



Mrs. Mary A. (Potenza) DiCesare

December 28, 1923 - March 22, 2015

Mrs. Mary A. (Potenza) DiCesare, age 91, peacefully moved to her eternal home, which her Lord and Savior had prepared for her, on Sunday, March 22, 2015 with her loving family at her side.

Her passing took place at the Presbyterian Home for CNY, Inc. where she resided for the past four years.

Born in Utica on December 28, 1923, Mary was the daughter of the late Vito and Serafina (Dellerba) Potenza. Raised and educated locally, she was a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School/Class of 1942. On August 4, 1945 she married Sebastian J. "Buster" DiCesare while he was on leave from military duty during World War II. The couple shared a truly blessed union of 68 years until Buster's passing on March 19, 2014.

During her employment years, Mary worked as a bookkeeper and secretary at local establishments. Subsequently, blessed with a talent for knitting, crocheting, and sewing, Mary was a professional seamstress by trade and was employed by various local upholstery businesses. She eventually became self-employed, making her own custom slip covers at her home. The memory of Mary will long remain in the homes and hearts of her family and friends with whom she lovingly shared the fruits of her talents: crocheted or knitted tablecloths, afghans, doilies, baby sets, doll outfits, wash cloths, hand towels, pot holders and scarves. She graciously gave of her time to assist family and friends with their various sewing, crocheting and knitting projects. Mary was a humble and faith-filled woman. On the surprise celebration of her

80th birthday, Mary expressed to the some 84 guests, "In all my dreams, I never thought I would be honored in such a wonderful, memorable way. I want to thank all of you. You have been the inspirations of my life. I would never have seen this day without your constant love and support. I love each and every one of you. However the most precious gift of all was that the Lord made it possible for us to be together." Mary and Buster found great satisfaction and joy in the love of their children and grandchildren. Mary was a faithful adorer at Nocturnal Adoration for many years. A former member of Sacred Heart Church, she most recently was a parishioner of St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church.

Mary is survived by her daughters and sons-in-law, Annette and Francis Paparella, Joanne and John Bonvicino, and Anne Marie DiCesare and Ed Briggs, all of Utica; her son, Richard DiCesare and Cindy Kosor of North Carolina. Mary mourned the loss of her son, Anthony "Tony" DiCesare, who passed away on December 18, 2012. She will be remembered by her daughter-in-law, Mary DiCesare of Utica; her grandsons, Scott St. Onge, David St. Onge and Kelley Thorp, and Sebastian K. DiCesare. Her extended family includes her brother, John Potenza of Syracuse; many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and in-laws, Josephine "Jody" Potenza, Helen DiCesare, Joseph D. DiCesare, Jr., Connie DeCesare, and Angie and Jim Fitzgerald. She was predeceased by her brothers and sisters-in-law, Stephen and Mary Potenza, Abbate "Pat" Potenza, and Dominick and Ann Potenza; her sisters and brothers-in-law, Ida Rose and Peter A. DeCarlo Sr., Palma "Polly" and Raymond Zangrilli, Rose and Joseph Fiore, and Catherine "Kate" and Rocco Graziadei; her father and mother-in-law, Guiseppe "Joseph" and Antonia "Antoinette" (Salamida) DiCesare; in-laws, Nancy Potenza, Antoinette and Tony Pandolf, Lorenza DiCesare, Carl J. DeCesare, Peter J. DiCesare, Pasquale "Pat" DiCesare, and Shirley DiCesare.

Mary was appreciative of the care and compassion offered by the staff of the Presbyterian Home for CNY, Inc., especially the Birch Unit.

Visitation will be held on Friday from 4-7 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Mary's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Saturday morning at 9:30 from the funeral home and at 10:30 at St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church where her Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. Mark Kaminski. Entombment will take place in Resurrection Chapel Mausoleum at Holy Trinity Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Resurrection Chapel Mausoleum

Champlin Ave.
Utica, NY 13501

Tribute Wall

BA

“ Hi Annette & Joanne, my name is Barbara DiPerna/Gondek & I am one of Thersa DiPerna's daughters. Marilyn, Bob, Lucille, & Rock are my brothers & sisters; I have another sister Ann Maria (the youngest). Marilyn & I went to school with you at St. Anthony's. We are extremely sorry to h ear of your mom's passing. Our mom died June 09th 2,005 & our dad died Sept. 12th 2,011. We feel your pain. I know we haven't seen each other for years but Marilyn & I remember the fun we had at St. Anthony feast and school before she left to go to special -ed at Kernnen School from 6th grade till HS. You can e-mail me at mrsgrondo@gmail.com our prayers are with you & your family.

Barbara DiPerna/Gondek

BarbaraDiPerna/Gondek - March 28, 2015 at 08:41 PM

SD

“ Annette, Joanne, Annie, Rick and families--- So sorry to hear of your Mom's passing--she is now at peace with your Dad and all of her siblings. So many memories come to mind of my "sweet Aunt Mary"--she taught me so many things re: sewing, knitting and crocheting--I would always go to her for my mistakes and problems in any of those areas. She will be greatly missed but never forgotten--such a lovely & talented woman. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time--you all have so many wonderful memories that will carry you through this difficult time.

Love and Hugs to all--Sara and Dick



Sara and Dick - March 26, 2015 at 09:27 PM

RP

“ Joanne, John and family....we are so sorry for the loss of your Mom and please accept our deepest condolences to you and your family. Mary is with Buster now enjoying the "joy of Their Lord". Life is not ended only changed. Someday we will see all our Beloved Loved ones again, forever in eternal life.
Ralph and Rosemarie Paladino



Ralph Paladino - March 25, 2015 at 01:51 PM

RZ

“ May your beautiful soul rest in peace Aunt Mary. I will forever cherish the memoires of "growing up" at your house & I will always keep them close in my heart. You were and always will be very special to me. I hope that you and Uncle Buster are now happily dancing together again. Please give my Gram a big hug & kiss for me. Fly high Aunt Mary, I Love you!

Rhonda Zangrilli-Russell - March 25, 2015 at 08:48 AM

MZ

“ To our dear cousins..may you find comfort in knowing that your mom..our aunt mary...is with those whom she has longed to see..love maria, alex and family

maria zammit - March 24, 2015 at 07:45 PM

MZ

“ Maria Zammit lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary A. (Potenza) DiCesare



maria zammit - March 24, 2015 at 07:43 PM