



Judith E. "Judy" (Gilbert) Donato

September 9, 1944 - November 23, 2012

Mrs. Judith E. "Judy" (Gilbert) Donato, age 68, of Utica, passed away unexpectedly on Friday, November 23, 2012 at the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center with her loving family by her side.

Born in Utica on September 9, 1944, Judith was the daughter of the late Harold and Aileen (Bragg) Gilbert. She attended Utica Free Academy. On August 31, 1963 she married Theodore A. "Ted" Donato with whom she shared 49 years in a storybook union bound by everlasting love. Judy was a woman who watched over her family and ensured a warm, safe, and caring environment for her loved ones. Being a good matriarch was her first priority in life, and she was blessed with an invaluable wealth of family support.

Judy's maternal instincts made her a perfect match for her position with the Utica City School District, the job from which she retired. A kind and sensitive soul, Judy saw the good in people. Her house was the heart of her family; it was open to all, and was home to several generations. During her spare time, she enjoyed playing bingo. She loved family gatherings and holidays, especially Thanksgiving. She was a parishioner of St. Mary of Mt.

Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish.

Judy is survived by her beloved husband, Teddy; her son and daughter-in-law, Angelo and Tammy Donato of Whitesboro; her daughters, Aileen Steppello, Michele Damiano and Tom Fabbio, and Susan and Reggie Washington, all of Utica; her 15 grandchildren, Teddy, Christina, Angelo, Madalyn, Steven, Dominic, Sal, Jarron, Anthony, Brianna, Jakob, Nico, Jordan, Jayleen, Gia; a

great-granddaughter Cristiana; and one on the way that Judy anticipated with joy. Her extended family includes her sister, Juanita Kallassy; her much-loved nieces and nephews; her in-laws Mary Fiorentino, Connie and Anthony Scalise, and Sharon Gilbert; and her many dear friends she left behind. She was predeceased by her brothers, John Gilbert, and James Gilbert; her sister and brother-in-law, Janet and Bill Getman; and her brother-in-law, Michael A. Fiorentino.

The family is grateful to the staff of the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center and all Judy's family members and friends who offered their support. A special thank you is offered to Dr. Toby Taylor for all of his care and concern.

Visitation will be held Tuesday afternoon from 4:00-6:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Judy's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Wednesday morning at 11:00 at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish where her Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. James Cesta. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

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

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **27**. 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>

Tribute Wall



“ Eannace Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Judith E. "Judy" (Gilbert) Donato



Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. - November 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ Our deepest sympathy to the Donato family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.
Love, Michelle & Bill Lopiccolo

Michelle L Lopiccolo - November 27, 2012 at 05:19 PM

RP

“ Ralph A. Pastorelli lit a candle in memory of Judith E. "Judy" (Gilbert) Donato



Ralph A. Pastorelli - November 27, 2012 at 02:23 PM

RP

To Michele, Eileen, Angelo and whole family my thought's and prayers are with you and your family ..God Bless!

Ralph A. Pastorelli - November 27, 2012 at 02:26 PM



“ Michele and family, My heart breaks for all of you. She was a truly wonderful woman and I know how much she loved each and every one of you. Fran Laufer

Fran Laufer - November 27, 2012 at 12:57 PM



“ To the Donato & Gilbert Family,

My heart is filled with great sadness with the loss of Aunt Judy even though it has been so many years since I have seen many of you. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this difficult time. May you find comfort by the love of family and friends, near and far.

My Deepest Sympathies are with you ~ Lori (Gilbert) Dalton ~

Lori Dalton - November 27, 2012 at 12:52 PM



“ Lori Dalton lit a candle in memory of Judith E. "Judy" (Gilbert) Donato



Lori Dalton - November 27, 2012 at 12:41 PM

JJ

“ Room mothers. That's what they called teachers aids in the 70's. In those days they didn't just help you with math and reading. They hugged you, they offered an ear when you were having a bad time, they celebrated your successes and and brought you down gently when you failed. Mama Donato..... floods of memories, countless talks on the playground. Rain, snow, didn't matter. She was always there, catching every moment. What a beautiful human being. I feel so fortunate to have known her, lucky to have had her as my room mom. My very best to all of you during this most difficult time. Johnny Piazza

John Piazza Jr. - November 27, 2012 at 12:58 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Judith E. "Judy" (Gilbert) Donato.



November 26, 2012 at 10:58 AM

AS

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



aileen steppello - November 26, 2012 at 09:49 AM

RL

she will always be by your side Aileen.....just look over your shoulder...she is there.

Raylene,Samantha Candace Lubey - November 26, 2012 at 05:58 PM

ML

*This is a great photo Aileen. My heart goes out to you and yours. Love,
Michelle Lopiccolo*

Michelle L Lopiccolo - November 27, 2012 at 05:32 PM



“ *I just wanted to let you know my thoughts are with you all through this heartbreaking time. Nothing I can say will ease the pain but just wanted you to know I am thinking of you and am here to help in any way. I have so many wonderful childhood memories with my Aunt Judy and the entire Donato family.*

We are all lucky to have known such a loving and caring person.

John Kallassy - November 26, 2012 at 09:41 AM

LS

“ *Lorina Lynn Steppello lit a candle in memory of Judith E. "Judy" (Gilbert) Donato*



Lorina Lynn Steppello - November 26, 2012 at 09:27 AM

RD

“ *Sue, you and your entire family are in our thoughts and prayers.*

Love, Bo and Robin DeMarco

Robin DeMarco - November 26, 2012 at 08:52 AM

RA

“ *Raylene lit a candle in memory of Judith E. "Judy" (Gilbert) Donato*



Raylene - November 26, 2012 at 07:01 AM

AS

“ *Aileen Steppello sent a virtual gift in memory of Judith E. "Judy" (Gilbert) Donato*



aileen steppello - November 25, 2012 at 10:38 PM

AS

“ *Aileen Steppello lit a candle in memory of Judith E. "Judy" (Gilbert) Donato*



aileen steppello - November 25, 2012 at 10:37 PM

MS

“ *Mae And Paul Smith lit a candle in memory of Judith E. "Judy" (Gilbert) Donato*



Mae and Paul Smith - November 25, 2012 at 07:47 PM

MS

Tammy and Angelo, We are so sorry for your loss. You and your family will be kept in our thoughts and prayers. GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

Mae and Paul Smith - November 25, 2012 at 07:50 PM

JD

“ *Nanny, i know you're looking over all of us right now.. I miss you and i love you.. Ill see you soon. Im cooking Thanksgiving dinner next time i see you.. </3*

Jarron Donato - November 25, 2012 at 05:22 PM



“ *1 file added to the album MOM*



susan washington - November 25, 2012 at 11:21 AM

RA

what a wonderful picture of two loving sisters.....great picture susie

Raylene - November 26, 2012 at 06:58 AM

AM

“ *My condolences to Sue and her entire family. Be strong through this difficult time.*

Arnela Mihajlovic - November 25, 2012 at 10:32 AM

BR

“ *Nonnie, we all love and miss you. You will be in our hearts forever. Love, Breezy*

Bri - November 25, 2012 at 10:31 AM

MD

“ Mom, you have left a hole in my heart, but I know I will see you again. I love and miss you.
XOXO Missy

Michele Damiano - November 25, 2012 at 10:29 AM

DB

“ To the Donato Family,

I'm so sorry for your loss. My prayers are with you and your family.
May she rest in peace.

Debbie Barbero - November 25, 2012 at 09:48 AM



“ Mommy I miss you. I am heartbroken without you. I love you.

November 25, 2012 at 09:26 AM

AS

Thank you Mom for making me the mother that I became . You will always be with me and my boys . Cant smile without you !
Aileen Elizabeth and sons

aileen steppello - November 25, 2012 at 10:36 PM

LS

My sincerely condolences to the entire family. God bless you all.
Lorina Steppello

Lorina Lynn Steppello - November 26, 2012 at 09:23 AM

GJ

Ted, We are so sorry for your loss. Please accept our deepest condolences..Gene & Valeri DiFondi

Gene A DiFondi Jr - November 27, 2012 at 08:38 AM

PW

There is a place in my life and heart that only my dear Aunt Judy could fill. As memories of the love and the laughter that we have shared over the years flood my thoughts, I am reminded over and over of the special gift that her life was to me. She will be missed.

Patty Wharram

Patty Wharram - November 27, 2012 at 08:59 AM

MW

So sorry for your loss. Judy was a colleague and a friend. We had a lot of fun together in our classrooms at Columbus and Jefferson Schools. She truly loved "our" kids, and I will never forget her kindness and good heart.

MaryAnn Wilkinson - November 27, 2012 at 07:43 PM

DQ

And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins. "

Don Q - November 28, 2012 at 09:47 AM