



Mrs. Marie S. (Piperata) Morreale

August 15, 1933 - September 25, 2025

MARCY/UTICA – On Thursday, September 25, 2025, Mrs. Marie S. (Piperata) Morreale, age 92, passed away peacefully, reuniting with her beloved Russell and other loved ones who had gone before her. Her family was by her side, their hearts filled with gratitude for a life so beautifully lived.

Born in Utica on August 15, 1933, Marie was the daughter of the late Dominick J. and Laura M. (Pazzola) Piperata. She was one of nine siblings in a large and lively Italian family and was raised and educated locally.

On September 20, 1958, Marie married the love of her life, Rosario J. “Russell” Morreale II. Their blessed union lasted over 33 years, until Russell’s passing on January 29, 1992. They dedicated their lives to one another, balancing the joys of raising their children while owning and operating Rosario’s Pizzerias. She fondly remembered her years working at General Electric and as a waitress at several local establishments.

Marie possessed a kind and selfless spirit. She was truly the best mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, and friend anyone could ask for. Deeply proud of her Italian heritage, she cherished her roots and lovingly passed down cherished traditions to her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, who were the light of her life. Her home was a haven of warmth and hospitality, always filled with snacks, laughter, and an abundance of love.

As everyone's greatest supporter, she devoted her life to her family and created a lasting legacy of love that will continue for generations to come.

Marie was a passionate New York Yankees fan who rarely missed a game. She celebrated every win with the same energy and dedication she showed in all areas of her life, often sporting her beloved Yankee apparel. She also loved a good card game of skat but wasn't fond of losing! A devoted parishioner of St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish, Marie's faith was central to her life. She faithfully attended weekly services with her siblings, always holding her rosary close.

Marie will be remembered for these countless little moments that defined her: cherished memories at the pizzeria, her fierce loyalty to those she loved, and the way her face lit up whenever her family walked into the room. She truly lived life to the fullest—celebrating each day, standing tall through challenges, always finding joy in the simple things: family, friends, laughter, and a Yankees win. She loved to dance and was always the last one to leave the dance floor at any occasion.

Marie is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Russell III and Gail Morreale; daughter and son-in-law, Catherine and Joseph Fitzgerald; grandchildren, Michael and Alissa Morreale, Meghan and Joshua Visalli, Matthew Morreale, William Schrader and Becca Kushner, and Cayla and Joshua Embry; great-grandchildren, Luca Visalli; Mia, Maddox, Macallan, and Maverick Embry; and brothers and sisters-in-law, Richard "Peppy" and Beverly Piperata, Victor and Brenda Piperata, James Piperata, William and Nancy Piperata, and Paul Piperata. She fondly remembered her siblings who preceded her, Loretta Purpura, Robert Piperata, and Frederick "Freddy Pep" Piperata.

She is further survived by her in-laws, George Purpura, Diana Piperata, and Nancy Piperata; many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins; and numerous surviving and predeceased friendships made throughout her life. She was additionally predeceased by her father-in-law and mother-in-law, Rosario and Catherine (LaBarbera) Morreale; in-laws, Mae and Rocco Galimo, and Mary Ritz; niece and goddaughter, Regina "Gina" Ferguson.

The family wishes to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the Abraham House of Rome for the compassionate and attentive care they provided to Marie and her family.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, October 9, 2025, from 5:00-7:00 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/86369500795>. In lieu of floral offerings, memorial contributions in Marie's honor may be made to the Abraham House online at <https://www.theabrahamhouse.org/ways-to-support/donate/>; 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, October 10, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish, 648 Jay St. Interment will follow in Calvary Cemetery.

This obituary was lovingly written by Marie's family.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

2407 Oneida Street
Utica, NY

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **9**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

Funeral Service

OCT **10**. 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

CG

“ I am very sorry to learn of Marie's passing. As a teenager Marie and Russell hired me to work at their North Utica pizzeria. While its been many years I still have the fondest of memories of their warmth. I always felt that I was a part of their and the Piperata family. I forever remember one piece of advise Marie gave me...whenever you pass a pot of sauce don't forget to stop and stir it.
Craig Gilchrist

Craig Gilchrist - November 01, 2025 at 02:30 PM

DV

“ To Vic, Jimmy and Piperata family Very sorry for your loss, our deepest sympathy and prayers. Butch and Marie Viti

Dominic Viti - October 06, 2025 at 01:53 PM

FF

“ To Marie's Family,
It is so difficult to find the appropriate words to describe our many memories shared with Marie.
Marie was a very special person blessed with love and affection for all. She prayed for everyone!
We cherish fond memories of going to mass at Mt. Carmel followed by sharing a meal out with family and friends and so many other events.
She will not be forgotten!
Frank & Debbie Femia



Frank & Debbie Femia - September 30, 2025 at 12:42 PM

JC

“ Sending you all my heartfelt sympathy for the loss of beautiful Marie. Full of life and laughter always she truly did light up the room. She will be missed forevermore by her wonderful family and all of us lucky enough to call her our beautiful friend. If her beautiful goodness and sweet heart could be a part of all of us, what a wonderful world we would all live in. God Bless you all and you can be sure she'll never be forgotten. May she rest peacefully forevermore back by her Russ's side.

Jeanne Castronovo - September 30, 2025 at 08:33 AM

CM

“ Dear family members,
I am deeply sorry for your loss, as I was always fond of this family over the years. Especially the “Nancy Piperata” families. May she rest in peace.

Cheryl Mondri - September 30, 2025 at 08:00 AM

FD

“ To Marie's family. So sorry to hear of her passing. I will remember her always smiling. Prayers to all of you
May she rest in peace.
Flo and Amanda Desimone

Florence A Desimone - September 29, 2025 at 02:36 PM

SL

To Marie's family. So sorry to hear of her passing. She was a wonderful person.

Sandra Lewandrowski - September 29, 2025 at 03:18 PM

JD

A great lady from a wonderful family

Jerry Dischiavo - October 08, 2025 at 12:16 PM

BK

To the family wishes of sorrow for your loss, to the pizza king and Queen of Utica ROSARIO's, the best from your dad and mom's first store to your mom running her store, it wouldn't be a Friday night without their pie and wings., also saying hi to Kathy

Brian kolek - April 01 at 08:28 AM