



Mrs. Linda A. "Linda Lou" "Nana" (Murphy) Otero

October 18, 1938 - December 13, 2025

UTICA – Mrs. Linda A. “Linda Lou” “Nana” (Murphy) Otero, age 87, peacefully entered heaven on Saturday, December 13, 2025, into the open arms of her beloved parents, son, grandson, and many other family members, with those she loved most by her side. Her husband, Fred, devotedly visited her every day until her final moment.

Born in Roanoke Rapids, NC, on October 18, 1938, Linda was the daughter of the late William and Dorothy (Hale) Murphy. As a young girl, she and her family relocated to the Utica area, where she later graduated from T.R. Proctor High School.

Linda married Fernando A. “Fred” Otero on February 4, 1956. Their relationship began with laughter-filled phone conversations, as they did not speak the same language. Over time, they taught one another, fell deeply in love, and built a family of four beautiful children, two sons and two daughters. They embraced life in the wild together, from camping and boating to skiing in the winter months. Their family spent so much time on the island at Hinckley Lake that many believed they owned it. Together, they overcame life’s many adversities and became the kind of couple so many aspired to be. Linda stood faithfully by her husband’s side, and in the hearts of all who knew them, they existed only as a pair. Their timeless love was truly remarkable. The couple spent an accomplished 70 years “dancing in the kitchen.”

Linda was employed by the General Electric Co. for a time before transitioning to Lockheed Martin, where she worked as a dedicated technician until her retirement. She also ventured into sales as a representative for both Tupperware and Herbalife, winning a 1976 Pinto for achieving the highest sales. A tireless worker, Linda was always helping others, from babysitting to serving as a home health aide. No matter how hard or long she worked each day, she made sure dinner was on the table at 5:00 p.m.

Devoted to her role as matriarch, Linda found delight in the kitchen and was a fantastic cook. She embodied true hospitality from the moment company arrived until they left, instilling that same spirit in her children. She was caring, thoughtful, and always did what she believed was right. Social by nature, Linda was a loyal friend and trusted confidant to many until the very end. Even at the nursing home, she was affectionately known as the “party girl.” Linda could turn any moment or conversation into a song and dance, bringing joy and laughter to those around her. She adored her grandchildren like no other, spending as much time with them as possible and seeing them as capable of doing no wrong. Linda was content with all the blessings life had afforded her.

Linda truly loved to listen, dance, and sing along to Spanish and country western music, especially artists such as Dolly Parton, Charley Pride, and Hank Williams Jr., whose song “Family Tradition” she particularly enjoyed. She was proud to have acclimated to Spanish culture and become a prominent member of the Utica Spanish Club. Linda and Fred were one of four couples who were always together, sharing meals and supporting one another. She touched the lives of everyone she met and had a strong sense of community, always joining in the conversation with a 7-7 in hand. She also felt blessed to have developed a strong connection with her niece, Matilde Irizarry, who played a primary role in teaching Linda about Spanish culture and cuisine. Linda had a protective, loving nature, especially toward her children,

doing her best to ensure a beautiful life for them.

Linda was a deeply spiritual and religious person. A devoted parishioner of Historic Old St. John's Church, she took pride in her Catholic heritage, instilled her faith in her family, and generously volunteered 20 years at the Bazaar Festival.

Linda had a playful way of speaking, often beginning her sentences with phrases like, "Oh, for crying out loud," or "Oh, for God's sake, Freddy."

Linda is survived by her spouse, Fred; children and their loves, Felicia Otero, Dorothy and Paul Palumbo, and Richard Otero and Todd Gonyea; grandchildren, Mason Otero and Elizabeth Kiehl-Otero, and Malena Palumbo. She cherished the memories of her son, Michael Otero, as well as her grandson, Michael Paul Palumbo, both of whom preceded her. She is also survived by her great-grandson, Jace Palumbo; and brother, Donald Murphy. She fondly remembered her sister and brother-in-law, Joan and Carl Coniglio, and her brother, William Murphy, who passed away before her. She is additionally survived by hundreds of nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and in-laws. A special mention is made of her niece, Cyndi Zambino-LaClair, great-niece, Kari Macero, and nephew, the late Derek Macero. She is also survived by her best friend Rosie Nelson and her family, and the Gagnon family. She was additionally predeceased by her father-in-law and mother-in-law, Sotero and Felicita (Sepulveda) Otero Adrovet.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the entire staff of Hawthorn House at the Charles T. Sitrin Health Care Center for their compassionate care of Linda over the past nearly two years.

Visitation will be held on Sunday, December 21, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Those unable to attend may be present virtually at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82617982231>. In lieu of floral offerings, memorial contributions in Linda's honor may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital online at www.stjude.org/donate or the Alzheimer's Association, Central New York Chapter online at www.alz.org/centralnewyork; envelopes will also be available at the funeral home. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Linda's Mass of Christian Burial and Celebration of Life, which will commence on Monday, December 22, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at Historic Old St. John's Church, 240 Bleecker St. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **21**. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.
932 South Street
corner of Hammond Ave.
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 724-6714
eannacefh@roadrunner.com

Funeral Service

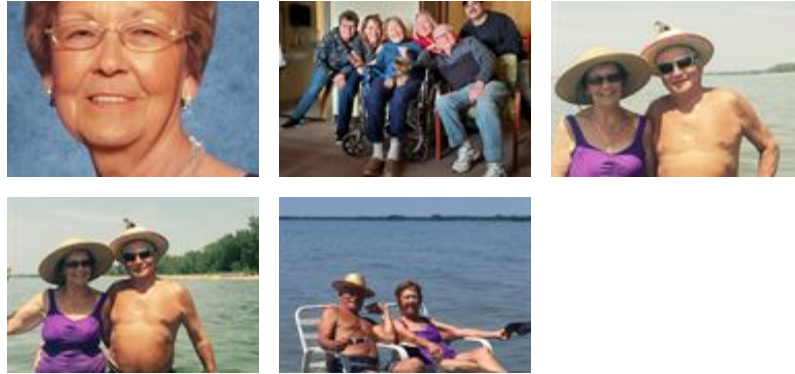
DEC **22**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Historic Old St. John's Church
240 Bleecker Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 724-6159
<https://www.historicoldstjohnschurch.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ 270 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. - December 18, 2025 at 06:29 PM

CD

“ Cathy Drew-Egan lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Linda A. "Linda Lou" "Nana" (Murphy) Otero



Cathy Drew-Egan - December 17, 2025 at 12:52 PM

CD

My Deepest condolences to entire family and Aunt Rosie. So many beautiful memories . You're all in my thoughts and prayers ❤️🙏❤️🙏

Cathy Drew-Egan - December 17, 2025 at 12:53 PM

SG

“ *Freddy and family please accept my sincere condolences on the passing of Linda. I pray for her soul to rest in eternal peace and perpetual light shine upon her. May God grant peace and comfort during this difficult time.*

Always, Sissy George 🙏💜🙏

Sandra R George - December 16, 2025 at 08:19 PM

MC

“ *So many memories from years past of Linda and Freddy. She was a sweet beautiful person and will be missed. Mary Lou Cavaretta*



Mzry lou Cavaretta - December 16, 2025 at 03:45 PM