; and his sons, John W. LaRocco, Jr. of Utica, and James M. LaRocco and his special friend, Carol Bishop of Sidney, NY. He also leaves his sister, Anne LaNeve of Utica; his nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and in-laws, Fanny Wagner, Hedwig and Franz Pollman, and Johann and Hannalori Wagner, all of Germany. He was predeceased by his brothers and sisters-in-law, Charles R. and Carmelita

LaRocco, Edward LaRocco, James "Frank" and Jennie LaRocco, and Joseph LaRocco; his sister and brother-in-law, Virginia M. and Michael Robilotto; and his brother-in-law, George S. LaNeve, Sr.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday from 4-6 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. By family request, please refrain from floral offerings. Memorial contributions in the form of donations may be made to the St. Joseph Nursing Home or the Steven-Swan Humane Society. Jack's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Wednesday evening at 6 p.m. at the funeral home immediately upon conclusion of visitation with Rev. Joseph Salerno officiating. Committal prayers and entombment with Military Honors will take place at Calvary Cemetery Mausoleum at the convenience of the family.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Mausoleum

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

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 9. 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
<https://www.eannacefuneralhome.com>

Service

NOV 9. 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>

Tribute Wall

BS

“ Dear Gerdy, Don't know if you'll remember me, but I worked with you at St. Street Mill on Mohawk St in the 70's in the men's dept, you had housewares. Later we worked again together in Tehan's. I remember your husband well. Having lost my husband, I know this will be a difficult period in your life.
You will find, in time as I did, he hasn't left you at all. My prayers are with you. Hold on to your faith, God will see you through. Fondly,
Beverly Schrader



Beverly Schrader - November 07, 2011 at 01:15 PM

ML

“ We have sadness in our hearts at the loss of a special Uncle. To us he was someone we enjoyed being with. He would stop by for a visit or call on the phone just to see how we were or to check on how our kids were doing. He was always willing to lend a helping hand or give advice on how to do a project.

He loved taking care of his home and yard. he loved all of God's creatures - birds, deer, cats and dogs. He enjoyed his favorite foods of Italian sausage and pizza.

He loved Germany, miniature trains, snowshoeing. the Yankees, birdwatching, gardening, building birdhouses and watching TV.

He was proud to have served his country and retire from the Army. That was such a big part of his life. We all loved his stories from the military. He made us laugh and taught us history.

Most of all he loved his family and his beloved Aunt Gerdy, who he always took care of cheerfully, tenderly and lovingly.

Thank you Uncle Jack for just being you!!! We will miss laughing together. We will miss you. You will be remembered in our hearts forever.

Love, Rick & Mary Beth



MaryBeth and Rick LaNeve - November 06, 2011 at 09:16 AM

MR

“ Uncle Jack was truly a great man and hero to all of his family! I have very fond memories of visiting Uncle Jack and Aunt Gerdy's house and spending time in the basement with his collection of trains. He will be missed by all his family!! My deepest sympathy.
Love, your grand niece
Marlene Robilotto

Marlene Robilotto - November 05, 2011 at 02:47 PM

JL

“ To the LaRocco Family,
My deepest sympathies at your loss. Jack was a great man and will truly be missed by many.
Jennifer Larkin and family

Jennifer Larkin - November 05, 2011 at 08:42 AM

DS

“ Deanna Salvatore-Lercara lit a candle in memory of John W. "Jack" LaRocco Sr.



Deanna Salvatore-Lercara - November 04, 2011 at 10:33 PM

DS

“ Gerti, John, Jimmy & Family



I am so sorry to hear of Jack's passing. I have very fond memories of Jack from growing up. We lived in the back on the Drive. I can remember he would tease and call my sister & me boys and our response would always be - we aren't boys we are GIRLS! and how he would during the winter put on one of his heaviest jackets with the fur lined hood and stand on the deck, motionless with birdseed in his hand to have the birds eat out of his hands. Because of that we were able to feed the birds out of our hands as well. We got our first cat from him as well, we named her Peaches. I can remember when we were invited over to the house to view pictures from Germany and view the tran collection that he was so proud of. When he would water the trees or grass and if there was a toad, he would call me over to the fence point out the toad and of course I would pick it up and make a home for it. There are so many wonderful memories I have of Jack and they all make me smile. Jack was a wonderful and kind man and I am very proud to have known him. I do hope that the memories you have may help comfort you during this most difficult time

Respectfully,

Deanna Salvatore-Lercara

Deanna Salvatore-Lercara - November 04, 2011 at 10:32 PM

DM

Dear Jack and Jimmy and Gerdy.

I am so very sorry to hear of your loss. I have many fond and wonderful memories of all of you. Your father was a wonderful man and kind to everyone,, and he always treated me like a daugjter.I will always have a special place in my heart for all of you. May the memories you hold carry you through this sad time. God Bless You Jack

With Sympathy

Donna

Donna Polizzi Mitchell - November 06, 2011 at 02:51 AM