



Marie A. (Trotta) Luce

March 30, 1939 - February 15, 2025

E. UTICA – Marie A. (Trotta) Luce, age 85, peacefully transitioned to her home in heaven on Saturday, February 15, 2025. Her passing occurred in the comfort and dignity of her earthly home, with her loving family by her side.

Born in Utica on March 30, 1939, Marie was the daughter of the late Gerald A. “Jerry” Sr. and Louise (DiJoseph) Trotta. She attended St. Mary of Mt. Carmel Grammar School and was a proud graduate of Utica Catholic Academy/Class of 1957.

On October 25, 1958, she joined in holy matrimony with Louis R. Luce. Their relationship, based on their mutual faith, blossomed throughout their 32-year union. Marie loved Louis' sense of humor, and they truly complimented each other in life. Louis' sudden passing on December 16, 1990, left Marie to carry on their legacy of commitment on her own. As part of that commitment, she always kept her loved ones close to her and strove to keep them close to each other as well. Her heart always belonged to Louis, and she missed him each and every day.

After focusing her time and energy on raising and nurturing her children, Marie began her working career with Smith Laundry and Dry Cleaners on Lansing St. Her true passion though, was dedicating herself and her time to nonprofit organizations such as Catholic Charities and Utica Community Action, Inc. It

was with this organization that she worked tirelessly on the improvement and weatherization of housing for those in need for 20 years until their division's closing. Lastly, she much enjoyed her position as a lunchroom monitor with the Utica City School District; she just loved every one of those children! Marie felt so blessed to have had such success in helping so many people throughout her career, something that she was unaware of, yet came so naturally to her.

Marie was enthusiastically involved in the lives of her children and grandchildren. She was levelheaded, encouraging, fair, positive, and uplifting. Marie's inquisitive nature gave her a sixth sense about things, allowing her to be patient enough to wait until her loved ones were ready to share their thoughts and worries with her.

All woven from the same cloth, Marie's family has been blessed generationally to share her core values. She was one who lived by the "golden rule" of maintaining a non-judgmental mindset and always searching for proper ways to handle life's situations, and she was consistently willing to try new ways of dealing with matters.

Marie, who could be quite adventurous, found much joy in traveling over the years to many events, including concerts and musicals. She was, as some would say, a true "dancing queen." Marie was also an accomplished and bountiful cook and baker. She maintained familial traditions through her culinary skills and taught the following generations the ways of making traditional Italian foods and baked goods. Affectionately known as "Nanny" to family and friends, the seats around Marie's kitchen table were always full, and for her, the more the merrier!

Marie inherited her first feline companion, "Christa," who ruled the roost. Then her black cat "Bella" came along, who was a rescue. Bella was very skittish at

first but through Marie's gentle nature and persistence, she finally came around. Her third cat, ready or not, was taken into her home, and Marie gave "Baby" the best years of her life.

The family parish was that of St. Agnes Church. Marie raised her children in that church and held a close relationship with the late Monsignor Francis J. Willenburg. She was active in the parish festivals, where she could be found working at the sausage and peppers station or any other position needed. Marie was a faithful follower of her Lord Jesus Christ. Later, as a parishioner of St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish, Marie's faith and circle of friends grew as she gave her time volunteering. She was an active Eucharistic minister, substitute greeter, and currently served as treasurer of the St. Ann Society. Marie was always available to accept any responsibility asked of her, and she observed the Church's holy days with much reverence.

Anyone who knew Marie will always remember the question she often posed, "Did you eat?"

Faithful and true were her children and daughters-in-law, Divina M. Fieger, Anthony L. "Tony" and Dawn Luce, Louis R. Jr. and Michelle Luce, and Eugenia L. "Gina" Luce. She will forever remain in the hearts of her beloved grandchildren, Matthew and Diana Fieger, Jessica Fieger; Giavanna Luce and Zack Cortese, Anthony A. "Little Anthony" Luce; Samantha Luce, and Louis A. Luce; and her precious great-grandchildren, Helen Marie Fieger; and Luciano Anthony Cortese. Marie was anticipating the birth of an additional great-granddaughter, Margaret S. Fieger, due in March 2025.

Marie had true affection and love for her siblings and their families. She shared their joys and worried about all their life's concerns. Surviving are her sister, Rita Nitti (the late Joseph Nitti, Jr.); and her brothers and sisters-in-law,

Frank and Gloria Trotta, and Vincent “Vinny” and Rosalind “Roz” Trotta. She cherished the memory of her brother who preceded her in 2018, Gerald A. “Jerry” Trotta, II. Her loss is also felt by her sister-in-law, Lorraine Luce (the late Joseph Luce); many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and cousins residing in Utica, Texas, and California. She always remembered her nephews and nieces who preceded her, Gerald “Pepe” Trotta II, Salvatore Luce, and infants Anthony J. Luce, Eugenia Veronica Luce, and Theresa Marie Luce. Marie had plentiful and consistent relationships throughout her life, especially with her longtime friends, Carmelita Verdura, and Rose Marie Love. She appreciated so many precious friends who had gone before her, and she especially never forgot Nancy and Sam Simbari and the wonderful times shared with them. Marie was additionally predeceased by her father-in-law and mother-in-law, Anthony “Ando” and Jennie (Ruggiero) Luce; and her brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Anthony and Edith Luce, and Pasquale and Phyllis Luce.

The Luce family would like to extend their gratitude to Dr. Alicia DeTraglia and PA Stacey who rendered such compassionate care to Marie. She received her treatments at the Regional Cancer Center where she always walked in with a smile; the staff just loved her and they were mutually uplifting to each other. Thank you as well to Hospice and Palliative Care, Inc., who came with love, especially RN Crystal, Social Worker Ashley, and Jennifer who was her final caretaker; each of them were filled with affection for Marie ~ they displayed dignity, openness, coaching skills, and were always a phone call away. Additional appreciation is expressed to all of Marie’s family and friends for their prayers and support. A special note to Father Joseph Salerno for the anointing of the sick which he offered in such a unique and serene way.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, February 20, 2025, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. In lieu of floral offerings, memorial contributions in Marie’s honor may be made to

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital online at www.stjude.org/donate, St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish online at www.mountcarmelblessedsacrament.com/donate, or Hospice & Palliative Care, Inc. online at www.hospicecareinc.org/donate-online; envelopes will also be available at the funeral home. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Marie's Mass of Christian Burial and Celebration of Life, which will commence on Friday, February 21, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Mary of Mt Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish, 684 Jay, St. For those unable to attend, the Mass will be livestreamed at www.youtube.com/@eannacefuneralhome804/streams. Committal prayers will follow at Christ Our Savior Mausoleum at Calvary Cemetery, where she will be laid to rest next to her husband.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

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

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 20. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

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

Funeral Service

FEB 21. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish
648 Jay Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 735-1482
<https://www.mountcarmelblessedsacrament.com/>

Tribute Wall

JN

“ *my sincere condolences to all the Trotta family especially to all Marie's children. Marie was a wonderful person and neighbor*

John N Nole - February 24, 2025 at 04:28 PM

FS

“ *Dear Families of Marie ,
We are deeply saddened by loss of your beloved Marie. Our heartfelt condolences to all of Marie's family and friends . Sincerely
Mr. & Mrs.Guy Sangiuolo*

Francine Sangiuolo - February 23, 2025 at 08:30 PM

MS

“ *To the Luce, and Trotta family's We are so sorry to hear of your loss. Marie was a true person in and out. Were sorry we could not attend the funeral but our hearts we there. We are sending our Deepest Sympathies to all. Jimmy and Maryrose*

Maryrose Schiavetta - February 22, 2025 at 09:22 AM

DM

“ *Don Marino lit a candle in memory of Marie A. (Trotta) Luce*



Don Marino - February 21, 2025 at 10:52 AM

DM

My sincere condolences to the Luce and Trotta families...

Don Marino - February 21, 2025 at 10:53 AM

JG

“ *Janice And Fred Greer lit a candle in memory of Marie A. (Trotta) Luce*



Janice and Fred Greer - February 20, 2025 at 10:40 AM

AG

“ *Dear Divina, Anthony, Louis and Gina, My sincere condolences to all of you on the loss of your mom. I was your baby sitter on Friday evenings. While there were 4 of you to watch, she always had you tucked in bed before I arrived. You were all a joy to watch and it was a pleasure to know you as well as your parents. Your mom and I would cross paths on occasion, and we always spoke of the 4 of you. May your memories bring you comfort.*

*Annette Guido
Guilderland, NY*

Annette Guido - February 19, 2025 at 02:46 PM

GA

*To the Luce and Trotta Families,
I am so sorry to hear of the passing of your beautiful Mom and Sister. Marie was always a beautiful woman, always with a smile and kind word, she took after her mom for sure and passed her loving nature to that of her cherished children. May peace comfort the days ahead with fond memories of this beautiful soul. Fly high with the Angels, Marie, you have earned your wings. ☐*

Gini D,Alessandro

Gini D' Alessandro - February 20, 2025 at 08:03 PM

CP

“ Carol Purcell lit a candle in memory of Marie A. (Trotta) Luce



Carol Purcell - February 19, 2025 at 05:18 AM

CP

With love and remembrance, we share your sorrow. "Girlfriend" you will be missed.

Carol Purcell - February 19, 2025 at 05:21 AM

JK

To the Trotta and Luce family. I was deeply saddened by the loss of Marie. As I read the obituary I couldn't help think truer words were never spoken, she was all that and more. I enjoyed the times we would get together for lunch. It is a sad time for the families, but remember all the good memories you have. She will be missed. Cousin Janet Kallen New Hartford, N.Y.

Janet Kallen - February 19, 2025 at 03:05 PM

NW

Dear Divina, Anthony, Louie, and Gina. My sincerest condolences on the passing of your mom. With love and prayers to you all. Lot of memories with your mom and my parents back in the day, lots of laughs too. Take care, Love you guys. Nancy (Barbero) Wrate

Nancy Barbero Wrate - February 20, 2025 at 10:23 AM

DI

To my dear Trotta and Luce cousins.

I wrote the following in a card too but reprinted here to save digitally.

I am so sorry for the loss of my dear cousin Marie. I represent the original Brooklyn Zimbero/Trotta side of the family. Uncle Joe Zimbero and Aunt Cinzella were my grandparents. Since moving to upstate NY (Oxford) Marie and I were able to reconnect, meeting for lunch in Utica. My favorite memory was when she visited my home "on a field trip" for lunch with Janet and Annie Doti. She told me wonderful memories of my grandparents. She loved when my grandfather, Uncle Joe, would go to Aunt Louise's home and he would say "Come on come on let's start cooking". And he would start cooking. He was a cook at the Plaza Hotel in NYC. She also told me the fond memories she had when she stayed the summer at my grandparents in Brooklyn.

I am sorry I could not attend the funeral. It is a treacherous drive from Oxford in this daily rough weather. However, I did watch it streaming. It was a beautiful service. Thank you for making it available.

With love and condolences,

Cousin Debi Aguece Ivarson

Debi Aguece Ivarson - February 23, 2025 at 12:45 PM

FW

“ Flo (Fiorinda Wilson) lit a candle in memory of Marie A. (Trotta) Luce



Flo (Fiorinda Wilson) - February 18, 2025 at 11:40 PM

FC

“ My sincerest condolences to the Luce Family. I worked with Marie for many years at Utica Community Action. She was a delightful co-worker and over the years we shared many laughs together. She was so proud of her kids. I wish I had a dollar for every time she started a sentence by saying, "My Divina . . ." May she rest in God's eternal peace. We have lost a special woman.

Frank Calaprice - February 18, 2025 at 03:03 PM

L(

“ My deepest sympathy to her family and friends. She was a beautiful soul. I worked with her in the pharmacy and she surely touched my heart. A woman of resilience, filled with love for others, and always making sure everyone was taken care of. Till we meet again, Marie <3



Lorena (Rena) - February 18, 2025 at 10:12 AM

CS

“ I'm sorry for your loss...I'll keep you in my prayers 🙏❤️

Christine Sike - February 18, 2025 at 08:16 AM

LH

“ My deepest condolences to the Luce, Trotta and Nitti families on the passing of their beautiful Marie. What a beautiful tribute to a life so well lived. Her legacy will go on forever. May God embrace each and everyone of you during this difficult time .

Lois Hoyle - February 18, 2025 at 06:29 AM

MF

“ I am deeply saddened by the loss of my beloved mother-in-law, Marie A. (Trotta) Luce. For 20 years, she filled my life with laughter and love. I fondly remember how she teased me about my Brooklyn accent and our lively debates about the unhealthy ingredients in white bread. Marie was a strong woman with unwavering beliefs, and she taught me the true meaning of family.

Her role as a peacemaker often put this New York City kid in his place, and I am grateful for her guidance. I carry her legacy with me, especially in the kitchen, where I still follow her cherished Italian recipes. I can still picture her teaching me how to make her special meatballs, with me trailing behind her with a measuring cup and pen.

My heart aches with the loss, but I will always treasure the beautiful memories and laughter we shared. Thank you for being my Italian mom, Marie. Your love has made me a better person, and I will forever hold you in my heart. Love and prayers to the family during this difficult time.

Love.

Michael Fieger

Michael Fieger - February 18, 2025 at 12:35 AM