



## Mr. Kenneth R. Zayas

October 30, 1951 - April 28, 2026

UTICA – Mr. Kenneth R. Zayas, age 74, went home to be with the Lord on Tuesday, April 28, 2026, surrounded by his loved ones.

Born in the Town of Sodus, NY, on October 30, 1951, Kenneth was the son of the late Manuel and Anita (Irizarry-Molina) Zayas. As a young child, he resided in Brooklyn with his family before relocating to the Utica area, where he remained a lifelong resident. His family was proud to be among the first Puerto Rican families to settle locally, and Kenneth carried on that legacy by helping many other families become established in the community. He attended Utica Free Academy.

Kenneth proudly served his country as a member of the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. Following his military service, he pursued a wide range of studies at Mohawk Valley Community College, including electricity, welding, small engine repair, plumbing, HVAC, and carpentry. A Marine through and through, he carried that same discipline and determination throughout his life.

Kenneth shared a loving relationship with the late Eneida Bermudez, with whom he was blessed with two sons. He was later united in marriage with Stephanie Gutowski, and from that union came the blessing of three daughters.

Kenneth was a true jack of all trades, known for his vast knowledge and his willingness to help others. Over the years, he held positions with several local companies, including Lenox Heating, Vinny Ficci Heating and Cooling, Mid-State Sign Company, and Durante Signs, where he worked as a welder.

He was a selfless and generous man, always giving of his time and talents. A prominent member of the Latino community, he took great pride in helping others. He enjoyed dining at his favorite restaurant, Sabor Latino, where he appreciated the warmth of the staff—especially Julia—and proudly considered himself a “foodie.”

Kenneth was an avid lottery player and enjoyed the outdoors, especially fishing and camping with his loved ones. He also held a deep appreciation for his Catholic faith and enjoyed attending mass at Historic Old St. John’s Church and at St. Francis De Sales Church.

He was known for his practical nature and often reminded those around him with his familiar phrase: “Shut the lights off!”

Lovingly remembered as a devoted father, grandfather, brother, and friend, Kenneth was deeply cherished by all who knew him. He will be fondly remembered as someone who now “fishes the lakes in Heaven” alongside his beloved uncle, the late Philip Irizarry.

He is survived by his daughters, Kristy and her husband Jim Hale, Missy A. and Milton A. Argueta, and AnnMarie Zayas (Paci); and sons, Kenneth R. Zayas, and Antonio R. Zayas. Kenneth was blessed with many grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sisters, Anna and her husband Scott Withers, the late Diane Ruiz-Zayas, TyTy Zayas, and Renita Zayas; brothers, Salvador Zayas, Richel Zayas and his wife Karen,

Audey Zayas and his wife Wanda, Gary Zayas, and Renie Zayas; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews.

The family extends heartfelt gratitude to the staff at Wynn Hospital, especially 5 East, for their compassion and care.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Final Prayers and a Blessing will commence at 6:00 p.m. at the funeral home.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 5. 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>

## Final Prayer

MAY 5. 6:00 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.  
932 South Street  
corner of Hammond Ave.  
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# Tribute Wall

AC

“ Ashley Carrasco purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mr. Kenneth R. Zayas.



Ashley Carrasco - May 05 at 04:54 PM

HF

“ Hernan Rivera and Family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mr. Kenneth R. Zayas.



Hernan Rivera and Family - May 04 at 09:36 PM

NT

“ Loving memories of a cousin who was loved throughout his lifetime. Though we lived miles apart the love that is in my heart for the family will never die. We will all be together again with our loved ones gone before us. Peace be to the family during this difficult time. I was blessed to have spoken to him and kept in touch until the end. Those are the memories that will live in my heart forever. Much love to all Cousin Nidza and family

Nidza (Zayas) Thomas - May 04 at 01:58 AM



Sorry for the lost of one of the best family member that always that never forgot his heritage to family near and far will always be remembered 💙😭 R.I.P.New Jersey family

.p.

Luis Fraticelli - May 04 at 06:13 PM

RF

“ My deepest sympathy to the entire zayas family. Kenny had a loving heart and a beautiful smile. Rest ezy my friend. From Rosana Morales flores and family 🙏❤️



Rosa Flores - May 03 at 06:18 PM

PI

“ Phil and Carol Irizarry purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mr. Kenneth R. Zayas.



Phil and Carol Irizarry - May 03 at 06:39 AM

FC

“ I am at a loss for words learning of the loss of my long-time friend Kenny. I am glad that I had the opportunity to visit him several times and talk about old times and bring him his favorite foods. And he loved my brownies! I am so sorry I can't be with you all during this time as I am in Italy visiting my family. I send my sincerest condolences to the family. Que en paz descanse, querido amigo. ❤️ 🙏

Frankito Calaprice - May 03 at 01:49 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Kenneth R. Zayas.



May 03 at 12:57 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Kenneth R. Zayas.

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May 03 at 12:57 AM