



## Mary A. Bello

May 22, 1941 - February 26, 2019

UTICA - Mary A. Bello, age 77, passed away on Tuesday, February 26, 2019. God met her in the comfort of her home, embraced her, and escorted her to eternal rest.

Born on May 22, 1941 in Santa Cruz, Madeira, Portugal, Mary was the daughter of the late John and Maria (Pires) Belo. She immigrated to the United States and settled in Utica. She attended Wetmore Grammar School and was a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School.

Maria was a fun aunt who was entertaining to her nieces and nephews; her jokes and play on words are memorable to this day. Mary's Bacon Street homestead was a treasure to her, and she had a spot for all of her important possessions. A thrifty shopper, she was well-attired and was taught by her Mom that every good outfit deserved a coordinating hat. She was proud of her Portuguese heritage, her independence, and her ability to maintain her own home. Her charitable nature was unending. Although her physical home brought her happiness and love of family, it was her spiritual home, St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church, that filled her soul with joy and renewal. She supported all the parish activities, attended Masses, Novenas, festivals, and participated in religious organizations, guilds, and societies. She embraced the values and commitment she made to the Lord in this life. She grasped the glory of the Cross and knew that God loved each of us as if there was only one of us, and that the Holy Mother of God was blessed and chosen. The Lord never said that our journey would be easy, but he did promise that the

arrival would be glorious. Even though she was epileptic, Maria never allowed her illness to prevent her from her routing which included attending daily mass. She attended religious gatherings and Rosary Rallies held at other churches in the city, and she expressed her condolences at visitations and funerals with much reverence.

Mary is survived by her brother and sisters-in-law, John and Susan Belo, and Nancy Bello; her beloved nephews and their loves, John and Betzeleina Belo, Paul and Debbie Belo, and Marc Belo; and her late nephew Matthew's fiancée, Jannine Shirey. She also leaves her great-nieces and great-nephews, John A. Belo Jr., Daniella Belo, and Angel L. Belo; Taylor, Madison, and Bryan Belo; and many cousins. She was dear to many clergy and staff members of St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church. She was predeceased by her brothers, Harry A. Bello, and Paul Bello; and her nephew, Matthew Bello in 2018.

Mary was blessed with wonderful neighbors and friends who were an inspiration to her during her journey of life. She appreciated all their kindness and concern. She will be fondly remembered by friends and loved ones as a "public transportation expert"!

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Mary's funeral service and Celebration of Life which will commence on Monday, March 11th at 1:00 at St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church where her Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. Mark Kaminski. The family will receive visitors at the conclusion of Mass.

# Tribute Wall

TS

“*Mary you will be missed. I loved your stories about old East Utica. I will miss your jokes and sharing a meal with you. Even though your life was hard, you never let it stop you. It always amazed me how you got around the city, whether by bus or walking. You had such a beautiful faith in our LORD. Thank you for spending time with us. May God Bless you and keep you.*  
*Tiffany Service and Family*

Tiffany Service - March 12, 2019 at 06:42 AM

MI

“*God Bless Mary on your funeral mass day. She was so devoted to God and the Blessed Mother. She should have lived longer.*  
*Mariangela luorno Utica*

Mariangela luorno - March 11, 2019 at 01:55 PM

BN

“*Bill Niermeyer lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Bello*



Bill Niermeyer - March 10, 2019 at 04:09 PM

BN

*Rest in the arm's of God, Mary. You have gained your eternal reward. I am sure you will be walking around heaven visiting the Saints.*

Bill Niermeyer - March 10, 2019 at 04:14 PM

JS

“ *Joseph A. Surace lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Bello*



---

**Joseph A. Surace** - March 05, 2019 at 08:41 PM

SU

“ *Sam Arcuri ( UFD-retired) lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Bello*



---

**Sam Arcuri ( UFD-retired)** - March 05, 2019 at 06:29 PM

FO

“ *Fiona O'downey lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Bello*



---

**fiona o'downey** - March 04, 2019 at 08:26 PM

AO

“ *My sincere condolences to the Bello family. She was a East Utica icon when I was growing up in the neighborhood and will always be to me. God bless and rest in peace.*



*Tony Orsino*

---

**Anthony S Orsino** - March 04, 2019 at 07:45 PM

GS

“ So sorry 💕 she was a wonderful woman in the world she will be missed God bless 💕💕

---

**Gayle Scalise** - March 04, 2019 at 07:02 PM

BP

“ I am really sorry to hear of Mary's passing. Mary knew my family through St. Anthony /St Agnes church during our youth. We sometimes hung out with her at St Anthony's Feast. She never complained about anything or anyone. My sisters & I last saw her at St Anthony's feast a couple of years ago. She always had Jesus in her heart & His mother Mary. I even went to school with Harry Bello, one of her brothers. Harry, I am so sorry for your loss; may she rest with Jesus & His angels in peace.

*Barbra DiPerna/Gondek*

---

**Barbara Di Perna/Gondek** - March 04, 2019 at 05:48 PM

ML

“ We were truly saddened to hear about Mary's passing. I have many fond memories of her from our family trips to Utica over the years. She will be missed by her Canadian cousins.

---

**Mandy Labriola** - March 03, 2019 at 08:20 PM



“ *My deepest sympathy to the Bello family. Mary was our neighbor growing up on Bacon Street. Mary never had children of her own, but was loved by all the neighborhood children growing up in E. Utica. She entertained them for hours with her knock knock jokes and games. Mary loved her church (St. Anthony's) but would walk all over to visit other parishes especially during the season of Lent. She will be remembered fondly by many people. Heaven has another angel. RIP Mary!*



Laurie Graziano Veinot - March 03, 2019 at 01:05 PM

FO

*So sorry for the passing of Mary Bello. My family, the Downey's, lived at 512 Bacon and I knew Mary of course in my later years. She was always kind, gentle, elegantly dressed, never complained, loved Jesus. A true citizen of East Utica and she will be missed, a thread pulled from the fabric of our lives. Rest Well Mary. You will not be forgotten.*

fiona o'downey - March 04, 2019 at 08:22 PM

VJ

“ *I've had the pleasure of knowing Mary for nearly 40 years. It was always a joy to run into her and listen to what she had to say. I will miss those opportunities. My deepest sympathy to her family.*

Victor J. Fariello Jr. - March 02, 2019 at 11:14 PM

VB

*A familiar face in our neighborhood growing up Will be missed Virginia orsino boehlert*

vboehlert - March 04, 2019 at 05:56 AM

VJ

“ *Victor J. Fariello Jr. lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Bello*



---

**Victor J. Fariello Jr.** - March 02, 2019 at 10:26 PM

DA

“ *Danielle lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Bello*



---

**Danielle** - March 01, 2019 at 05:00 PM

RP

“ *My wife Rosemarie and I used to see Mary in Church. She was a holy person and now an angel heaven. Even she may had physical difficulty, she never complained and made her way to churches. She even remembered me as an altar boy. A beautiful person inside and out. We used to give her a ride home too. She loved Jesus, Our Lady very much and now has her eternal reward.*



---

**Ralph Paladino** - March 01, 2019 at 04:55 PM



“ *Maria Arrigo-sequin lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Bello*



---

**Maria Arrigo-sequin** - March 01, 2019 at 01:56 PM

JA

“ *Joann Attili sent a virtual gift in memory of Mary A. Bello*



---

**Joann Attili** - March 01, 2019 at 01:50 PM

FC

“ *Our very heartfelt sympathy to the family of Mary Bello. We have many fond memories of Mary . May she be surrounded by angels forevermore.*

*Fred and Jeanne Castronovo*

---

**fred and jeanne castronovo** - March 01, 2019 at 01:47 PM

MV

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with Mary's family. Mary was apart of my childhood memories. I will always remember Mary dressed so elegantly. She was very kind. Mary taught my daughter how to make palm crosses years ago. Rest in Peace Mary the East side will miss you.*

---

**Michele Vanno** - March 01, 2019 at 01:41 PM

ML

“ So sad to hear about Maria's passing, may she rest in peace. With our deepest sympathy from your Canadian cousins, the Lewis's and the Belo's.

-----  
**Maria Lewis** - March 01, 2019 at 12:50 PM

CC

“ Chris Conway lit a candle in memory of Mary A. Bello



-----  
**Chris Conway** - March 01, 2019 at 08:23 AM

CC

“ My deepest condolences to the Bello Family. Although I didnt know Mary personally we all knew Mary. Growing up in E Utica. Going to church or taking a bus downtown or walking down Bleecker St she will always be a part of my childhood memories. Rest in peace Mary.

-----  
**Chris Conway** - March 01, 2019 at 08:22 AM

DM

“ To the Bello family. I knew Mary throughout my youth and saw the struggles she endured. May God greet her with open arms and may she Rest In Peace  
My sincere condolences  
Donna Pedone Merhib



-----  
**donna methib** - February 28, 2019 at 05:58 PM

RL

*My thoughts and prayers to her family along with my sincere condolences. I have known Mary for over 60 years and was a good friend of her brother Harry. Many nights at dusk we would listen to her tell her jokes to us kids and we couldn't wait for the next round. I know the the Lord will take good care of her now ! You will be missed by all who knew you Mary. Rick LaClair and family*

---

**Rick LaClair** - March 07, 2019 at 06:04 PM

JM

*What a deep down beautiful person Mary was. I was stationed at 6 Engine and she would stop by for a chat. I will always cherish her. Fond memories. I know the Lord has opened his arms to her. RIP. Jim Mauthe, retired UFD.*

---

**Jim Mauthe** - March 10, 2019 at 07:51 AM