



Attorney Kevin B. Blaney

July 21, 1940 - March 13, 2022

UTICA – Attorney Kevin B. Blaney, peacefully passed away Sunday, March 13, 2022, with those he loved most in his heart.

Kevin was born in Hudson Falls, NY, on July 21, 1940, to the late Edward and Margaret (Lavey) Blaney. He was raised and educated in Utica, graduating from St. Francis de Sales High School. From there, Kevin studied Pre-Law at Boston College, where he earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1962. He then went on to obtain his Juris Doctor Degree from Syracuse University School of Law. Kevin proudly served his country with the U.S. Army.

On March 22, 1985, Kevin married the love of his life, Marilyn (Roberta) Sansone. The couple was blessed with a lovely family, and in his later years, Kevin proudly bore the title given him by his family: “WORLD’S BEST GRANDPA.”

As an attorney, Kevin enjoyed a prestigious and long-time career as a Public Defender for Oneida County. One of Kevin’s greatest accomplishments was spearheading the Drug Court of Oneida County of which he was a founding member. He remained in this position for over forty years. He proudly taught law seminars periodically at NYU Law School.

A community-minded man, Kevin was often involved in local-area organizations that give back to others. He was a member of the New Hartford American Legion Post 1376, as well as the Masonic Temple Utica Lodge #47 F. & A.M.

In his leisure time, he turned to his favorite hobbies; woodworking, target

shooting, traveling for many years – especially as snowbirds to Florida finding the bedroom community of Cape Coral to be his favorite, as well as many other destinations. As life went on, he so enjoyed spending time with his beloved grandchildren.

Kevin is survived by his cherished wife, Marilyn (Roberta) Blaney; his daughters and sons-in-law, Margaret Blaney and her husband Dustin Manning of Rochester, Elizabeth and Daniel McCusker of Penfield, Sheila and Daryl Casler of Farmington, and Janene and Phil Tirado of New Hartford. Kevin always carried close to his heart the memory of his son, Matthew Blaney, who passed in 1972 as an infant. Kevin's memory will also be cherished by his grandchildren, Caroline and Patrick Nessler, Joseph McCusker, Mallory Casler, twins Christopher McCusker, and Matthew McCusker, Mason Casler, twins Alex Tirado, and Alena Tirado; as well as his "canine" Lola. He is also survived by his sister, Maureen Flanagan of Fairport.

The family wishes to express a heartfelt "thank you" to the staff and care providers at the Wilmont Cancer Center, Rochester, especially to Dr. Bushra Tbakhi and the seventh-floor staff. In recognizing the kindness and the mission of the Abraham House in Utica, memorial contributions in Kevin's honor may be made to this organization, online at <https://www.theabrahamhouse.org/donate>.

The family honored and commemorated Kevin's life at a private time.

Tribute Wall

TW

“ I didn't know Kevin very well only remember our time in St. Francis de Sales Grammar School. The very first day that I was an alter boy in sixth grade he served with me on the alter. I was very nervous and he was experienced and helped me navigate through the mass. It's a small memory but something that I never forgot it. RIP my fellow classmate.

Tom Walker - March 24, 2022 at 08:22 AM

SG

“ *Marilyn and Family*
Heartfelt sympathy and prayers for Kevin and you, his family. Steve Graham

steve graham - March 20, 2022 at 11:33 PM

KN

“ It was an honor to work with Kevin, one of the nicest guys ever, I had the privilege of working with him at City Hall & the Oneida County Public Defenders Office. Kevin will be sorely missed, I am a lucky woman to have worked along side with him, Rest In Peace, I will see you on the other side, my friend. Love, Kate Eichler Nicoletta

Kate Eichler Nicoletta - March 20, 2022 at 10:12 AM

KS

“ I worked at the Oneida County Correctional Facility for many years and remember Atty. Blaney very well. A very compassionate man for sure. Condolences and blessings for all who will miss him. I am certain he is in the presence of God enjoying eternal life.

Karen Szczesniak - March 20, 2022 at 09:11 AM

DB

“ Marilyn,

I am so sorry for your loss. Sending you thoughts of comfort and peace.

Deb Bunger

Deb Bunger - March 19, 2022 at 09:25 PM

CM

“ Dearest Marilyn and family,

I am deeply sorry for the loss of your husband Kevin. Although I didn't know him well, I knew you for over 50 years and he must have been a good man to be in your life. Sending my love and prayers for your strength needed at this difficult time 🙏❤️



Cheryl Mond - March 19, 2022 at 09:27 AM

DW

“ Dawn Divens Walker

One of my best memories of Kevin was from my childhood. I have been friends with Janene for 44 years so of course I have many memories but there is one in particular that stands out the most. One summer Kevin invited me to come on their family vacation up north. This was so exciting to me because Janene and I were like peas and carrots. We did pretty much everything together. That vacation we went to Lake Placid and then he took us to Santas Northpole. We had such a great day at Santas North Pole. During that trip he also took us to the St. Lawrence seaway, I can remember that was the first time I actually saw a ship with containers. After we left the Seaway we stopped near Fort Ticonderoga and he bought us a baguette and some cheese. It's funny how when you get older you realize that out of all things we did during that trip, sitting under the tree and eating that baguette and cheese was one of my best memories I had with Janene when we were younger. In fact we still would talk about it every so often how much fun that trip was. He really made sure we had a great vacation. Including me on that trip meant a lot to me and to Janene. During the years I didn't get to see him as much. But when I did we always had such pleasant conversations. He was always very kind to me.

My heart goes out to Marilyn, I am thinking about you especially. You and the rest of the family are in my thoughts and prayers.

Dawn Diven Walker - March 18, 2022 at 03:24 PM

JB

“ Kevin was a long standing member of the “Breakfast Club”. I enjoyed talking with him then. Firing guns at Phils. Whatever he said was worthy. I will miss him.

jeff blovat - March 17, 2022 at 09:18 PM

CP

“ I practiced with Kevin for a short time, but what I remember most is, as an SU law student, interviewing him for a criminal justice class that I was taking. He was, always, a gentleman and a sweetheart. Please accept my condolences for this huge loss.

~Chris Pelli

Christopher Jude Pelli - March 17, 2022 at 05:10 PM

DW

One of my best memories of Kevin was from my childhood. I have been friends with Janene for 44 years so of course I have many memories but there is one in particular that stands out the most. One summer Kevin invited me to come on their family vacation up north. This was so exciting to me because Janene and I were like peas and carrots. We did pretty much everything together. That vacation we went to Lake Placid and then he took us to Santa's North Pole. We had such a great day at Santa's North Pole. During that trip he also took us to the St. Lawrence seaway, I can remember that was the first time I actually saw a ship with containers. After we left the Seaway we stopped near Fort Ticonderoga and he bought us a baguette and some cheese. It's funny how when you get older you realize that out of all things we did during that trip, sitting under the tree and eating that baguette and cheese was one of my best memories I had with Janene when we were younger. In fact we still would talk about it every so often how much fun that trip was. He really made sure we had a great vacation. Including me on that trip meant a lot to me and to Janene. During the years I didn't get to see him as much. But when I did we always had such pleasant conversations. He was always very kind to me.

My heart goes out to Marilyn, I am thinking about you especially. You and the rest of the family are in my thoughts and prayers.

Dawn Diven Walker - March 18, 2022 at 03:01 PM

LP

“ *Lisa & Stephen Parker lit a candle in memory of Attorney Kevin B. Blaney*



Lisa & Stephen Parker - March 17, 2022 at 10:03 AM

MA

“ *Marcey lit a candle in memory of Attorney Kevin B. Blaney*



Marcey - March 17, 2022 at 08:35 AM

JT

“ *Janene Tirado lit a candle in memory of Attorney Kevin B. Blaney*



Janene Tirado - March 16, 2022 at 09:04 PM