



Mr. John F. Scata

February 22, 1955 - August 13, 2024

N. UTICA – Mr. John F. Scata, age 69, passed away on Tuesday, August 13, 2024. At the time of his crossing over, his guardian angel, Wanda, was by his side, and he was in the hearts of his family and friends.

Born in Utica on February 22, 1955, John was the son of the late John P. and Antoinette (Grassi) Scata. The youngest of his family, he attended Wetmore Elementary School, and was a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School/Class of 1973.

A blessing in his life for over 19 years was the relationship he shared with Wanda Beck Wooden. The two were introduced to each other by a mutual friend, Angel. They became friends at first, then love blossomed. They each held a strong attraction for gardening together. Paramount was their love for their canines whom they treated like children; the dogs knew John's voice and he was comforted by their companionship. John and Wanda created many memorable times with each other, and their committed relationship filled their hearts and days.

John made some of his fondest memories at the family camp on Fish Creek in Blossvale. It was his haven and a wonderful place to entertain family, friends, and neighbors – a place where you could let your hair down and be most relaxed. John and Wanda danced under the moonlight to jazz music and

enjoyed the outrageous campfires. Since John had a love of good food, dinners were always plentiful and enjoyed by all. His cooking was second only to his mother Antoinette's, who always knew how to assemble a masterful meal. Everything he learned in the kitchen, he learned from his mom.

A family concern was the operation of the Modernistic Restaurant, which was run by numerous generations. John joined in on the operation in the 1970s. The family all worked side by side and when John became the proprietor, he transformed it into a comfortable neighborhood bar and bistro. It was a great gathering place where everyone knew you by name. The following years, after he concluded his ownership of the legendary Bleecker and St. Anthony Streets location, he was employed by L.B. Security & Investigations, Inc., providing security for different locations and events.

John was above all a kind soul, with a great sense of humor. He was gracious, sociable, high-spirited, and had a good rapport with friends and clientele alike.

John loved the opening of Walleye Season, an annual event that all who gathered at camp participated in. He was a sports enthusiast, with special love for the NY Mets, the Boston Celtics, and the NY Rangers. He had a team for every season.

He was not only fortunate enough to have a wonderful family of his own, but when he met and blended his life with Wanda's, he was doubly blessed to have an additional family that loved him dearly.

John is survived by his beloved Wanda; siblings and their loves, Katherine A. Saggese (the late Ronald Saggese), Barbara and Dominic A. Rossi, and Paul and Lynda Scata; nieces and nephews who he loved and of whom he was so proud, the late Ronald Saggese, Frank and Christine Saggese, John and Debbie Saggese, Christa and Shawn Benjamin, Michael and Linda Saggese,

Heidi and Robert Pledger, Mark and Desireé Saggese; Joseph and Louise Rossi, Regina and David DeVito; Danyel and Joel Lieberman, Paul and Carrie Scata, and the late Shaun Scata; great-nieces, great-nephews; and cousins, especially Raymond, and Rich Nicotera, and Mike Zalocha. He also leaves to cherish his memory his extended family, Beverly Beck, Patricia and Kenny Hoch, and Robert and Maggie Beck; Wanda's children, Starr Raé Wooden and Annie Brelinsky, Joi Reneé and Brodie Coan, and Warren Lathan III and his fiancée Sophanny; as well as Wanda's grandchildren who knew him as Grandpa John John; lifelong friends, the late Randy Czerw, the late Bobby Graziano, and his brothers Andrew, and Tony Graziano, his right hand man Billy Nunes, Kevin Godkin, "Linda Z" Verdon, David Gigliotti, John Nole, and numerous valued others who he met along the way and will never be forgotten by.

The long journey of John's illness was made more comfortable by the compassion and empathy of the following professionals: Dr. Nils-Tomas McBride; Dr. Atul Butala; his long-time physician, Dr. Samuel Gooldy; the staff at Faxton-St. Luke's, especially Toni, Alex, and Ken; and the staff at Wynn Hospital, especially the 8th floor whose comfort and care was outstanding ~ Wanda could not be more appreciative.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend John's Mass of Christian Burial and Celebration of Life, which will commence on Tuesday, August 20, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church, 422 Tilden Ave. There will be an opportunity to greet the family at the conclusion of Mass. By family request, please omit floral offerings. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

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

Previous Events

Funeral Service

AUG 20. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church
422 Tilden Ave.
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 732-1177
<https://www.stanthonystagnes.com/>

Tribute Wall

LD

“ *What a shock to learn of John's passing. My late husband and I shared many fun times with John at the Modernistic and at the beach. Sincere condolences to Wanda and family.*

Lorraine Dominick - August 29, 2024 at 08:18 PM

AC

“ *To Paul & Scata Family, We are so Sorry for your Loss, Our Thoughts & Prayers Are with You and Your Family! Andy & Linda Convertino*

Andy & Linda Convertino - August 20, 2024 at 07:32 AM

ZE

“ *I appreciate having you apart of my life This really hurt me , i love you john .. you were an amazing human being. you were the funniest and i miss your jokes , i miss the days at camp , i miss watching and learning how to play the drums from you 🥺 i always looked forward to walking in and you saying “is that you” . i'm gonna miss that . you will always be remembered ❤️*



Zephaniah - August 19, 2024 at 09:34 PM

CB

“ We will miss you uncle John!! Many memories of you playing the drums at every party or wedding!!
Also, my mom met my dad pushing you in a carriage at Wetmore school my dad always told us that story ! Seven kids later the story of baby John in the carriage was the day my parents first met and fell in love !
PLAY THOSE DRUMS IN HEAVEN!!!



christa casaletta Benjamin - August 19, 2024 at 07:18 PM

CO

“ I didn't know John very well, but I heard so many great things about him and I just want to say to Wanda that my heart goes out to you because I know how much you loved him and you cared for him. God bless. God protect and God give you strength to get through this.

Catherine O'Shea - August 18, 2024 at 10:28 PM

AO

“ I recall the great times all enjoy at the M.O. to the good times, may he rest in peace. My condolences to his family. Skeeter, thanks for the memories.

Al orsino - August 17, 2024 at 04:48 PM

AG

“ I've known John my whole life, he's my sons Godfather, my dads best friend. He was amazing and funny...always there for you, I have so many memories with him alot at the modernistic and camp. He will be missed dearly. Ashlea Graziano

Ashlea Graziano - August 16, 2024 at 03:35 PM

CZ

“ *Wanda & Family:*
We're so very sorry for your loss. John was the best! We have many fond memories of our grammar/high school days with John. We'll cherish these memories forever.
Sending love, thoughts & prayers to you & the family during this most difficult time.
With Deepest Sympathy,
Ted & Cynthia (Attili) Zammiello

Cynthia Zammiello - August 16, 2024 at 09:40 AM

CS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



christine saggese - August 16, 2024 at 08:47 AM

SC

My heart is with the family in this moment. May the Lord comfort you all!

Samayra Crooke - August 16, 2024 at 09:08 PM

JS

Oh dear lord. My heart is broken. John and I grew up in such loving fun families.. we grew up closer than cousins .. always together playing cards and board games. We had such a wonderful childhood and spent so much time together with our mothers having coffee and tons of company .. such a beautiful family .. his brother and sisters and his neices and nephews were MY family as well. His mother and father baptized me as well ..

So so very sorry for this tremendous loss...



joette Swisher - August 17, 2024 at 11:32 PM

JS

The greatest childhood memories a man could ask for ! R.I.P. My Beloved uncle John !

John Saggese - August 19, 2024 at 02:00 PM

CS

“ 8 files added to the album John Memories



christine saggese - August 16, 2024 at 07:53 AM

LR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Lorraine Rucker - August 15, 2024 at 09:42 PM

CG

“ John and I go way back as far as wetmore school. Always made us laugh. Special memories of 6th grade when all of a sudden he would start playing wipeout on his desk. Rest in peace john

Cindy (gumbs) Gentile - August 15, 2024 at 09:04 PM

DK

“ Dear Wanda and Family,
We are so very sorry for your loss of John.
We were friends in high school. We both enjoyed good memories.
Please accept our prayers, sympathy, condolences and love.
May His Memory Be Eternal !!'
Deacon Dan and Cindy Klockowski
and Family

Deacon Daniel A Klockowski - August 15, 2024 at 08:24 PM

BC

“ I'm so sorry to hear of John's passing. I'm very happy to see that he had true love in the second half of his life. We had a lot of fun in our younger days at the Modernistic. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Barbara Campbell - August 15, 2024 at 06:45 PM

JA

“ *Our sincere condolences to Wanda and John family and friends .*

janie allen - August 15, 2024 at 06:12 PM

AB

“ *Our sincere condolences to Wanda and John’s family. It is with great pleasure to have such great neighbors. We will cherish the friendly waves from each others cars and porches.*



Ann Borek - August 15, 2024 at 05:02 PM

RR

“ *My deepest sympathy to John’s family. I am so very sorry for your loss. He was a great guy .*

Rocco Rositano



Rocco Rositano - August 15, 2024 at 03:07 PM