



Mr. Joseph Putruele

November 1, 1933 - August 13, 2021

UTICA/SPILINGA, ITALY - Mr. Joseph Putruele, age 87, passed away on Friday, August 13, 2021 with his family by his side.

Born in the town of Spilinga in Calabria, Italy, a region of stunning beaches, rugged inland mountains, and unparalleled scenery, Joseph was the son of the late Girolamo and Maria (Cuppari) Putruele. After his secondary schooling, he furthered his education in Classic Studies at Liceo, a prep school for the academic study of the Humanities and Culture. He went on to graduate from college with a Teacher's Degree from the Liceo Classico of Catanzaro. In 1962, Joe immigrated to the United States where he settled in Utica. At one time, he was married to the former Catherine Pietropaolo and from that union came the blessing of 3 children, Mary Rose, Jerry, and Catherine. He entered into a second union when he married the former JoAnn Gallo who passed away on December 29, 2004.

At one time, Joe worked as a Social Worker in Italy. He was also employed as a Wholesale Salesman for Service Wine and Liquor for 35 years where he became an expert in fine wines and liquors. Joe utilized his classical education in cultural traditions when he worked as the radio announcer as The Voice of Italy for well over 50 years; currently he was on the air waves with Radio Station WUTQ 100.7 FM as The Voice of the New Italy which broadcasts on Sunday mornings in his native language as well as English, a job that he loved. He was a staple for Italian local families on Sundays, promoting Italian music, keeping traditions alive, and allowing families to re-

live childhood memories.

Joe was a member of the Kiwanis Club of Whitestown for over 15 years; the former Sons of Italy Lodge #2054, and the Coliseum Soccer Club. He enjoyed hosting weekly dinner parties at his house with his good friends, and his meals were always accompanied by specific wines to complement his home cooked meals.

Joseph is survived by his daughters and sons-in-law, Mary Rose and Charles "Chuck" Mitchell, and Cathy and Josh Uttamsingh; his son and daughter-in-law, Jerry and Bianca Putruele; grandchildren, Avery Mitchell, Brendan Mitchell, Carissa Putruele, Alec Putruele, Olivia Uttamsingh, and Alexa Uttamsingh; his sisters and brother-in-law, Rosa and Antonio Zungri, and Annunziata Putruele, in Italy; and his brother and sister-in-law, Frank and Carol Putruele. He also leaves many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins; in-laws, Giuseppe Caputo, Rose Vita, and Frank Vita; and a host of special friends, and fans. He was predeceased by his sister, Domenica Caputo; and brother-in-law, Francesco Cuppari.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend Joe's funeral service and Celebration of Life which will commence on Saturday morning, August 21st at 11:00 at St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church where his Mass of Christian Burial will be offered. The family will receive visitors at the conclusion of Mass. Entombment will take place in Christ Our Savior Mausoleum at Calvary Cemetery at the convenience of the family. Arrangements are under the direction of Nancy L. Eannace and Joe's nephew, Dominick S. Vita, of the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.

Cemetery Details

Christ Our Savior Mausoleum at Calvary Cemetery

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

Tribute Wall

EP

“ Please accept our sincere sympathy sympathy during this difficult time!

Emil Paparella - September 01, 2021 at 04:42 PM

DM

“ Sunday mornings are just not the same...😞 my sincerely condolences to Joe's family and friends...

Don Marino - August 30, 2021 at 10:49 AM

DM

“ Don Marino lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Putruele



Don Marino - August 30, 2021 at 10:48 AM

 Valerie Graziano

“ Joe was our wine and liquor salesman @ our restaurant, Graziano's in Canastota for many years. Most recently he was our faithful Friday night music and dance friend @ the New Hartford Legion. Your sweet presence and your philosophy of "enjoying" music, food, life and love will be missed by everyone there at your table, Joe. 💜 Valerie Graziano

Valerie Graziano - August 20, 2021 at 11:53 AM

JL

“ Joe, you left us too soon. You were supposed to stay until 104. We will miss you. Sunday will never be the same. Thank you for for your kindness and friendship.



Love,
Sisters Bonnie and Judy

Judy Linke - August 19, 2021 at 08:23 PM

JC

“ On behalf of the Italian Heritage Club of the Mohawk Valley, we send our sincerest heartfelt condolences to Joe’s family and friends both near and far. As many of us know he was very proud of his Italian Heritage and shared his passion not only on the radio on Sunday mornings but in so many of the activities he was involved with throughout the Mohawk Valley. Everyone knew his name. His door was always open and his love of the Italian culture was so evident and he was always willing to share. We have lost an icon in the Mohawk Valley and within the Italian community. He will always be the “Voice of Italy”. He will be missed. Riposte in pace eternamente.

Joann Cavo Campbell
President

Joann Campbell - August 19, 2021 at 12:24 PM

WR

“ *Alla famiglia del nostro amico, compagno ed insegnante, mandiamo i nostri condoglianze piu' fervidi.*

Joe aveva un commando professionale della lingua italiana, ed ad ogni raduno Mercoledìano del nostro gruppo alla Pizzeria La Roma, Joe impartiva al gruppo parole nuove e corregeva i nostri sbagli. La communita' Italo-Americana del vallico del Mohawk ha perso probabilmente l'ultimo proponente pubblico della lingua e cultura italiana portata in America da i nostri progenitori.

Wednesday Italian Group of Rome

Wednesday Italian Club of Rome - August 18, 2021 at 04:30 PM

JC

“ *My heartfelt sympathy to the entire Putruele family for the loss of your Dad, grandpa, family member or friend. Joe was a very polished gentleman. May he Rest In Peace . My prayers are with all of you at this sad time.*

Jeanne Castronovo

Jeanne Castronovo - August 18, 2021 at 04:07 PM

FT

“ *TO Joes family....I knew Joe from church at St. Mary Mount Carmel every Saturday we talk about things that happened during the week just to catch up.He would make cd`s for my wife and sister.He will fondly be remembered every time we listen to the music he made for us.Rest in peace with the lord Joe you will be sadly missed*
Frank & Gloria Trotta

Frank & Gloria Trotta - August 18, 2021 at 12:50 PM

MC

“ Sincere Condolences to Joe’s family and friends who loved him. We knew Joe through my sister Laraine, who was a special friend of his for many years.

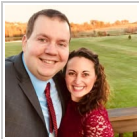
We will remember Joe for his kindness and his immense love of Italy and his Italian heritage! He spoke to my son, Joe, in Italian whenever we were together and it was a joy to hear them engaged in lively and colorful conversations... spoken in Italian.

May you Rest In Peace Dear Joe. 🙏🙏🙏

You will be missed by everyone who knew you.

Maria & Michael Cortese

Maria Cortese - August 18, 2021 at 10:00 AM



“ Uncle Joe was loved by many and will be greatly missed. On visits back to Utica from Maryland my husband always looked forward to going to Uncle Joe's for a cup of espresso, good company, and lively conversation. On multiple occasions he was also welcomed into the group of friends who would gather at Uncle Joe's for regular dinner parties. He truly enjoyed getting to take part in these festivities.

I also want to acknowledge how lucky Uncle Joe was to have his brother, Frank. Growing up whenever Uncle Joe had any type of a problem Frank was always his first call and time and time again Frank showed up. In recent months, as Uncle Joe's life drew to a close, that did not change. Frank stood by Uncle Joe's side and cared for him through his very last moments, keeping the promise he made to his mom years ago to always look out for his brother.

Shannon Wasko - August 18, 2021 at 09:49 AM

CJ

“ *Mary Rose, Jerry and Catherine, I'm so sorry for your loss. He gave so much of himself to the Italian community. He will be missed.*

Carmela N Jones - August 18, 2021 at 07:51 AM

CW

“ *I only knew Joe from going to Rosemary and John Roy's home for dinners. Joe was such a joy to be around. Always made everyone laugh and he was always such a gentleman. My family will miss him and I know my friends John and Rosemary really loved him. At mass he would always give us a little wink when he came back from communion. I will keep Joe in my prayers and remember him warmly in my thoughts.*
Carol + Kristin Wendler

Carol Wendler - August 17, 2021 at 07:32 PM

JM

“ *To all our Putruele Cousins, may Joe live on in all the wonderful memories shared together...an amazing man. Rest In Peace Joe. All our love, prayers, and blessings always...The Montanaro Cousins 🇮🇹*

Joseph & Margaret Montanaro - August 17, 2021 at 07:17 PM

MM

“ *To Catherine and her children, I am so sorry for your loss. Joe was really one of a kind, always enjoyed seeing him at church along side his brother Frank. He was always kind to myself and my children. Sunday mornings will never be the same, he made us proud to be Italian. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this time. May he find eternal rest and may Our Lady of Mt. Carmel welcome him home.*

Mary T. Mercurio - August 17, 2021 at 05:28 PM

AM

“ Growing up in East Utica "The Voice of Italy" was on every Sunday. I can remember when the priest from Mt Carmel would do the gospel and a short homily. As I grew older I had the honor of meeting Joe he was a very kind man full of life. Someone I called friend. From seeing him at church, taking a class from him so many wonderful times. He will be missed but a blessing to have known him. Sundays will not be the same but will live on in my heart. To his family especially Mrs. Putruele who is such a kind woman, I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this time.

Achilla "Kelly" Mercurio - August 17, 2021 at 03:37 PM

JD

My mom Carmella Pitrel DeCotis was so proud to have Joe as a cousin. In fact, my son-in-law who is from Venice said that Joe spoke impeccable and perfect Italian.(Especially since he was from the South). Our family appreciated that Joe came to our mom's funeral and also her brother Dick Pitrel's funeral. I also enjoyed having a wonderful and interesting conversation with him at the lunches after the funerals. God Bless and rest in peace Joe!

John D. DeCotis, Fayetteville, GA

John DeCotis - August 18, 2021 at 07:18 PM

MF

It was an honor for me to fill in for Joe on his radio program while he was in Italy. I know many listeners in Central New York will miss his "Voice of The New Italy" radio show. He made a lot of people happy with his music and talk. I enjoyed being with him at his supper table,, and he made the best pasta sauce i have ever tasted. I asked a couple of times..Joe, how do you made your sauce? I never found out. I guess it was Joe's secret. I join your family and friends in saying you will be missed. Rest in peace, Joe.

Mark Fuller, Clinton, NY

Mark Fuller - August 19, 2021 at 04:12 PM