

Leonard A. Benedetto

February 18, 1922 - February 1, 2007

Mr. Leonard A. "Lenny" Benedetto, age 84, of Utica, passed away on Thursday, February 1, 2007, with his loving family by his side.

Born in Utica on February 18, 1922, Leonard was the son of the late Leonard M. and Theresa M. (Fanelli) Benedetto. Raised and educated in Utica, he was a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School. A proud U.S. Marine, he participated in the action at Iwo Jima and the Asian Pacific areas and was the recipient of two Purple Hearts. He lived by the motto "Once a Marine, Always a Marine". It was in St. Agnes Church on April 15, 1944 that Rev. Luke V. Galliger officiated his marriage to the former Yolanda Viti. He was blessed with a wonderful wife and their relationship was based on their trust, commitment, and loyalty to each other.

He and his brothers co-owned and operated Merchants Delivery Service which was affiliated with the Boston Store. Prior to his retirement, he became the manager of the Receiving Department of the Boston Store. The community also knew of Len's association with the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., as he appreciated the later part of his working years.

Lenny's greatest virtues were his loyalty and humility. His wife was his priority in life, and his family life his greatest focus. He was always supportive, and was a great example to his children. He was humbly proud of his grandchildren who respected him to the very end. His camp at Sylvan Beach was a source of meaningful family gatherings. He was also known as a "Mr. Fix-It." As a patriotic citizen, he was a member of several civic, social, and

military groups. With a devotion to his Catholic faith, he volunteered as an usher and served as a Eucharistic Minister at his home parish of Blessed Sacrament Church. He was more recently a communicant of St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish.

Lenny is survived by his loving wife, Yo; his daughter and son-in-law, Lenora Ann and Thomas Trevisani of Utica; and his son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Rose Benedetto of the Town of Russia. Also surviving are his adored grandchildren, Nicole and Steven Mauro, Michael and Kim Benedetto, Joseph and Jennifer Trevisani, Brigitt and Johnny Lavigne, Marco and Nicole Benedetto, Anne Marie Trevisani, Catherine and Patrick Masters, and Paul Hafenecker; his 11 great-grandchildren; his brother and sister-in-law, George J. and Mary Benedetto of Utica; his many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and godchildren; and his in-laws, Carmella and Anthony Rosato of Whitesboro, and Victor and Dorothy Viti of Florida. Lenny was also blessed with many beloved friends. He was predeceased by his sister, Antoinette Benedetto; his brother and sister-in-law, Angelo J. and Norma Benedetto; his nephews, Leonard Michael Benedetto, James "Jamie" Benedetto, Robert Benedetto and Kenneth Ciaiola; and his in-laws, Guy L., Sr. and Rosalind Viti, and Antoinette and Daniel Ciaiola.

Heartfelt thanks are extended to the nurses and aides at the St. Elizabeth Medical Center 3rd floor, the loving caregivers of the St. Joseph Nursing Home, as well as all who were affiliated with Lenny's care. They all provided him and his family with outstanding and loving regard.

Visitation will be held Sunday (today) from 2-5 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. The D.A.V. Stars & Stripes will assemble at the funeral home at 4:30 for ritualistic services. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Lenny's Mass of Christian Burial to be celebrated with US Marine Military Honors on Monday morning at 11:30 at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish at Mt. Carmel Church. He will be placed to rest at Calvary Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Tribute Wall



“ *lenora, i am so sorry about your father! i was actually looking for any information on karen montrose and saw your dads name.....i was shocked! we talked in oct. and you were so upset about him being sick. i did not know he passed away! i feel terrible. please drop me an e-mail. love, peggy##imported-begin##peggy cormie##imported-end##*

May 20, 2007 at 09:50 AM



“ Dear Nonni,

I have spent much of the last several days trying to find a way to express the sadness and hurt when learning of Gramps passing. Gramp was a true gentleman, a wonderful husband, father, grandfather and as always a true Marine. The mourning process allowed me the time to remember all the special times we shared together. Sitting at the dining room table and listening to stories I have heard at least more than once about the landing on Iwo Jima, or when he and his cousin were driving around Hawaii in the Generals car they weren't supposed to be in. Every time I heard those stories, I smiled knowing what a great man I had the privilege of hearing them from. Or watching him fall asleep in the chair when you were visiting in Italy, and him never admitting that he was sleeping when you called his name to wake him up. Watching him play UNO with Joey and never once winning a game, so he could tell his great grandson he was the UNO champion of the world. I was fortunate to spend a very special time with both of you when you came to Washington DC for the dedication of the WWII memorial. We all know how much his service and time spent in the Marines meant to him. I think being there with him, watching his country recognize the heroic efforts of the men that fought, truly put him at peace with what he experienced and fought for. Those memories are ones I think of often and will keep close to my heart. Somehow in the short time I had the honor of knowing him, I felt that he and I shared a very special bond. He made me feel like I was one of his grandkids, and that is something I will always be grateful for. During this time of sorrow, I am fortunate to have the example of love and family that you both shared, to help guide me to become a better person, husband and father. Gramp has become a part of me; I will take him with me wherever I go, as I know you will. I am very sorry I missed the services; it was very difficult for me not to be there to share this difficult time with you and the rest of the family. Nonni, my thoughts and prayers are with you and the family as we all try to find our way with out the guiding light we have all grown accustomed to having in Gramp. The next time you visit with Gramp

please let that Marine know that he has done his duty and it's time for him to rest, we have assumed the watch and will make him proud. He will know exactly what I mean,

Semper Fi !

Love Steven##imported-begin##Steven##imported-end##

February 09, 2007 at 09:42 PM



“ *Dear Michael,
We were sad to hear about Lenny, we have such great memories of growing up on James St.- Shooting hoops in the back yard and eating sausage in the oil and delivering papers early on Sunday mornings. Please give your family or condolences and feel free to keep in touch.*

Angelo, Albert and Suzie##imported-begin##Angelo Saladino and Family##imported-end##

February 08, 2007 at 08:40 PM



“ *Yolanda and Family,*

Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Take comfort in each other. Lenny was a terrific gentlemen, happy, positive and so full of life. He was so genuinely happy to see us each time we visited Utica. He was always interested in what was going on in our lives. We have many good memories of everyone sitting around Attie Norma and Uncle Angelo's kitchen table talking, laughing, eating (of course) and enjoying life.

With Deepest Sympathy,

Mark, Kristen and Cameron Herrin##imported-begin##Mark, Kristen and Cameron Herrin##imported-end##

February 07, 2007 at 07:35 PM



“ *Dave and I are so sorry for your loss. Uncle Lenny will be missed. You are all in our prayers and thoughts.##imported-begin##Kim ##imported-end##*

February 05, 2007 at 09:19 AM



“ *Rest In Peace Uncle Lenny,*

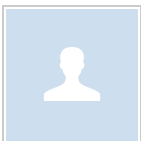
We will always remember the many family gatherings at your home and the lifelong lessons learned. You truly were a great mentor and especially skilled at getting your point across with humor. Never to be forgotten.

Aunt Yo and cousins Michael and Lenora and the rest of the family, our thoughts and prayers are with you.

With Love,

Bob and Henrietta Viti##imported-begin##Bob & Henrietta Viti##imported-end##

February 04, 2007 at 12:36 PM



“ *Yolanda, Lenora and Mike,my deepest sympathy to you and your families.Lenny was a true gentleman in every sense and it was an honor to have known him. Sincerely, Pete Cucci##imported-begin##Peter Cucci##imported-end##*

February 04, 2007 at 12:00 PM



“ Lenny, a true gentleman by any definition and a role model. Lenny was straight arrow honest what a tribute in this day and age. Rest in peace.

To Yolanda and your extended family our sympathies.

Janet and Bill Chanatry##imported-begin##Bill Chanatry##imported-end##

February 04, 2007 at 11:44 AM



“ Dear Mrs. Bennedetto & Family,
On behalf of my mother, Mary DeNigro and myself we are very sorry to hear of the loss of Mr. Bennedetto. We extend our deepest sympathy and will keep all of you in our prayers. Mary Hosey and Mary DeNigro##imported-begin##Mary DeNigro Hosey##imported-end##

February 04, 2007 at 11:32 AM



“ So sorry to hear about Lenny's passing. We have fond memories of summers at the "Beach" with all the kids. John remembers all the projects with Lenny, Louie & Uncle Charlie. Unfortunately we will not be able to attend the services as John is out of town on business. Our deepest sympathy goes out to your family.

God Bless!

John & Carolyn McTiernan##imported-begin##John & Carolyn McTiernan##imported-end##

February 03, 2007 at 07:43 PM



“ Dear Yolanda, Lenore & Tommy, and Mike & Rose,
We were very saddened to hear of the death of Lenny. He was a fine man and we are sure will be very much missed by your family. Our thoughts & prayers are with you.
Love, Butch & Marie###imported-begin##Marie & Butch Viti-Florida###imported-end##

February 03, 2007 at 01:49 PM



“ Dear Sweet Yolanda,
and Dear Benedetto Family,

Fond memories always of Leonard will warm our hearts forever.

Each of you are an extension of this loyal and gentle man; his strong and caring character will continue to bless us.
He loved his family and his friends and will be watching over each of you.

Each time spent with him at a family gathering was always warm and welcoming. Lenny's words of wisdom and his kind and gentle ways are everlasting. At times without a word you could hear him speak through his eyes and smile.

We were blessed to have spent moments with Lenny and pray that all of you will be "carried" gently through your time of sorrow.

With Memories and prayers for all that will miss this great man!

Keith, Tamara & Family
Irene and Joseph Lavigne
Kevin, Lisa, and Beth Lavigne###imported-begin##The Lavigne Family###imported-end##

February 03, 2007 at 01:10 PM



“ Mrs. Benedetto,
I am so sorry for you, your children, and your grandchildren. I know this is a big loss to all of you. You are in our thoughts.
Patty & Pat Seeberger
(Brigitt's friends)###imported-begin###Patty Seeberger###imported-end##

February 03, 2007 at 01:05 PM



“ lenora,tom and family michael and rose and family and to a very special yolanda so sorry to hear about lenny.he was a very special person and for all who knew him will be greatly missed.my prayers are with you all. love angela and joe and family.###imported-begin###angela flo###imported-end##

February 03, 2007 at 11:14 AM



“ Dear Yolanda and and family. I am Uncle Danny Ciaiola's niece, George's daughter and Fanme is George's widow. I am so sorry I cannot make calling hours but I just got home from having bladder cancer surgery and am housebound. Please accept my sincerest sympathy.###imported-begin###Marie Giglio and Fannie Ciaiola###imported-end##

February 03, 2007 at 10:22 AM



“ *My deepest sympathy on the passing of Leonard. Our family has suffered a major loss. His warm smile and friendly demeanor will always be remembered. God Bless your family at his sad time.*

Victor J. Fariello Jr.##imported-begin##Victor J. Fariello Jr.##imported-end##

February 02, 2007 at 11:42 PM



“ *Mrs Benedetto, I am very sorry for you loss. My prayers and thoughts are with you and your entire famiky. I very very fond memories of Lenny, I can truley say he wa one of the nicest guys I have ever met. My mom told me about his passing this morning, I now live in Rochester and I am sorry I will not be able to make his services. He will truley be missed. I am thinking of you Mrs Benedetto and your family. God Bless. Patty McCarthy (one of the twins)##imported-begin##Patty MccCarthy##imported-end##*

February 02, 2007 at 05:29 PM



“ *Mrs. Benedetto and Family. I was so sorry to hear the passing of Mr. Benedetto. It was a privilege living directly across the street from him my entire life as a child. He was the best neighbor and friend. I will always remember as a kid each morning, in the summertime he would take Yo and me to work and back from the County Building because I held a summer job there.. He treated me as one of his own grandchildren. I always had great respect for Mr and Mrs Benedetto, I admire them as a couple. My trips to Utica, from New Jersey will not be the same. I will miss Mr. Benedetto
Our Love and Sympthany goes out to your beautiful family..
Bernadette, Jim Deanna, and Johnny.*

*PS. Please kiss Tammy for me.##imported-begin##Bernadette
Filipelli-Jackson##imported-end##*

February 02, 2007 at 01:16 PM