



Mr. Joseph H. Heck

January 13, 2017

Mr. Joseph H. Heck went home to the Lord when he passed away on Friday, January 13, 2017. At the time of his passing he was in the hearts of those he loved.

Born in Tioga, Pennsylvania, Joseph was the son of the late Harold Lee and Emma Louise (Doolittle) Heck. As a young child, he came to Utica and graduated from Utica Free Academy and attended MVCC. On July 13, 1980 he married the former Maria Elena Pietrogiacomo with whom he shared 36 plus years in a beautiful, tender, loving relationship. They were well-matched and a true complement to one another. Maria Elena will always keep Joe in her heart.

Joe began his employment as a young man at the New York Central Railroad Amtrack Division where he worked for many years. His ability to advocate for employees earned him a promotion as Assistant General Chairman for the Conrail Division. During his appointment, he covered the North Eastern portion of the United States, beginning in Syracuse and extending into Canada. He masterfully negotiated and settled claims for employees. He retired in the late 1990's after a memorable and wonderful career. Joe had charisma and connected to people easily. He was generous and outgoing, and he respected those who were his senior. He honored his mother and his mother-in-law and held them in high regard. He never said no when someone needed a hand, and he had great memories of the many wonderful people in his life.

Joe was a natural athlete excelling in baseball. He was a starting pitcher in high school and in the MUNY Ball League most notably. He also played on the Walter Skiba Post team where he gained notoriety as a curveball pitcher. During his heyday, Joe was scouted by the Detroit Tigers, but decided to stay in Utica to be with family. He was also an avid angler who loved to reel in trout and tackle deep-sea fishing. He drew on his artistic aptitude when he created a Japanese garden in his back yard, and adorned his home with Christmas decorations and lights so meticulously that they were memorable to many people in the area. His artistry was also seen in his sketching, woodworking, and painting that covered all spectrum of artwork. The Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute was a precious place for Joe and his wife to spend their time. He was also an antique automobile aficionado attending car shows. He preserved a 1979 Ford truck, painting it orange and customizing it with great detail, and was also a corvette buff.

Joe felt that this life God granted him was blessed with beauty and bounty, from sunshine and warm oceans that he loved so much, to good food, good times, dining out, and dancing with his loving wife. Each July in the past, Joe and Maria Elena celebrated their anniversary in Aruba, with friendships that had lasted for decades. They also spent different times in Florida each year because they both enjoyed the sunshine and the serenity of the ocean. Joe and his wife cherished their time in prayer at St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church and Historic Old St. John's Church.

Joe is survived by his wife, Maria Elena; his sisters and a brother-in-law, Marilyn Capozzella, his twin sister Joan Franz, and Delores and Anthony Moschetti, of Florida. He also leaves his nieces, nephews, especially Jeffrey Franz with whom he had a close relationship; his great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and his beloved sister-in-law, Sylvia "Silky" Amoroso. Joe was held in great admiration by his friends, Phil and Patty George, Frank and Sylvia Bonacci and their sons Angelo and Andy (his godson) and his wife Mary. He also was the godfather of Jan Mykles McConnell and Michael Ruckel. He appreciated his dear friend, Ray Niznik, who offered continual

prayers for Joe until the very end. He was predeceased by his sister, Carol McEvoy; his step-brothers, Charles, Bryce, and William Caywood; his brothers-in-law, Andy Capozzella, and Donald Franz, Sr.; and his cherished mother-in-law, Teresa Pietrogiacomo.

The family is grateful to Dr. Jerry Sloan, Dr. Kenneth Visalli, the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center 3rd Floor staff, and the personnel of the Presbyterian Rehabilitation Center all of whom offered inspiration and great care during Joe's health concerns. A special thanks to Joe's cousins, Anthony and Carmy Annuch, and his friendly neighbors, especially Kurt White, for their support and kind deeds.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday from 4-6 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Joseph's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Wednesday afternoon at 1:00 at Historic Old St. John's Church where his Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Fr. Arthur Krawczenko. Those wishing to express an act of kindness in lieu of flowers may consider a donation to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital online at <https://www.stjude.org> or the Stevens-Swan Humane Society, for Joe's love of animals at <https://stevens-swan.org>; envelopes will be available at the funeral home. Entombment will take place in Calvary Cemetery Mausoleum at the convenience of the family.

"Goodbye my darling husband, you are my heart and soul. I will love you forever. As you have always told me, you will always be with me, until we meet again."

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 17. 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>

Funeral Service

JAN 18. 1:00 PM (ET)

Historic Old St. John's Church
240 Bleecker Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 724-6159
<https://www.historicoldstjohnschurch.com/>

Tribute Wall

SH

“ Susan Haggerty lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph H. Heck



Susan haggerty - January 17, 2017 at 02:10 PM

BV

“ Ben & Debbie Vennero lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph H. Heck



Ben & Debbie Vennero - January 17, 2017 at 01:57 PM

AM

“ Anthony & Delores Moschetti lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph H. Heck



Anthony & Delores Moschetti - January 17, 2017 at 07:01 AM

AN

My dear brother we had so many good memories growing up and will always love you from the bottom of my heart. May you keep your happy face and funny laugh always and watch over your devoted wife Maria Elena. God bless you your sister Aboo!

Anthony - January 17, 2017 at 07:07 AM

FA

“ Growing up on Dudley Ave. and South St., I was blessed to have Joe as a mentor in my life.
From the Royal Bowl, Edna's and Abrahams store, I have many great memories of Joe.
He was always the nicest, happiest and the most sincere person one could meet.
I know he not only touched my life, but was a positive influence on everyone he met.
Rest in God's Peace, till we meet again.
Frank Annese
Venice, FL.

Frank Annese - January 16, 2017 at 07:21 PM

DA

“ Uncle Joe, thank you for all the laughs. Give my grandpa a big hug when you see him. Love always,
Danielle Piazza

Danielle - January 16, 2017 at 03:42 PM

BP

“ Dear M aria Elena,
The sorrow in our hearts is overwhelming for your loss of your dear husband. May God Bless you with the strength you need at this time.
All our love,
Adele and Bob

Bob Pacilio - January 16, 2017 at 02:01 PM

RO

“ Dear Maria Elena,

My heart goes out to you.. Joe, such a wonderful man with a great sense of humor!

Please accept my sincere condolences. I am here for you my dear old friend..

RAMONA A OMIDIAN - January 16, 2017 at 01:14 PM

AA

“ Dear Maria Elena,

May the SPECIAL memories of your LOVE together live in your heart

forever. May you find PEACE and strength with every passing day.

You know you will always remain in our hearts and prayers.

All our LOVE & Prayers,

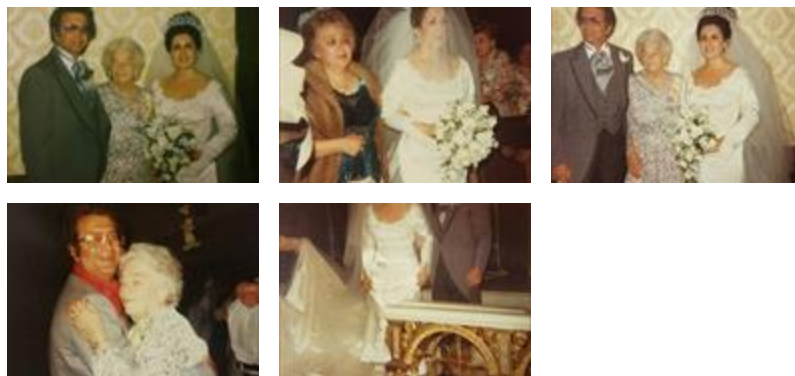
Anthony & Carmy



Anthony & Carm Annuich - January 16, 2017 at 07:05 AM

JF

“ 7 files added to the tribute wall



Jeff and Joan Franz - January 15, 2017 at 08:01 PM



“ *Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Mr. Joseph H. Heck.*



January 15, 2017 at 05:27 PM



“ *Maria Elena and the Franz family. I am so sorry to hear of Joe's passing. May God bless you all and I will keep you all in my prayers.*

Salvatore Piazza

Salvatore Piazza - January 15, 2017 at 03:30 PM



“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



Don & Paula Franz - January 15, 2017 at 01:24 PM



“ *Rosemary Vasile lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph H. Heck*



Rosemary Vasile - January 15, 2017 at 09:07 AM

RV

My Deepest Sympathy to a wonderful Man and Family. REST IN PEACE. YOUR IN THE GLORY OF GOD.

Rosemary Vasile - January 15, 2017 at 09:12 AM

DS

God Bless youplease look after all our loved ones...

Dianna suppa - January 15, 2017 at 11:19 AM

TF

“ *Hey Uncle Joe, I hear there's great fishing where you're going!!!! Thank you for the rides in your corvette and for that last wink!!! 😘 Forever in my heart!*



Tracey Franz - January 15, 2017 at 08:39 AM

MD

“ *RIP Uncle Joe ❤️*



Michelle & Tom Dolin - January 14, 2017 at 10:27 PM

MM

“ *May you RIP Uncle Joe
Our thoughts are with you MarieElena
Marge & TK 🙏*



Marge Moschetti - January 14, 2017 at 09:28 PM