



Marion A. (Fanelli) Belden

February 12, 2007

Mrs. Marion A. (Fanelli) Belden, of Utica, passed away on Monday, February 12, 2007, at Crouse Irving Memorial Hospital with her loving daughter by her side.

Born in Utica on October 10, 1923, Marion was the daughter of the late Rocco and Mary Grace "Hattie" (Caruso) Fanelli. She was raised and educated locally and attended T.R. Proctor High School. On August 21, 1948 she married Vincent J. Belden, who was a partner in the accounting firm of Ganey, Hagan & Co, and the supervisor of the 2nd Ward of the city of Utica. Their marriage was well-founded upon love for each other and devotion to their family. Marion and Vincent were blessed with a union of 33 years until his passing on January 12, 1982.

During her working life, Marion held a variety of positions. She was a shoe salesperson at Nisley Beautiful Shoes; she assisted her uncle at the Northern Lights hot dog stand in North Utica; and she was a site manager at the Cornhill Senior Center for the Nutrition program. She selflessly retired to care for her grandchildren, who affectionately called her "Grandma-ma". Her daughter and her grandchildren were the heart and soul of her life. An altruistic woman who loved her time on this earth, she had a feisty, vibrant personality, and loved to socialize and make her home welcome to visitors. As a seasoned cook, she entertained her guests with her wonderful homemade Italian cuisine. Always active and energetic, Marion was for many years an avid bowler with the Utica Women's Bowling Association. She also taught

Italian mini classes at Utica Catholic Academy, which her students have affectionately remembered through the years. She was best known for those cooking classes and the cookbook she produced entitled *The Art of Italian Cooking*. She was a member of the Ladies Progressive Golf League at Twin Ponds, and also the Valley View Ladies Golf League. Marion called Bingo for over 35 years, first at UCA, and later at Notre Dame, where she was fondly regarded as “the B-9 lady.” When not calling, Marion could be found playing the game she so loved. She also enjoyed scratching lottery games of chance and playing cards with her friends and family. In more recent years, she was acknowledged by the Marian Association at Notre Dame High School for lifetime contribution to Catholic Education. She was a longtime devoted parishioner of the Church of the Blessed Sacrament, and was a member of the Altar Rosary Society, the Mother’s Club, and the PTA while her daughters attended school. As a cheerleading coach at Blessed Sacrament, she led the squad to a championship.

Marion is survived by her daughter, Gail L. Belden-Harrington of New Hartford with whom she resided. Always close to her heart was the memory of her beloved daughter, Deborah A. Belden, who passed away on April 15, 1968. Also surviving are her cherished grandchildren, Shane D. Harrington, Courtney L. Harrington, and Brittany-paige Harrington, and their father, David A. Harrington. Marion enjoyed a special relationship with her daughter Gail’s in-laws, June and Bud Harrington and Alison and Patrick O’Leary. In addition, she leaves her in-laws, Josephine Wolanin, and Marion M. Belden, who were like sisters to her. She shared a very special closeness with her niece Kelley and her husband, Kenneth Towne and their children Mark Rodeo, Nicole Rodeo, Karlie, Kenny, Keara, and Alexis Towne. She also leaves her nieces and nephews and their families, Kimberly Wirkus, Joanne Price, Bill and Sharon Wolanin, Marguerite (Dolly) and Al Banek, David and Susan Wolanin, Dean Wolanin, her godchild Suzanne Wolanin and Claire Jenny, Barbara Mario, Mary Leahy, Dr. R. Michael Belden and Dr. Kathy Belden, Mary Theresa Belden, Dr. William Belden and Dr. Tammy Belden; her great-nieces,

and great-nephews; and her godson Dr. William W. Mark of Md; and her aunts, Rose Gugliuzza of CA, and Mary Caruso of Utica; and her cousins, including her favorite cousins, Mary Salerno of New Hampshire, and Ceil Soellner of Florida; Janet Herbowy of Whitesboro, James and Ursula DelMonte of Clinton, Roberta DelMonte of Whitesboro, Annmarie and Daniel Corleto of Utica, Carmen and Barbara Daino, Dolores Hone, Frances Scory, and Connie Modnick, all of CA, and John and Deb Soellner of Fla. Marion shared in many rewarding and lasting friendships which continued throughout the years, especially with Clareen, Lillian, and Ginny and her "Friends of Notre Dame." She was predeceased by her sister and brother-in-law, Concetta (Tina) and Lawrence Wirkus; her brothers-in-law, William Belden, Raymond Belden, and William Wolanin, her uncles, Christy Gugliuzza, and Ben Caruso; her nephew, Tom Price; her great-nephew, Tommy Price; and her cousins, Jack DelMonte, Esther Goldstein, Donna DelMonte, Gerry Herbowy, and Henry Salerno.

Heartfelt appreciation is extended to Dr. William Berkery who cared for Marion with dignity and respect and was considered more like family; and to the staff of Crouse Irving Memorial Hospital, especially Kara, Oscar, Maureen and Trish, for their genuine care and compassion.

A special thank you is offered to Ann Spina and her daughters, Gabrielle and Jaclyn for their constant love and support for Marion, not only in recent times, but through the years. Gail and her family appreciate the friendship. Thanks also to Ondrea Grippe –Getz and her husband Steve who offered their caring concern and generosity.

Visitation will be held Sunday from 2-6 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. For those wishing to do so, please consider memorial donations in Mrs. Belden's honor to one of the following: Notre Dame High School, Inlet Ambulance Corp., or Crouse Health Foundation; envelopes will be available at the funeral home. Marion's funeral will commence on Monday morning at 10:30 from the funeral home and at

11:30 at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish at Mt. Carmel Church where her Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated. Interment will take place in St. Agnes Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Marion was lovingly known to her grandchildren's friends as "Grandma-ma."

"We love you Grandma-ma and we will miss you very much."

Tribute Wall



“ Gail, I am so sorry that I could not be with you during this difficult time but you were in my thoughts every day that I was away. Marion was family to me and I will miss her. She was one of our biggest fans at MGU for 30 years. It won't be the same without her. You are my best friend and I love you.##imported-begin##Joanne Donaruma##imported-end##

February 23, 2007 at 09:38 PM



“ Gail, I was a friend of your sister Debbie.
I remember the night she was killed as if it were yesterday. We went to school together. I live in Liverpool but was in Utica last Saturday and picked up a copy of the paper and saw in the paper that your Mom had passed away and wanted to let you know how sorry I am for your loss. I hope that you can take comfort in knowing she is now with Debbie and your Dad and be able to cherish all the memories that you have of her. I am so sorry.
God Bless You!!
Love,
Sharon Carrow
P.S. Do not hesitate to E-mail me back if you would like.##imported-begin##Sharon Oot Carrow##imported-end##

February 21, 2007 at 12:02 AM



“ Dear Gail and Family, was sorry to hear of my friend Marion's passing. A friend contacted me and I brought it up on the internet. She was a fun person and I enjoyed all of our bingo days together. Sure glad we had that time together. We will keep you and your family in our hearts and in our prayers. God Bless.
Connie and Larry from Florida###imported-begin###Connie & Larry Bartoszek###imported-end##

February 19, 2007 at 08:28 PM



“ Gail and family, I was sorry to read your mother passed away. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. God Bless You All.###imported-begin###Cathy (Scicchitano) Preacher###imported-end##

February 19, 2007 at 09:57 AM



“ Dear Gail, Shane, Courtney and Brittany,
Mrs. "B" has always been there for me and my girls ...We love her and will miss her more than words can say. She always made us laugh and smile. She made us feel like a part of her family. She will always be close to our heart.
Ann(ie) Gabrielle and Jackie Spina###imported-begin###Ann Marrone Spina###imported-end##

February 18, 2007 at 10:34 AM



“ Gail,
I am sorry to hear of your mother's death. We enjoyed our friendship especially the days at Blessed Sacrament and of course at Valley View playing golf.##imported-begin##Anna Cafarelli##imported-end##

February 17, 2007 at 11:12 AM



“ To Marion's Family-

I had the privilege of working Bingo with this wonderful woman when I was a student and afterwards at Notre Dame. She was always sweet, smiling, and fun to be around. Her presence at that school is missed, and her presence in this world will not easily be forgotten.

She was a genuinely wonderful woman.

*Sincerely,
Lou Parrotta*

Ps. No one said B-NIIIIINNNNNEEE Better##imported-begin##Lou Parrotta##imported-end##

February 16, 2007 at 02:46 PM



“ *It has been several years since I attended the DelMonte and Goldstein family gatherings where your mom always was the life of the party. A wonderful and caring women. My prayers are with you and her. May God bless her.##imported-begin##David Lee (Lia)##imported-end##*

February 16, 2007 at 10:42 AM



“ Dearest Gail and Family, Marrion was a beautiful Lady, always enjoyed to see her at all the social functions, she will be sadley missed. Bless you and you are in my prayers Love Judy Piazza##imported-begin##Judy Piazza##imported-end##

February 16, 2007 at 08:29 AM



“ Gail

I was so sorry to hear about the loss of your mother. I have many terrific (and funny) memories of her during our high school and later years. The love of a mother is a wonderful blessing that, once we had our own children, we could more fully appreciate. You will be in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Take good care!

*Love,
Kathy##imported-begin##Kathy Everson##imported-end##*

February 15, 2007 at 07:41 PM



“ Gail, I am very sorry for the loss of your wonderful mother.... My prayers are with you at this time...##imported-begin##Dave Barocsi##imported-end##

February 15, 2007 at 09:55 AM



“ Gail, We were deeply saddened to hear of your loss. Please let us know if you need anything. We will keep you and your girls in our prayers.
Love, Donna, Dean, Don, Chelsea, Cambria, Audrey, Miranda and Felicia##imported-begin##Donna Mortise##imported-end##

February 15, 2007 at 08:52 AM



“ Dear Gail and Family, My Mother and I want to express our deepest condolences to you and your family on the loss of your lovely mother. We will keep all of you in our prayers. Mary Hosey & Mary DeNigro##imported-begin##Mary Hosey & Mary DeNigro##imported-end##

February 14, 2007 at 02:52 PM



“ The Cordisco family would like to extend their deepest sympathy to Gail. Marion was a dear friend of ours. Marion was a very loving mother and donated much of her time calling bingo games at UCA and Notre Dame.##imported-begin##Marian Cordisco##imported-end##

February 14, 2007 at 07:42 AM