



Lisa M. (Druscovich) Gilberti

May 30, 1963 - July 6, 2021

UTICA - Lisa M. (Druscovich) Gilberti, age 58, went home to the Lord on Tuesday, July 6, 2021 after a courageous battle with cancer. At the time of her passing, her loving family and friends were at her side.

Born in Utica on May 30, 1963, Lisa was the daughter of Rosa (Millo) Druscovich and the late Marino Druscovich. She was a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School/Class of 1981 and continued her studies at Russell Sage College where she graduated in 1985 with a Bachelor's degree in Physical Therapy. She then pursued her post-graduate work at Utica College where she earned her Doctorate of Physical Therapy/Therapist in 2008. At one time, Lisa was married to Frank Gilberti and they were blessed with a wonderful son; they remained friends to the very end.

Lisa worked in her chosen profession as a Physical Therapist from 1985-2015, a commitment of 30 years. She eventually entered into private practice with Patty DiSpirito, and Lori Sitts, and they were fortunate to have the loyalty and shared vision of Regina Klodnicki and Liz Gubbins, who coordinated the daily activities of the organization. She last shared her profession as a Physical Therapist at The Pines at Utica. Throughout her career, Lisa's dedication to those who needed inspiration, skilled rehabilitation direction, and motivation was second to none. She persevered and assisted many patients in promoting, maintaining, and restoring them to good health. What a fulfilling career she chose and achieved! Although Lisa had an accomplished working life, her primary focus was raising and being present for her son, Nick. She

was involved in the developmental years of his life through the PTA, East Utica Tee-Ball, Minor League, Little League, and during his high school years, the Ed Hinko Baseball League. She supported Nick's skiing at area slopes, and in earlier years she dabbled in the sport herself. She was Nick's greatest cheerleader and supporter, always supporting and encouraging him in his endeavors. Lisa was a constant presence in the lives of her son and her daughter-in-law Christina, always sharing the next phase of life and taking "little trips" to spend time together. Lisa loved the sun and the beach was like her heaven, so she traveled to many East Coast destinations to find her perfect paradise. She visited Florida to see friends and get a glimpse of the sunshine. She took advantage of a sunny day because the sun's rays uplifted her soul. She also felt rejuvenated while floating in her pool. Her Proctor High School fellow graduates remained close and established "The Proctor Girls Coffee Club" of which she was a charter member. Lisa loved the holidays. At Christmas she would display several themed trees, and she recruited Nick and Tina to add their flair with her decorative style. Whenever the kids came home it was family time, and she prepared their special meals.

In 2014 she was diagnosed with a rare cancer, Leiomyosarcoma, and although her odds were very grim, she entered into numerous remissions. Through the Lord's intercession, she was blessed with faith and healing that sustained and uplifted her. She was a member of Redeemer Church, a church which she considered her family. Prior to attending Redeemer Church, was a parishioner of St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish. At Redeemer Church, Lisa served in numerous capacities and established a card ministry team to send cards to those on the church's prayer list. She decided to receive baptism as an adult and the pastors and the membership became her family. Her pastors, especially Mike Servello, Jr. and Pastor Jim Synakowski were a comfort to Lisa and remained committed to ministering to her until she crossed over.

Lisa is survived by her mom, Rosa, who lovingly supported her throughout her battle; and her son, Nicholas with whom she shared an unconditional love,

and her daughter-in-law Christina (Vallese) with whom she spent precious times. They made Lisa's life so complete. She also leaves her Gilberti nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews and other in-laws, as well as her own cousins and aunt . Lisa was blessed with many dear and supportive friends, especially her long-time friends Maryann Carlo, Lorrena Randio, Debbie Dillon, Tunde Popovics, members of the Proctor Girls Coffee Club, her church family, and many others. These special people were like sisters and brothers to her and she cherished them dearly. The family will always appreciate all they did to support and care for her.

Through the guidance of Dr. Atul Butala and his staff, the outstanding personnel of the Regional Cancer Center, Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Dana Farber Cancer Institute, and the amazing staff of the St. Luke's Oncology Unit, Lisa was able to persevere. When her journey brought her to the need for Hospice & Palliative Care, and the excellent staff of the Abraham House in Rome, Lisa began her transition and was able to have her family, friends, and those who loved her so dearly find comfort in the mission of both of these outstanding organizations. Through all of her life's experiences she was upheld by the Lord and she came to know fellow caretakers who touched her heart through their compassionate spirits.

Relatives and friends may pay their respects to Lisa's family on Saturday, July 17, 2021 from 10-11 at Redeemer Church, 931 Herkimer Rd. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Lisa's name may be directed to the Abraham House online at <https://www.theabrahamhouse.org/donate>; envelopes will also be available at the service. Lisa's Celebration of Life will commence at 11:00 upon conclusion of visitation.

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

JUL 17. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Redeemer Church
931 Herkimer Road
Utica, NY

Celebration of Life

JUL 17. 11:00 AM (ET)

Redeemer Church
931 Herkimer Road
Utica, NY

Tribute Wall

PI

“ *Pino lit a candle in memory of Lisa M. (Druscovich) Gilberti*



pino - February 14, 2024 at 01:03 PM

DA

“ *Danielle lit a candle in memory of Lisa M. (Druscovich) Gilberti*



Danielle - July 06, 2022 at 08:35 AM

DC

“ *My parents were Lisa's Godparents. Never was a child so wished for. Her arrival brought all of us such great joy. Lisa made her parents so very proud. I prayed for her and Rosa for years and will continue to pray that God grants her mother and son some comfort in knowing what a wonderful person she was. Her light will continue to shine through them.*

Diane Coletti-Hunter - July 29, 2021 at 02:44 PM

JD

“ Lisa is a amazing person , she assisted me numerous times through injuries and accidents, and even referrals to other practitioners and specialties. I will never forget her upbeat personality. Lisa also assisted my Dad with his physical therapy .
My deepest condolences to her Son who she spoke of often .
Sincerest sympathies to her entire Family.
She will be deeply missed.
Jody Dorsey

Jody Dorsey - July 26, 2021 at 02:00 PM

JL

“ Lisa was a glowing beautiful bright light that I still remember vividly today...because it was 26 years ago when I was her patient. What amazed me during our sessions is she could shift the fascia in my body without actually touching my body..the most serene experience I ever had . And we both found out that we were pregnant. I lost touch with Lisa due to my pregnancy and I do remember contacting her after I had my daughter and found out she had a son. It was 26 years ago,but I remember her bright smile and how she healed me. I am so grateful our lives crossed..love, Jacquie LaMendola



jacquelyn lamendola - July 19, 2021 at 07:34 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Lisa M. (Druscovich) Gilberti.



July 16, 2021 at 11:56 AM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Lisa M. (Druscovich) Gilberti.



July 16, 2021 at 09:12 AM



“ Dear Nick, Tina, and Rosina: I just want you to know that I will miss Lisa terribly. She was a wonderful person, friend, mom, daughter, and an Angel! She always thought of others even when she was dealing with her own issues. I loved helping her: she made me a better doctor: one who cares more and wants to continue to help as many as a can in her honor. I know she has is a big loss to so many and to you all. She is finally at peace, and is an Angel watching over you all. God bless you at this time: I will continue to always pray for her and you all. I will be here for anyone that ever needs me: always here for you all. I will never forget her beautiful face, kind words, and voice. An Angel for sure. No doubt in my mind. God bless you all for the courage you showed taking care of her in her time of need. God is holding her in his arms. Love, Janice Bedell, MD.



Janice A. Bedell - July 15, 2021 at 09:41 PM



“ Kim Gilberti lit a candle in memory of Lisa M. (Druscovich) Gilberti



Kim Gilberti - July 15, 2021 at 01:41 PM

KG

I regret that I'd only met Lisa on a few occasions. I wish I'd gotten to know her better. I've learned from others what a beautiful person she was. One day, our paths shall cross again...

Kim Gilberti - July 15, 2021 at 01:48 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Lisa M. (Druscovich) Gilberti.*



July 15, 2021 at 10:33 AM

LJ

“ *Love The Critellis and Joey purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Lisa M. (Druscovich) Gilberti.*



Love The Critellis and Joey - July 14, 2021 at 08:26 AM

LC

“ *Love for Lisa will always be in our hearts. She made everyone she met feel so special and loved. Rest In Peace Lovely Lady . Lee , Lou and Joey*

Leona and Louis Critelli - July 12, 2021 at 06:13 PM

TW

“ We are so sorry to her of the passing Lisa. We were her family's neighbors from 1969 through 1989 and watched her grow up into a wonderful young lady. Always pleasent, full of energy and kindless. Such a sad day for everyone. Rest in Peace.

Tom & Rosemary Walker - July 11, 2021 at 08:43 AM

CL

“ Nick, Tina, and Rosa, your in my prayers..Your Mom truly was a Angel, I will never forget all the talks her and Johnnie had .And after he passed how she was there for me even through her own struggles she was facing. I will miss her text , or late night talks and most of all her encouraging words ...We always would laugh because I told her I had her back , the baseball bat Friend..Love you Lis , you will never be forgotten and thanks for telling me you will give my Son a hug from me ..It's not a goodbye, but it's I will see you again ...

Cindy Leone - July 11, 2021 at 01:33 AM

JG

“ I have know Lisa for 30 plus years. She took care of me after a horrific car accident and then our children became friends at Proctor. We in turn became friends as well. She was a beautiful woman inside and out with a heart of gold. She loved her son unconditionally and her beautiful Momma. When my parents died tragically in 2016 9 weeks apart she sent me a beautiful hand written note and a bracelet which I treasure. She showed us that in the face of a life threatening illness what faith and grace looked like. Her faith and strength were something that I have never witnessed in anyone but her. She was an angel on earth always showing everyone she knew that she cared about them. I will miss her tremendously. But, i will treasure our times together and our conversations. Im sending my love, prayers and hugs to her beautiful Momma, Nickolas, her beautiful daughter in law, family and friends. We are all blessed in knowing Lisa and having her in our lives. God Bless you Lisa...your suffering is over. My love to all of you. 🤔❤️🙏😊❤️



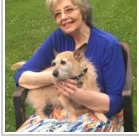
Jane Marie Gigliotti - July 10, 2021 at 11:04 PM

HA

“ Heather Akselrod lit a candle in memory of Lisa M. (Druscovich) Gilberti



Heather Akselrod - July 10, 2021 at 11:00 PM



“ *Lori Reinertson Owens lit a candle in memory of Lisa M. (Druscovich) Gilberti*



Lori Reinertson Owens - July 10, 2021 at 10:05 PM

DC

“ *Diane Chapple lit a candle in memory of Lisa M. (Druscovich) Gilberti*



Diane Chapple - July 10, 2021 at 09:44 PM

DC

Lisa what a wonderful person. We enjoyed times with you and Frank. I thought of the time we rented a camp on fourth lake. Nick was very little and he took his bath in a cooler on the deck. You will be greatly missed

Our condolences to Rosa and Nick

Diane Chapple - July 10, 2021 at 09:52 PM

BS

“ *I worked with Lisa at Faxton Physical Therapy for many yrs..her personality an smile lit up the room an made the patients feel very comfortable with her..we had so much fun working together..went to her an Frank's wedding..the Birth of Nick..just great knowing Lisa..will miss you my friend..RIP peace Lisa you are with your savior..*



Barbara swisloski - July 10, 2021 at 08:32 PM

GA

“Gina Arcuri lit a candle in memory of Lisa M. (Druscovich) Gilberti



Gina Arcuri - July 10, 2021 at 03:12 PM

LC

“Lisa and I were in home room together at Proctor High, many years later she took wonderful of my father at the Pines for which family and I will always be grateful. Rest in peace in God's arms Lisa.

Laurie De Tore Cox - July 10, 2021 at 02:48 PM

LC

Laurie De Tore Cox

Laurie De Tore Cox - July 10, 2021 at 02:50 PM



“Nick, Tina, and Rosa, we are so very sorry for your loss. Lisa was an incredible woman and I enjoyed getting to know her through the years. I will miss our conversations, and her loving personality. I remember there was a time when she told Lindsay she wanted to come help me recover from a surgery I had. What an amazing heart! We will continue to pray for you guys are you mourn her loss. I am thankful that she knows Jesus and is completely healed, but I understand how it hurts to be without her here. Praying for you. Love, Deb, Vince, and Elizabeth Tai

Debbie Tai - July 10, 2021 at 12:50 PM

JC

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



julianne cardone - July 10, 2021 at 12:24 PM

LF

My deepest sympathy to you and your family. Lisa is in the arms of our Savior, Jesus Christ. May the memories you have of your mom remain in your heart and bring you peace.

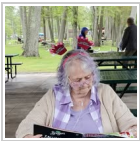
Lori Ferraro - July 10, 2021 at 12:43 PM

JD

“ *Lisa will be in our hearts always. Was proud to know her and admire her strength and courage*



Jeana DiFondi - July 10, 2021 at 11:42 AM



“ *Karen Ruggiero-Schrader lit a candle in memory of Lisa M. (Druscovich) Gilberti*



Karen Ruggiero-Schrader - July 10, 2021 at 11:04 AM

CH

“ Lisa will never be forgotten. She will always hold a special place in my heart. She was a good friend to my husband while he himself was battling cancer and then was there for me and my daughter and helped us through some of the hardest days of our life. She always had a smile and tried to find the laughter somewhere in the midst of the tears. I am going to miss our texts, our laughs, our late night conversations, our lunch/dinner outings, and our Bonomo ice cream runs. Life is too short and it just doesn't make sense. But the one thing that does make sense is the fact that we became the closest of friends in just a short amount of time. Thank you Lisa for showing me what true friendship is. I love you so much, and I will miss you until we meet again my friend. ❤️

Cara Hoyle - July 10, 2021 at 10:25 AM

Sherry
Van
Roekel

“ Sherry Van Roekel lit a candle in memory of Lisa M. (Druscovich) Gilberti



Sherry Van Roekel - July 10, 2021 at 08:43 AM

Sherry
Van

Very sorry for your loss.

Sherry Van Roekel - July 10, 2021 at 08:43 AM

MT

“ Missy Topa lit a candle in memory of Lisa M. (Druscovich) Gilberti



missy topa - July 09, 2021 at 11:46 PM

JB

“ *JoAnn Bonacci lit a candle in memory of Lisa M. (Druscovich) Gilberti*



JoAnn Bonacci - July 09, 2021 at 11:21 PM

RM

“ *Rosemary Morrissey lit a candle in memory of Lisa M. (Druscovich) Gilberti*



Rosemary Morrissey - July 09, 2021 at 02:02 PM

LF

“ *Lynette Franco lit a candle in memory of Lisa M. (Druscovich) Gilberti*



Lynette Franco - July 09, 2021 at 01:06 PM