



Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.

June 8, 1937 - October 31, 2011

Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro, Sr., age 74, a native of Utica and currently a resident of West Winfield, went home to the Lord when he passed away on Monday, October 31, 2011 with his family by his side surrounded by the love and support of their blessings.

Joseph was born in Utica on June 8, 1937. He was the son of Josephine (Valenti) DiNigro and the late Joseph DiNigro. He was raised and educated locally, a graduate of Utica Free Academy Class of 1956. In preparation for building a career, he pursued and studied the areas of Construction and Blue Print Reading. On September 26, 1959 he married the former Janice LaManque with whom he shared 52 years. Their love persevered, and they were balanced in their devotion, possessed forgiving hearts, trusted and sacrificed especially for family life. Joe and Janice were a private couple, quite unique in their accomplishments.

Joe was employed by various area construction companies including the Charles A. Gaetano Construction Corporation, Buck Construction, and Knamm Brothers Construction. He worked as a carpenter, developing his skills and responsibilities and moved to the status of steward, foreman, supervisor, problem solver, master carpenter, and go-to person. He shared in the brotherhood of the Carpenters Union Local #120. As he polished his professional expertise, he performed as a finish man and highly skilled craftsman, and his talents and innate abilities were seen in the artistic form of his creations. As a true perfectionist, his work was precise and detail-oriented,

yet he was humble about his great self-taught talents. His sons were fortunate enough to have learned an impeccable work ethic and a valued trade from their Dad. In each of his children's and grandchildren's homes he imparted a bit of himself when he assisted in renovations or hallmark improvements. Joe was also a man of great strength of character; he will be remembered as a good provider to the emotional, spiritual, and protective needs of his family. He was incredibly grateful for his accomplishments which he considered true blessings. All who knew him were touched by his generous nature, and because of his caring personality, he took a genuine interest in others and worried about their welfare. He was truly a sensitive soul with a quiet demeanor, and his generosity for those less fortunate was so evident. As a father, he led by example and was most proud of each of his children and their achievements. He was a fair and nurturing parent and his children will honor the memory of his honest and humble life. In recent years, his grandchildren warmed his heart and he appreciated this relationship at the golden time in his life. He gardened from the time of his childhood with his father, and cultivated his techniques with his own family. For many years he grew garlic and vegetables offering the community the fruits of his labors by establishing "Joe's Garlic Corner". He was also an outdoor sportsman favoring fishing and hunting with family and friends. He worshipped at Historic Old St. John's Catholic Church.

Joe is survived by his wife, Janice; his mother, Josephine; his sons and daughters-in-law, Joseph P., Jr. and Susan DiNigro of West Winfield, Michael J. and Mary Theresa DiNigro of Frankfort, and Stephen J. and Christine DiNigro of Plainfield, NY; his daughters and sons-in-law, Michele A. DiNigro of Deerfield, Colleen R. Murphy of West Winfield and companion Bryan Rhyde, Shannon R. and John Enders of Clinton, and Alison R. and Michael Adkins of Denver, PA. Always close to his heart was the memory of his daughter, Maria Lynne Wawrzaszek, who preceded him in death on July 10, 1997. He also leaves his grandchildren, David DiNigro, and Rochelle DiNigro; Domenica, and Maria DiNigro, Joey DiNigro and companion Laura Schlaepfer, Dana

DiNigro and Brad Ratcliffe, Stephen J. DiNigro, Jr., and Desiree DiNigro; Billy Murphy, and Kristen Murphy; Madeline Clark, and Johnny J. Clark; and Sara, and Mathew T. Adkins; his great-grandchildren, Little Joey, and Landon; his sisters and brother-in-law, Madeline Voce and Sam Barone, Marie Cavoly, and Carol DiNigro and John Voce; his brothers and sisters-in-law, Giovanni "John" DiNigro, Carmen and Maria DiNigro, and Peter and Antoinette DeNigro; many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and in-laws, Louise Roach, Lynette and Ernie Galle, and Geri LaManque. He shared a great closeness and respect for his friends, Tom Knamm, and Wayne Richard. He was predeceased by his sister, Kathleen Walker; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Claude and Olmeda LaManque; in-laws, Robert Cavoly, Johanne DiNigro, Richard Roach, and Butch LaManque; longtime friend, Jim Cookinham; and cousin, Andy Conino.

The family extends heartfelt gratitude to the staff of the Katherine Lutheran Residential Health Care Center/Gordon Unit, as well as the Faxton-St. Luke's Health Care Center 6th floor; these caregivers were compassionate and supportive to Joe and his family. Their affection and sincerity were very touching and inspirational.

Visitation will be held Thursday from 4:00-7:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Joe's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Friday at 12:00 noon from the funeral home and at 1:00 at Historic Old St. John's Church where his Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. John Buehler. Interment will follow graveside in Calvary Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

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

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 3. 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>

Tribute Wall



“ Eannace Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.



Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. - October 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

“ Dad’s Eulogy

Some of the most important things in this world are things which are not at all spectacular. They are things quiet things, things which are still, things we hardly notice.

Soil, for example. When we walk through a forest, we marvel at the towering pines, the giant redwoods. In autumn we are seduced by the sugar maple, and in summer, we drive through the countryside, captured by the beauty of golden fields of wheat, dancing in the wind. When we walk into a garden, it is the fat red tomato that catches our eye, the sweet smell of basil, the purple pole bean hanging from the vine. These things beg for attention. And when we sit at the dinner table to butter our sweet corn, we do not think of the dirt from which it came.

Yet, the pine, the redwood, the sugar maple, the tomato, and the sweet corn would not exist without it. But soil is still. It is quiet. If we do happen to notice it, it appears rather lifeless and uninteresting. But this couldn’t be further from the truth. Soil is an incredibly generous, intricate system, more complex than any machine man has ever made. It is always at work, exchanging, nurturing, unselfishly and steadily giving to make way for new life.

My father was like the soil: still, quiet, and always at work to provide a home where his family could put down solid roots--a place for us to thrive and grow. Even as a child, my father worked quietly for those he loved.

When he was a boy of eight, he made a rectangular wooden box out of scrap wood, attached a metal shoe to the top, and fastened a fabric strap so he could carry it upon his shoulder. With the box upon his shoulder, he walked up and down Bleecker Street in Utica. He would open bar doors, stick in his small head and look for dirty shoes. “Shine, Mr.? Want a shine?” He would holler until someone answered, “Yeah, okay kid. I’ll take a shine.” My father would shine one man’s shoes, then another, and another. Before he knew it, he’d make his way around the entire bar. Then, he’d stick his head in the next bar, and the next, all the way down the street, then look for more dirty shoes near the entrance of Hotel Utica, or outside the

Utica train station.

At the end of his work day, my father would walk, his own shoes worn and tearing, to Angie's Grille, where his father worked as a bartender and cook. My father would climb atop the bar stool, empty the quarters from his pockets, and slide them across the bar toward his father.

When I asked my father about this, he said,

"I did it because it made me feel good to help my family. Shannon, your grandfather worked long hours. My family never had a car and my father walked to work every day. And I remember how often he had to stop to catch his breath, because he had asthma. At the restaurant, he cooked and cleaned, tended bar, washed dishes, glasses, swept and mopped the floors and put every last chair upon the table before shutting off the lights to go home. Then, he'd have to walk home, stopping periodically to catch his breath on his journey back. He would wake and do it all over again the next day. And your grandmother worked just as hard too. I worked alongside my mother in the bean fields, picking rows of beans stretched out as far as I could see. And I'll tell you, it was hot, and the day was long, and there were times my mother had to stop and rest, because she was sick and exhausted from the heat. Some of those immigrant women would collapse from sun stroke, get to a shade tree to rest, then get right back out in the field to pick. Shining shoes was easy compared to what they had to do to take care of us. I did it for my family."

I knew my father shined shoes, but it were not for my mother telling me what he did with the money he earned, I never would have known. Other people have told that part of the story. My father never, ever called attention to it.

If ever there was a woman who matched the quiet strength of my father, it was my mother. He was the soil, but she was the sun. And throughout his life, she brought him li

SE

*I miss you Dad. I will never, ever forget your story. All my love,
Shannon*

Shannon (DiNigro) Enders - June 14, 2012 at 04:06 PM

MC

“ Marie Cavoly lit a candle in memory of Mr.
Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.



Marie Cavoly - April 08, 2012 at 06:33 AM

CD

“ Dear Colleen & Family,
We are all so sorry for your loss. We have
been thinking about you and hope you are
doing okay. If you need anything please call.
With Deepest Sympathy,
Carol,Darrin, Kaitlyn, Lena, Danielle, Bill & Lucas



Carol Dean - November 16, 2011 at 10:56 AM

KA

“ Kimberly Cookinham Artessa lit a candle in
memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.



Kimberly Cookinham Artessa - November 08, 2011 at 10:09 AM

KA

“ Joe was a class act. My father considered him to be one of his closest, dearest friends. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this very difficult time. Let the memories you made with Joe walk you though your greif...Love Kim & Andy (Cookinham) Artessa

Kimberly Cookinham Artessa - November 08, 2011 at 10:08 AM

CK

“ Carolyn Kelly lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.



Carolyn Kelly - November 07, 2011 at 03:50 PM

MD

“ Maria DiNigro lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.



Maria DiNigro - November 06, 2011 at 06:11 PM

MD

Grandpa,
I love and miss you so much! I will cherish every memory we had together. I remember when my family and I were just about to leave and you were standing with your walker, and you said to me " Look Maria, i can dance to!"!

-Love, Maria<3

Maria DiNigro - November 06, 2011 at 06:18 PM

RT

“ *Joey and Family,
Our deepest sympathy on your great loss. You are in our thoughts
and prayers.
Warmest wishes Becky and Helen Talerico*

Rebecca Talerico - November 05, 2011 at 10:14 AM

KF

“ *Kupiec Family lit a candle in memory of Mr.
Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.*



Kupiec Family - November 04, 2011 at 05:58 AM

TF

“ *The Kupiec Family lit a candle in memory of
Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.*



The Kupiec Family - November 04, 2011 at 05:57 AM

LR

“ *My condolences to the wonderful Di Nigro family , Uncle Joe was a
great father and husband. He will be sorely missed. God Bless you
all while you go through this difficult period. Lisa Roach*

Lisa Roach - November 03, 2011 at 08:56 PM

CN

“ *Sincerest condolences to the families of Joe. Having worked with him, and his sons over the years brings special memories to mind. He was a hard-working man and will be GREATLY missed!
Sincerely & God Bless!
Dick & Cathy Sommers*



Cathy Sommers, Oriskany Falls, NY - November 03, 2011 at 02:06 PM

RW

“ *Robin Whiting lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.*



Robin Whiting - November 03, 2011 at 01:04 PM

KL

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



kim laManque - November 03, 2011 at 12:56 PM

DC

“ *Janice and family, so sorry for your loss. My prayers and thoughts are with you. Donna (Wild) Cagle and family*

Donna Cagle - November 03, 2011 at 12:11 PM

DS

“ Joey, I'm so sorry for your loss. May all the great memories you have of your dad bring a smile to your face and comfort to your heart. Praying for you and your family during this time. Blessings,
Diane (Talerico) Salmon

Dee Salmon - November 03, 2011 at 12:08 PM

JK

“ Jill Kane lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.



Jill Kane - November 03, 2011 at 11:12 AM

JK

So sorry for your loss

Jill Kane - November 03, 2011 at 11:13 AM

PR

“ Alison and families,
Sincere sympathy in the loss of your Dad, Sounds like he had one terrific life, filled with love and friendship from everywhere he was, a piece of him was left with all the memories he left on his lives road. Life is all about the memories one leaves behind, and you can just tell, you will all have smiles reflecting back on your life times shared with your Dad, Grandfather, and husband. What a thing to leave all of you. May you find peace in sharing these and remembering them yourself for years to come. Great comfort will come from within, as you recall them.
Do hope you are well, think of you often and the memories that we also have made in our lives, they too bring smiles to my heart. . My thoughts and prayers to your family.
In sympathy and friendship
Pattie (young) roberts

pattie roberts - November 03, 2011 at 11:06 AM

CD

“ The ENTIRE DiNigro family thanks everyone thus far for their support and kindness shown to them during this time.

Christine DiNigro - November 03, 2011 at 11:05 AM

MM

“ Mike McBride lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.



Mike McBride - November 03, 2011 at 10:03 AM

MM

My sincere condolences to Colleen & Michelle and the rest of your family. I am sorry for your loss.

Mike McBride

Mike McBride - November 03, 2011 at 10:35 AM

JC

“ *Jan and family,
There was no better friend than Joe. We were friends for approx. 60 yrs and no one could walk in his shoes. His family was his greatest accomplishment. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this time.*
Dick & Jean Carbano



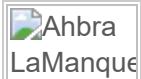
Jean Carbano - November 03, 2011 at 09:45 AM



“ *Kayla Angerosa lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.*



Kayla Angerosa - November 03, 2011 at 09:29 AM



“ *Ahbra LaManque lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.*



Ahbra LaManque - November 03, 2011 at 09:17 AM

NS

“ *Niece Gina, Doug And Stephen lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.*



Niece Gina, Doug and Stephen - November 03, 2011 at 08:45 AM

NS

Niece Gina, Doug and Stephen

Niece Gina, Doug and Stephen - November 03, 2011 at 08:47 AM

D(

“ *Deanna Cavoly (niece) lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.*



Deanna Cavoly (niece) - November 03, 2011 at 08:25 AM

BF

“ *Joe, Mike, and Steve,*

Our sincere condolences to you and your family on this day. I remember those tight transportation spots we were in at times when we headed for the Higby Rd. and your Dad was ther3e to help out.

*Your old Scoutmaster
Bill Fields*

Bill Fields - November 03, 2011 at 07:23 AM

BS

“ Beverly Schrader lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.



beverly schrader - November 03, 2011 at 06:54 AM

RB

“ My sympathy goes out to the DiNigro family, I remember the fun and laughs we had at the family reunion. The Bailey Family.



Robin Bailey - November 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CD

“ Joey, Stephen and Chris. So sorry to hear about your loss.

Carolyn (Williams) Day



Carolyn Williams Day - November 02, 2011 at 09:33 PM

GC

“ Gina Cromer lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.



Gina Cromer - November 02, 2011 at 09:08 PM

WW

“ joe you will be missed i know your with god
your cousin Bill williams

william I williams - November 02, 2011 at 08:30 PM

ER

“ My heart felt sympathy goes out to this wonderful family. Joe and Jan made us feel like part of the family when Vicky and I started our lives together. I have so many great memories of Joe and the years on Brinkerhoff Ave. You are all in my prayers.

Edward Rockefeller - November 02, 2011 at 07:43 PM

TL

That they did I lived right next door from, you' I babysat your son

Tina (oliver) LePage - November 02, 2011 at 08:48 PM

BS

Like you, I lived on Brinckerhoff and Janice and Michelle, I was so sorry to hear of Joe's passing. I remember him in the early years on Brinckerhoff as quiet, a hard worker, and so very proud of his family. I can remember when he came home from work, the kids were outside playing and they would go wild when he got out of the truck. One by one, he would pick them up, big smile on his face, and hug them tight. Many years later, I would meet Michelle at the hair salon after Maria's passing.. You have had some difficult days and the days ahead will also be. Hold on tight to one another, and he will watch out for you. Didn't know the relationship with Andy Conino. Andy worked with Nick at Univac and stood up for our wedding. It's a small world, and Heaven is a beautiful place.

Fondly, Beverly (Nick) Schrader

beverly schrader - November 03, 2011 at 06:53 AM

EW

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Beth Wagner

Elizabeth Wagner - November 02, 2011 at 06:44 PM

SM

“ *Sister Madeline lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.*



Sister Madeline - November 02, 2011 at 06:30 PM

SM

“ *Sister Marie lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.*



Sister Marie - November 02, 2011 at 06:27 PM

SC

“ *Sister Carol lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.*



sister Carol - November 02, 2011 at 06:25 PM

MO

“ *Mother lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.*



Mother - November 02, 2011 at 06:24 PM

AS

“ Condolences and sympathy are being sent to a very special family, the DiNigro's. My family and I are so sorry to hear about the passing of Uncle Joe. We must remember those we love don't go away; they walk beside us every day, unseen, unheard, but always near, still loved and continuously missed. I have many fond memories of my time at my Aunt Janie and Uncle Joe's home when I was a very young girl. I am also fortunate that my own children have their own memories at the farm, especially Ryan who enjoyed his time when Uncle Joe let him drive the tractor. Although it's difficult today to see beyond the sorrow, I am hoping that as you look back upon all your memories they will help comfort you tomorrow. With love and prayers.

Al & Shelly Stine - November 02, 2011 at 03:59 PM

MH

“ *Mary DeNigro Hosey lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.*



Mary DeNigro Hosey - November 02, 2011 at 03:52 PM

SF

“ *Suzanne Faubert And Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.*



Suzanne Faubert and family - November 02, 2011 at 03:19 PM

BL

“ *Barbara Levanti lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.*



Barbara Levanti - November 02, 2011 at 03:15 PM

AF

“ *Al & Shelly Stine & Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.*



Al & Shelly Stine & family - November 02, 2011 at 03:00 PM

KK

“ *The warmth and hospitality of the Joe-n-Jan Bed-n-Breakfast will always be a wonderful memory, and close to our hearts. All our Love at this very difficult time, Patrick and Kate Kidd*



Kate Kidd - November 02, 2011 at 01:02 PM

DB

“ *To the Entire DiNigro Family,
We are so sorry for the passing of your Father, Grandfather, and Brother. Our prayers are with all of you. May he rest in peace.
Debbie Barbero and Bob Crouse*

Debbie Barbero - November 02, 2011 at 12:51 PM

JV

“ *Joseph Valenti lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.*



Joseph Valenti - November 02, 2011 at 11:35 AM

DW

“ *Debbie Williams lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.*



Debbie Williams - November 02, 2011 at 11:24 AM

AD

“ *Anthony DiNigro lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.*



Anthony DiNigro - November 02, 2011 at 10:52 AM

KD

“ *Kelly, Anthony DiNigro lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.*



Kelly, Anthony DiNigro - November 02, 2011 at 10:50 AM

RE

“ Robert Elinskas lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.



Robert Elinskas - November 02, 2011 at 08:23 AM

AR

“ Amanda Rishell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.



Amanda Rishell - November 02, 2011 at 08:13 AM

AR

“ Amanda Rishell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.



Amanda Rishell - November 02, 2011 at 08:13 AM

DG

“ Deanna Guidera lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.



deanna guidera - November 02, 2011 at 07:28 AM

AS

“ *Angela Post Speitel lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.*



Angela Post Speitel - November 02, 2011 at 07:27 AM

KL

“ *Kim LaManque lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph P. DiNigro Sr.*



Kim LaManque - November 02, 2011 at 05:39 AM