



Mrs. Linda A. (Ryan) Denato

April 20, 1951 - January 19, 2026

UTICA – Mrs. Linda A. (Ryan) Denato, age 74, passed away peacefully on Monday, January 19, 2026.

Born in Utica on April 20, 1951, Linda was the daughter of the late James Edward Jr. and Ann Marie (Gottuso) Ryan. She was a proud graduate of T. R. Proctor High School, Class of 1968. She then furthered her studies at MVCC, where she received a medical assistant certification.

It was in high school on Flag Day, June 14, 1968, that she met the love of her life, Louis D. Denato, at a friend's house, followed by a CYO dance at St. Agnes Church. Her smile locked the deal and the two were united in holy matrimony on May 9, 1970 - they shared a loving and devoted union for 55 years, creating beautiful family memories. Their family was built on a strong foundation and continued until Linda's last day. She provided unwavering support to her husband and children.

Professionally, Linda wore many hats and held a variety of jobs while simultaneously having her four children over the span of 16 years from 1970-1986.

After high school, she briefly worked at Dodge Graphic Press as a receptionist and later joined the advertising department at the Observer-Dispatch.

Following that she worked at Dr. Albert Altongy's dental office, served as a

nursing assistant at Eastern Star Nursing Home, and worked at St. Elizabeth Hospital's medical records department. Later, she found her passion providing private home care and housekeeping services to the elderly. She loved caring for her clients and helping them to maintain their dignity in their own homes. For a short period of time, she even worked with her family running a pizzeria franchise which she loved.

Though she held many jobs over the years, her crowning achievement was her family. This was where she truly shone and put in the most work. She was a traditionalist with strong family values. Her efforts were concentrated and it showed. She was a consummate professional homemaker who made her house a home for everyone. Her finest traits and virtues were on display when she was with her family. One of her greatest blessings was becoming a grandmother, and she carried her wonderful motherly skills into the next generation.

Linda loved to laugh and had a way of making every moment more enjoyable. She loved to dance to '80s music with her husband, especially Hall & Oates. If a song had a beat, she was on the dance floor. They were the quintessential dance couple. She loved nothing more than being a supportive mother to all her children in their endeavors, especially at hockey games. She never missed ice time, she could always be seen cheering loudest of all the fellow hockey parents, many of whom became fast friends. When her children had any life issues she would tell them, "keep on keeping on." She was one of the first females to join the young men's organization the Utica Jaycees.

Linda is survived by her beloved husband, Louis; children and their spouses, Marialena A. and Stash Zielinski, Suzanne Denato and Kenny Gotte, Louis D. Denato, Jr. and Erin Vetter, and Nicholas J. and Melissa Denato; grandchildren, Amanda Talerico and her fiancé Cody Stone, Joseph Talerico, Sydney Zielinski; Lynde Schultz III, Sierra Schultz and Matthew Hall; Araya

and Bill Rust; Cameron Denato, and Caiden Denato; and great-grandchildren, Cleo, Ellie Grace, Delilah Rose, Lainey Lynn, and the anticipation of her fifth great-grandchild expected in June. She held close to her heart the memories of her brothers, James Patrick Ryan, and Anthony D. Ryan. She is additionally survived by nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews; aunt, Beryl "Bee" Gottuso; cousins, Gina Mancini, Donna Dodson, Carol McDonald, John Ryan, Joyce Boulerville, and Anthony and Terry Fagnoli; sisters-in-law and brother-in-law, Mary Denato, Melissa Bongiorno, Joseph Cotrupe, Rose and Chris Cirillo and their son Christopher; and many wonderful friends from high school and work, especially Charlene and Dan Laino, and a large masonic family of friends. She loved them all.

The Denato children would like to thank their father for tending to their mother, in her fight with dementia over the last six years, loving her, and selflessly setting a remarkable example of sacrifice and unwavering commitment.

Louis gives special thanks to his two daughters Marialena and Suzanne for their contributions to the care of their mother, giving him needed respite to run errands, attend meetings, shop, and complete tasks. Linda loved their visits and special treatment with her hair and nails. Her smile said it all!

Visitation will be held on Saturday, January 31, 2026, from 12:00-2:00 p.m. at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Linda's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence at 2:00 p.m. at the funeral home. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

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

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 31. 12:00 PM - 2:00 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>

Funeral Service

JAN 31. 2:00 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



“ Garden Accent Stone - *"Wherever a Beautiful Soul..."* was purchased for the family of Mrs. Linda A. (Ryan) Denato.



April 20 at 10:52 AM



“ My condolences to Lou and Family for their loss! Linda was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother and woman! She was a joy to be around! I always enjoyed my time with her at many birthday parties at her daughter Maria's house! Sorry I missed her calling hours earlier today. I wanted to tell Lou, her children and grandchildren how sad I am for their loss of a wonderful wife, mother and grandmother!!❤️❤️❤️
Love, Cecelia Kerwin

Cecelia Kerwin - January 31 at 03:21 PM



Thank you for the kind words, Ceil, it means alot.

Maria - February 02 at 10:35 AM



“ Greg and Joty (Gotte) Lee purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Linda A. (Ryan) Denato.



Greg and Joty (Gotte) Lee - January 31 at 08:48 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Mrs. Linda A. (Ryan) Denato.



January 30 at 11:29 AM



“ BOD of the Masonic Association of Utica planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Linda A. (Ryan) Denato.

BOD of the Masonic Association of Utica - January 30 at 11:29 AM



“ I wish to send my sincere condolences to the Denato family. I went to kindergarten and through 2nd grade with Linda at Mary St. School. Later on, we reacquainted when Louis attended Washington School where I taught 5th grade. What comes to my mind, first, when I think of Linda, is that smile and laugh. She was always warm and funny when we spoke. Everything you want to know about Linda is right there in that picture. I saw the obituary notice too late to attend the service but needed to express my sympathy.

Mary Lourdes Obernesser - January 29 at 01:04 PM



Thank you for the kind words. This is Louis. You didn't miss her services. They are this Saturday at Eannace 12-2

Louis Denato Jr. - January 29 at 08:20 PM

LF

“ Love, The Rella Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mrs. Linda A. (Ryan) Denato.



Love, The Rella Family - January 28 at 01:50 PM

RG

“ Robert G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Linda A. (Ryan) Denato.

Robert G. - January 28 at 12:54 PM

FD

“ Lou and family, so sorry to hear this. Prayers to all of you. May she rest in peace.
Flo Desimone

Florence A Desimone - January 23 at 10:34 PM

LJ

Thank you very much!

Louis Denato Jr. - January 29 at 08:23 PM

SM

“ LOU..FEEL FREE TO CALL UPON ME IF NEEDED SAD TO HEAR LINDA PASSED INTO HEAVEN AS A ANGEL LOU REMEMBER TRUE LOVE YOU SHARED WAS PRICELESS TOGETHER SORRY AND SAD SHAWN MURPHY CHRYSTAL CONNOR BRITTANY



SHAWN MURPHY - January 23 at 08:23 PM

LJ

Thank you very much.

Louis Denato Jr. - January 29 at 08:22 PM

VB

“ *My condolences to Linda’s family east utica friends are always remembered Virginia Orsino Boehlert*

Virginia Boehlert - January 23 at 05:16 PM

LJ

Thank you very much. My father is reading all of these.

Louis Denato Jr. - January 29 at 08:22 PM

GM

“ *I will always hold my memories of my cousin in my heart. She was always smiling. She never called me by Gina bit rather Gigi which I loved.*

Our family get togethers were always so much fun. I’m sending love to cousin Louie and the entire family. Keep smiling in Heaven❤️

Gina Gottuso Mancini - January 23 at 04:22 PM

LJ

Thanks Gina. Very nice words.

Louis Denato Jr. - January 29 at 08:20 PM

LO

“ *Love, Marissa, Mike, Gabby, Jason & Ozzy purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mrs. Linda A. (Ryan) Denato.*



Love, Marissa, Mike, Gabby, Jason & Ozzy - January 23 at 03:42 PM

LO

“ Love, Marissa, Mike, Gabby, Jason & Ozzy planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Linda A. (Ryan) Denato.

Love, Marissa, Mike, Gabby, Jason & Ozzy - January 23 at 03:42 PM

AS

“ Angel and Leslie Santiago purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Mrs. Linda A. (Ryan) Denato.



Angel and Leslie Santiago - January 23 at 01:29 PM

AS

“ Angel and Leslie Santiago planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Linda A. (Ryan) Denato.

Angel and Leslie Santiago - January 23 at 01:29 PM

AS

“ I witnessed this great woman numerous times handle and drive in the snow/ice a huge family van with screaming kids and manual column shifter. She was awesome and very special to us. Loved her.
Angel Santiago

ANGEL SANTIAGO - January 23 at 01:14 PM

LJ

What a great memory to share. Love it! Thanks to you and Leslie for the gifts.

Louis Denato Jr. - January 29 at 08:21 PM

SM

“ Sherry Myrick lit a candle in memory of Mrs.
Linda A. (Ryan) Denato



Sherry Myrick - January 23 at 11:50 AM

LB

“ Lonnie Brown lit a candle in memory of Mrs.
Linda A. (Ryan) Denato



Lonnie Brown - January 23 at 09:41 AM

BM

*Dear Louis, Nick and family. So so sorry for ur loss. Linda was a
amazing woman, wife and grandmother. She will be greatly missed!
Love Bonnie and Justin Miner!❤️*

Bonnie Minee - February 01 at 03:34 PM