



Mr. Joseph A. "Joe" Ruffule, Sr.

October 18, 1934 - September 24, 2023

EAST UTICA - Joseph A. Ruffule, Sr., 88, went home to be with the Lord on Sunday Sept. 24, 2023. He was surrounded by the love and care of his family in the comfort of his home.

Joe was born in Utica, NY to the late Michael & Anna (Zeina) Ruffule. He attended St. Mary of Mt. Carmel Grammar School & was a 1952 graduate of UCA. Family obligations kept him from attending college, but he never let that slow him down or dampen his spirit. He was proud to enter the workforce and be able to help his family. He took a job as a meatcutter for Mohican Markets in Downtown Utica. It was then that he met the love of his life and wife of 64 years, Leocadia (Fuentes) Ruffule. They were married on June 27, 1959.

Throughout the years, Joe worked tirelessly in his industry and passed that fierce work ethic to his children. He would always preach the importance of education, honesty, patience, kindness, family and God. He valued his lifelong connections and always made time to help a friend in need. He was an avid volunteer for Meals on Wheels, a member of The Knights of Columbus and a faithful parishioner of St. Agnes, and St. Mary of Mt. Carmel Churches.

Joe will be remembered for his generous spirit, patient demeanor, love of good conversation, kind eyes & a smile that spread joy wherever he went.

He is survived by his beloved & devoted wife, Lee, and their children; Robert Ruffule, Debra Ruffule, Lisa Blasone and Joseph Ruffule Jr. and his beloved grandchildren; Jamie (& Matthew) Gaetano, Thomas Blasone, Melissa Pecorello, Ashley Owens, Robert Ruffule and Carli Ruffule and his cherished great grandchildren; Salvatore Drivas, Giorgio Drivas, Isabella Gaetano, Matteo Gaetano, Mason Owens and Braelynn Owens; as well as many cousins, nieces, nephews and extended family.

He was predeceased by his parents; Michael and Anna, his brothers; Rufus Ruffule and Anthony Ruffule and his sister and brother-in-law; Anna Marie and Gary Karwowski. As well as many lifelong friends. He will also be reunited in Heaven with his beloved and faithful companion, his dog, Vito, whose company he enjoyed for 18 years.

Lee and the family would like to extend their thanks to Hospice & Palliative Care for their overwhelming support and care of Joseph. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to them in Joe's honor (<https://hospicecareinc.org/donations/>); envelopes will also be available at the funeral home.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, September 27, 2023 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Joseph's Mass of Christian Burial and Celebration of Life which will be held on Thursday, September 28, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish, 648 Jay St. Interment will follow in St. Agnes Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

St. Agnes Cemetery

601 Arthur Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 732-8588

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **27**. 5:00 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>

Funeral Service

SEP **28**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary of Mount Carmel / Blessed Sacrament Parish
648 Jay St
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 735-1482

Tribute Wall

BD

“ I just found out that I lost my Godfather. My deepest condolences to Lee, Bobby, Lisa, Debbie and Joey. Mr. Ruffele was always good to me and a blessing to all he knew. My Dad I am sure is welcoming him to heaven with a big hug.
Bobby Dulan

Bobby Dulan - September 29, 2023 at 10:22 AM



“ Ruffle family, my deepest sympathy! I just found out tonight and am so sorry. Mr. Ruffle was my dad's best friend, such a comfort to dad right up to the end. A friendship larger than life. Rest in peace Mr. Ruffle. N. Dulan

N - September 28, 2023 at 07:02 PM

EP

“ Please accept you sincere condolences during this difficult time!
Emil and Janet Paparella

Emil Paparella - September 28, 2023 at 05:53 PM

CF

“ Uncle Joe was one of the most patient and kind men I've ever known. Aunt Lee, Bobby, Debbie, Lisa and Joey I am so sorry for your loss. I love you all

Connie Fuentes - September 27, 2023 at 09:03 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Joseph A. "Joe" Ruffule, Sr..*



September 27, 2023 at 08:46 AM



“ *Vivid Recollections was purchased for the family of Mr. Joseph A. "Joe" Ruffule, Sr..*



September 27, 2023 at 03:44 AM



“ *Bobby, Debbie, Lisa, and Joe. My sincere condolences for the loss of your father. My prayers are with you and your family. May he Rest In Peace.*

Debbie Barbero - September 26, 2023 at 07:11 PM



“ *OMG! I am so deeply saddened to learn of Joe's passing. I often heard the story of how my dad fixed up Joe and Lee back in the day when they were working at The Mohican. It was to be a lasting relationship. Over the years, we had many encounters and they were always fun and happy times. Joe was a great guy. My sincerest condolences to Lee and the family. May he rest in peace.*

Frankito Calaprice - September 26, 2023 at 02:58 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Joseph A. "Joe" Ruffule, Sr..*



September 26, 2023 at 01:54 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Joseph A. "Joe" Ruffule, Sr..*



September 26, 2023 at 01:47 PM