



Joseph A. Zalocha

August 13, 1944 - October 29, 2007

Mr. Joseph A. Zalocha, age 63, of New Hartford, passed away after a long and courageous battle with Muscular Dystrophy on Monday, October 29, 2007. His passing occurred at the St. Elizabeth Medical Center with his loving family by his side.

Born in Utica on August 13, 1944, Joseph is the son of Vincenza (Marangi) Zalocha Nicotera and the late Joseph Zalocha. Raised and educated locally, he was a 1963 graduate of T. R. Proctor High School. He pursued collegiate studies and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration from Fresno State University in California. On August 19, 1972 he married the former Suzanne L. Flanagan. The couple cultivated a very loving and committed union endearing the blessings of 35 years.

Joseph's working life was enhanced by his leadership, professional nature, charismatic demeanor, and organizational skills which were the common threads in all of his successful positions. He managed the Forum Theater and the 258 Cinema in Utica as well as a theater in Buffalo, NY. He relocated to Massena, NY and while residing there he managed their local movie theater. He was also the director for radio station WYBG. He later worked for Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. as a sales executive. Along with his wife he established and operated the Sue-Z-Travel Co. All of these career accomplishments were achieved while enduring the effects of muscular dystrophy, and were testaments to his perseverance and his spiritual faith which was present in each day of his life. In 2001 he retired and relocated to

his home town.

Joe was blessed with a great sense of family, a quick wit, and a gift of loyal friendships. Of all his life endeavors, he was most proud of the relationship and bond with his wife and son. He loved family gatherings, and especially appreciated the holidays. In line with his altruistic character, he was active in civic, social, and fund raising events, especially with the Muscular Dystrophy Association. He was passionate about nature, and during his leisure time he enjoyed golfing, fishing, and playing cards. He was a communicant of the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes.

Joseph is survived by his wife, Susie; his son, Michael G. Zalocha of Utica; and his mother, Vincenza. Also surviving are his brothers and sisters-in-law, Albert and Kathy Zalocha of Buffalo, Greg Zalocha of Boston, MA, Dominick "Rich" and Carmen Nicotera of Utica, and Raymond and Barbara Nicotera of Holmes, NY; his sister and brother-in-law, Leona and Paul Rivkin of New Hartford; his nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, aunts, uncles, including Pat, Anthony and Joseph Marangi, and in-laws, including Sheila Fraser of Canada. He was also blessed with numerous friends.

The family extends appreciation to the Visiting Nurse Association, the Charles T. Sitrin Health Care Center, and the 4th floor Special Care Unit nurses at St. Elizabeth Medical Center for their compassionate care and attentiveness to the needs of Joe and his family.

Visitation will be held Thursday (today) from 4:00-7:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Joseph's funeral service will commence on Friday morning at 10:00 from the funeral home and at 11:00 at the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes where his Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery.

Tribute Wall



“ I am so sorry about your lost. God took a good man home I worked for Joe years ago here in Massena at the theater. He always made me smile such a wonderful friend He will be greatly missed and you will be in my Prayers God Bless Bonnie Baker Crites###imported-begin###Bonnie Green Crites###imported-end##

November 05, 2007 at 10:00 PM



“ My prayers are with Joe's family; May he rest in peace.###imported-begin###John Rand###imported-end##

November 05, 2007 at 06:38 PM



“ Sue, Michael, Chet and family,

I am really saddened to hear that Joe has passed away. Sue, you were such a dedicated wife, and Joe was also so proud of Michael.

Chet, I really have to say this: You have the most delicious meatballs I have ever eaten (including my wife's), and I'm sorry that I (along with Joe) used to get into them every Saturday night when you weren't home. I have some really wonderful memories of Joe and me that I will never ever forget. I have so many stories involving both of us since childhood. Sorry that we used to drive you crazy.

Joe was a brave survivor for many, many years. I will miss him terribly.

*I will keep you all in my thoughts and prayers. Don
"Willie"###imported-begin###Don Williams###imported-end##*

November 04, 2007 at 08:44 PM



“ Dear Suzie and Michael,
I was so sorry to hear of Joe's death. What a nice, kind man he was. May God continue to bless you both; especially through this difficult time. and may His Peace be with you. With fondest memories and my deepest sympathy,
Bonnie Ryan Chichester (from the Travel Agency days.)###imported-begin##Bonnie Ryan Chichester###imported-end##

November 03, 2007 at 03:13 PM



“ So sorry for your loss...Please know my thought are with your family though this difficult time###imported-begin##Sarah (Markell) Nardella###imported-end##

November 03, 2007 at 04:30 AM



“ Mike and family, I'm so sorry to hear this. God bless and keep your chin up###imported-begin##John Moore###imported-end##

November 03, 2007 at 03:17 AM



“ suzie and mike, so sorry to hear about joe.
i will remember all of you in my prayers.###imported-begin##kathy mcgown###imported-end##

November 02, 2007 at 12:26 PM



“ *Michael I am so sorry to hear of the passing of your father. I have been so busy with work that I have just about separated myself from friends. This is no reason not to be there in your time of need. You are a good friend and I know that you care deeply for your parents. I know your Dad was ill for quite some time but he is at peace now and remember the good times. Peace be with you and your family my friend.##imported-begin##Chuck Adams##imported-end##*

November 01, 2007 at 10:13 PM



“ *Dear Sue and Mike - we were so saddened when we read of Joe's passing. We just wanted to let you know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. He was a special person and we always enjoyed visiting with him when we saw him.*

Take care - Cathy and Richard##imported-begin##Cathy and Richard Faucher##imported-end##

November 01, 2007 at 04:19 PM



“ I am so very sorry to hear that Joe has passed. He was such a wonderful part of my childhood because of the "Mini Show" at WYBG. He permitted me to come into the radio station and do "my thing" on air when I was just 12 years old!

Those Saturday mornings from 9:00 to 9:30 helped me to speak confidently in public, to learn first hand how "the media" works and most importantly to go over my dreams because they really are attainable when you work hard enough!!

My prayers are with you Suzie!!

*Love, Susan##imported-begin##Susan (LaVenture)
Austin##imported-end##*

November 01, 2007 at 01:24 PM



“ Sue,

Thinking about you and wish that we could be there but we had to rush Heather's mother to the hospital in Ottawa. It doesn't look good. Keep strong and you know that the Flanigan blood in you will help you through this difficult time.

*Take care,
John & Heather##imported-begin##John & Heather
Morgan##imported-end##*

November 01, 2007 at 11:14 AM



“ Mike (and Family)

I'm so sorry to hear about your Dad. It is often said that we are never challenged with more than we can handle, but losing someone close to you is the ultimate trial. May the love and support of your friends and family help in the days to come, knowing that in time the sadness you feel today will be replaced by the happy memories of the past.##imported-begin##Keith Dennis##imported-end##

November 01, 2007 at 07:43 AM



“ Suzie and Michael, my thoughts and prayers are with you...we all had some great memories of our families together and getting Joe all riled up. I am sure Brian embraced him in Heaven and asked "well, what can we buy and run next?" He will be missed and was a brave man and loved you both so much....love you Mary Jane and family##imported-begin##Mary Jane Vallee##imported-end##

October 31, 2007 at 11:50 PM



“ Sue, both Colleen and I are deeply sorry over Joe's passing. We go back many many years and shared many a laugh and good times. I will never forget his fortitude and good nature and great sense of humor. I enjoyed him so much, considered him one of my dearest friends and thought about him often. His courage was unshakable and he had a zest for life which many of us will never know. Your marriage was strong and lasting and you were both great for each other. Please take care of yourself and give our regards to Michael and Joe's family, especially to Chet who I considered my second mother and who treated me like one of her own. We will be making a donation to the MD association in Joe's memory in hopes that at some future time, a cure will be discovered for this terrible disease...to think that Joe was so successful as a husband, parent and businessman facing this challenge day in and day out was a lesson in courage. I will miss him very much and will always keep him in my memory. Paul###imported-begin##Paul Lupia###imported-end##

October 31, 2007 at 10:04 PM



“ Dear Ray & Barbara & Family,

Our prayers and thoughts are with you, Susie, Michael, your mom and your entire family.

May God hold Joseph in the palm of his hands. May God bless each and everyone of you.

With all our love, Trish & Dennis###imported-begin##Trish & Dennis O'Keefe###imported-end##

October 31, 2007 at 09:26 PM



“ Sue and Mike,

Joe is at peace. He will be missed. My deepest sympathy to you both.##imported-begin##Mary Morehouse##imported-end##

October 31, 2007 at 08:39 PM



“ *I'm so sorry for your loss Mike. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your Mom.##imported-begin##Kimberly Witkop##imported-end##*

October 31, 2007 at 04:32 PM



“ *My deepest sympathies to your family on the loss of Joe. May he rest in peace.##imported-begin##Paul Neugebauer##imported-end##*

October 31, 2007 at 10:22 AM



“ *We are so sorry for your loss. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. Love, Kate, Scott, Emma & Lauren##imported-begin##Kate & Scott McLear##imported-end##*

October 31, 2007 at 08:33 AM



“ You are in our thoughts and prayers during this time of loss. Stay Strong and know that you are cared about.

Tom & Jessica, Campbell & Cade.##imported-begin##Tom & Jessica Fregoe##imported-end##

October 30, 2007 at 09:14 PM



“ Mike (and Family) Don't let the sadness and the sense of loss over take the memories of your father that are still within your heart. He is not gone, he is still with you. Every time you miss him, your Dad will be with you##imported-begin##Ron Gurney##imported-end##

October 30, 2007 at 09:11 AM



“ Hi Mike - I'm praying for you and your family - when a man's work on Earth is done, he is called home to his reward - your Father is there now, preparing for the glorious reunion with all of you once again at the Lord's table - the circle of family is not broken, even if one link is temporarily missing. GOD BLESS##imported-begin##Eddie *Joey*##imported-end##

October 30, 2007 at 01:35 AM