



Joseph A. LaBella

October 24, 1914 - July 28, 2008

Mr. Joseph A. LaBella, age 93, of Utica, passed away on Monday, July 28, 2008 at the St. Joseph Nursing Home with his loving family by his side. Born in Utica on October 24, 1914, Joseph was the son of the late Moses and Theresa (Leone) LaBella. He was raised and educated locally. A proud veteran of World War II, Joseph served his country with the U. S. Army stationed in the European Theater of Operations from 1943-1946. At one time, he was wed to the former Jennie Anne Pardi who passed away in July of 1984. In later years, Joseph was blessed with the love of his longtime companion and partner in life, Mary Pia Battista, who passed away on January 25, 2008.

As a local restaurateur, Joseph owned and operated LaBella's Restaurant for over 35 years. Generous and outgoing, one of Joe's greatest satisfactions in life was being able to cook a meal and share it with others. He enjoyed wintering in Florida, and as a sportsman, he loved fishing. He also found pleasure in horse racing and the thrill of the fast-paced racetrack.

Joseph was one of 22 siblings. He leaves behind his sister, Carmella Mallozzi; and his brother, William "Bill" LaBella, both of Utica; numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and in-laws, Elda LaBella of Rome, and Melina LaBella of Utica. He will also be deeply missed by his extended family members, Arthur and Diane Battista, and Cheryl and Nicholas LoConte.

By family request, please omit floral offerings. Family and friends are

respectfully invited to attend his funeral service which will commence on Thursday morning at 10:30 at the St. Joseph's Nursing Home Chapel where his Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated with Military Honors. The family will receive visitors at the conclusion of the service. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Services of comfort have been entrusted to the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. 932 South St. corner of Hammond Ave.

Previous Events

Service

JUL 31. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Joseph Nursing Home
2535 Genesee Street
Utica, NY

Tribute Wall



“ My father, Gerald Sherline, ate lunch at LaBella's more often than not for years, and Joe became part of our extended family. I remember him talking about his adventures at the track, or what fish he caught and what he was going to make with it. I adored him, and whenever I joined my dad Joe would bring out a cold meatball for me to eat as a present while I waited for our plates to arrive. When I went away to college he would give my dad a quart of sauce and a bag of meatballs to bring to me. I loved him and miss him so much - - he was always so happy, and had so many wonderful stories. A great one was how he invented the Stromboli sandwich; naming it that because he had a crush on Ingrid Bergman. There will never be another one like Joe, or his meatballs and sauce -- I'll spend the rest of my life trying to figure out the recipes! I will always consider myself lucky to have had him in my life.##imported-begin##Debra Sherline##imported-end##

August 22, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mario Rocci & Family*

We were so sorry to hear about Marie. She was a fine lady . May all your wonderful memories of her help you all through this sad and difficult time. Our deepest sympathy.

Phil & Carol Scampone##imported-begin##Philip & Carol Scampone##imported-end##

August 06, 2008 at 12:21 PM



“ Art, Diane, Cheryl & Joe

Our sincere sympathy in the loss of a wonderful man who treated my Aunt Pia , your mother, and grandmother like a "Marchesa". We spent many weekends when they were in Florida during my visits, laughing, playing cards and eating. Joe just loved to cook and wait on us. He will always have a place in our hearts.

*Ron & Yvonne##imported-begin##Ron & Yvonne
Pugliese##imported-end##*

August 03, 2008 at 02:29 PM



“ Art & Diane,

*We were so sorry to hear about Joe. We know he was a very special person in Pia's life and yours. Our deepest sympathies.
Carol & Phibby##imported-begin##Philip & Carol
Scampone##imported-end##*

July 31, 2008 at 02:53 PM



“ Art, Diane & Cheryl & Nick,

*We are so very sorry of Joe's passing. We know how much he meant to you all, and he had a special part in our hearts as well. He was so kind and generous and we will never forget him. Thinking of you and know that he is now in peace and "up above" with Aunt Pia.
Love, Charleen & Jerry##imported-begin##Charleen & Jerry
Sangiaco##imported-end##*

July 30, 2008 at 10:05 PM



“ There will come a day when the tears of sorrow will softly flow into tears of remembrance...and your heart will begin healing itself...and grieving will be interrupted by episodes of joy...and you will hear the whisper of hope. There will come a day when you will welcome the tears of remembrance...as a sun shower of the soul...a turning of the tide...a promise of peace. There will come a day when you will...risk loving...go on believing...and treasure the tears of remembrance. All those sleeping in their graves will wake up and sing for joy. As the sparkling dew refreshes the earth, so the Lord will revive those who have long been dead."-Isa. 26:19.##imported-begin##Magallon Family##imported-end##

July 29, 2008 at 02:31 PM