



Mary Ann (Jarema) Kennedy

February 7, 1935 - May 24, 2009

Mrs. Mary Ann (Jarema) Kennedy, age 74, of North Utica, passed away on Sunday, May 24, 2009, at the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center with her loved ones by her side. Her passing was peaceful and her family admired her valiant efforts during her illness.

Born in Utica on February 7, 1935, Mary Ann was the daughter of the late Frank and Barbara (Kulas) Jarema. Raised and educated in locally, she was a 1953 graduate of Utica Free Academy. On October 10, 1953 she married Joseph George Kennedy with whom she shared 27 years prior to his passing on July 30, 1981; the blessing of their three children was a great bond of their marriage.

Mary Ann's diligent work ethic combined with her comical attitude defined her wonderful personality which endeared her to all of her employers and fellow co-workers. Her career included positions at Univac, for 21 years, ICL, General Electric Company, and Par Technology where she worked in various capacities during her 27 year tenure with the company. As a loving mother, she was most proud of the relationship she shared with her children, and the special moments in the lives of each of her grandchildren; Michael's graduation as a firefighter, Pret's acceptance into Boston College, and Kiana's quality and abundant days with her Grandma who Mary Ann truly adored. Her humorous personality, honest nature, and strength of character will long remain in the hearts of those she touched. She was proud of her heritage and held strong to her own values and traditions which inspired her selective

cooking. She combined the foods of both ethnic backgrounds, expertly preparing sausage rolls and olive & onion rolls. A valued shopper, she would obtain the best of bargains and wears. She was also a cat lover who shared a great devotion with her "Daisy" who filled her life in these later years. She treasured the holidays and enjoyed traveling, especially to Canada. Games of chance were a highlight in her life and during her leisure time she frequented various casinos. She was also a former member of the North Utica Senior Center. As a woman of faith, Mary Ann took comfort in praying and recitation of the rosary. She was a communicant of St. Mark's Church and St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church.

Mary Ann is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, JoAnn M. and Kenneth J. Mariano of Utica; her sons and daughters-in-law, Joseph F. and Waiyee Kennedy, and Michael A. and Robin Kennedy, all of New Hartford; and her grandchildren, Michael A. Kennedy, Jr., Alexandra "Pret" Kennedy; and Kiana Kennedy. Survivors also include her sister, Stella Swier of New Hartford; her nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and in-laws, Devina and Jack Giambrone, Kathleen and Thomas Bifarella, Patricia Kennedy (godchild), George "Marty" and Nancy Kennedy, Jack and Susan Kennedy, and Angelo J. Giacobelli; and a special nephew Michael True; also her neighbors, Barb and Fred Winne. She was predeceased by her brother, Charles "Teddy" and Helen Jarema; her in-laws, George F. and Caroline Kennedy, and Georgianna J. Giacobelli; and her best friend, Mary Conte. The family wishes to express their sincere appreciation to Dr. Nelson and the entire staff at Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center, especially the 4th floor, care attendant Earl and the caregivers of CCU and ICU for their total compassion which was outstanding and so comforting.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday from 5-7 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. By family request, please omit floral offerings. Mary Ann's funeral service will commence on Thursday afternoon at 12:00 from the funeral home and at 1:00 at St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church where her Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated.

Interment will take place in St. Agnes Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Tribute Wall



“ Eannace Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mary Ann (Jarema) Kennedy



Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. - May 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ My deepest sympathy goes out to Joe, Mike and Joann and their families. I have many fond memories of working with MaryAnn at my very first job at Woolworth's! She always made me laugh . I also enjoyed our chats as she sometimes got Kiana off the bus....I know she loved her family very much and she will be watching over you all from above.##imported-begin##Debbie Sellars##imported-end##

May 27, 2009 at 01:30 PM



“ Joe and YE:
Joe, I was sorry to hear about your mother. YE, I know how hard it is to watch your husband grieve for his mother - been there. Just wanted to let you both know my thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of sorrow. It is extremely hard to lose a loved one. Marilyn##imported-begin##Marilyn Wall##imported-end##

May 27, 2009 at 10:07 AM



“ To the Kennedy family

Mary Ann was a wonderful woman, she was kind and generous, sweet but yet fiesty..she was truly a great friend. A second mother in a sense. she was a partner in crime with my mom. I know my mom is with her now, and talking about us... the one thing they both loved more than anything.. their families, their children. May they both finally rest together now.

Carl and Lisa Conte##imported-begin##Mr & Mrs. Carl Conte##imported-end##

May 27, 2009 at 07:46 AM



“ Dear Kennedy family,
We are sorry that Maryann had to leave all of us so soon. We will especially miss her "Maryannisms" as we fondly called many of her stories and expressions that were shared sitting around Robin and Mike's kitchen table. She had her own way of conveying how proud she was of her children and grandchildren. At that table is where many discussions would take place. It's also a place and time when she shared her name, "Grandma Gig"with our children! Thank- you ! They enjoyed her company.Although she was visiting her grandchildren , she was always interested in what was going on in all of our lives. She always called to thank us when she received the yearly Christmas card. Something so simple meant a lot to her. There are so many times to mention but the just of it ,is that Maryann provided all of us with smiles ,laughs, memories and most of all love for her family . The perpetual Thursdays will always be remembered and appreciated since we all had fun and everyone was welcome I think she really enjoyed those times. But things change for all of us and that alows for other enjoyments , like watching Grandchildren grow , celebrating their accomplishments and seeing the fruits of her hard work in the people her children are. There is a quote that says," A LIFE WELL LIVED IS THE BEST GIFT YOU CAN GIVE THE WORLD." It seems Maryann has accomplished that! Although her earthly body is gone, her love and spirit live on .Robin and Mike a special thank you for sharing Maryann with us. Cherish your memories and above all ,May The Peace of CHRIST that goes beyond our understanding abide in all of you.
Love ,Lenora &Tony##imported-begin##Lenora Murad##imported-end##

May 27, 2009 at 02:26 AM



“ Joe and Mike ,
I am so sorry to hear of the loss of your mother . Please know that you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time . May you cherish her memory and may she rest in peace .God bless , Tony Amodio and family###imported-begin###Tony Amodio###imported-end###

May 26, 2009 at 10:53 PM



“ When Nancy called me yesterday to ask me to play for your mother's funeral, my heart sank...It seems impossible that it was 30years ago that i first met your mom. She has always held a place in my heart all these years. She was always smiling and open and made everyone feel welcome and loved. Each time I saw her through the years, we would catch up, hug and be so happy that we saw one another. I cannot imagine right now the emptiness you are feeling but please always remember the good times that you had together and let a smile come upon your face, for you know that she is watching over you along with your dad.
It was strange how Sunday I drove over Herkimer Rd to take the kids for an icecream and as I drove by Strawberryfields I gave her a "Hey Mrs Kennedy wave" in my head and thought about her for a while. She brought a smile to me face.
Please accept my deepest sympathy to you and your families. Your mom will always have a special place in my heart. May God give you strength during the days ahead.
With love
Annie###imported-begin###Anne Carlone Elacqua###imported-end###

May 26, 2009 at 01:48 PM



“ To Mary Ann's childdren,
I am so sorry for your loss. She was truly a fun person to know. As a mother she truly loved all of you and you enriched her life and added meaning to it. Some things I remember are her tell it like it is attitude, great sense of humor and that she wasn't a complainer. You had a mother anyone could be proud of. I will miss her.

To Mike, Robin, Michael, Pret,
What a gift you were to Mary Ann. You filled her life. She was so happy when all of her grandchildren were born. I have so many family memories..Thursday night dinners at your house where the whole family gathered, you always made her and everyone feel welcome, Sunday pop warner football games, (don't forget the trooper story), Pret teaching Mary Ann to play Let it ride, countless card games, Mary Ann and my mother riding the horse at Pret's birthday party.

her and my mother dancing at your wedding! She was a joy to know, and her sense of humor will long be remembered. She'd say Donna I got you that time! She was very proud of you Mike, and how well your family has done, and the strong family values you have instilled. I say Thank God for having Mary Ann in our lives, may she rest in peace and may we tell Mary Ann stories for many years to come. She will live on through all of you. Hey what do you think Brian and her will talk about? Talk they'll probably visit a casino up there. Love Always,

Donna##imported-begin##Donna Jordan##imported-end##

May 26, 2009 at 10:58 AM



“ It seems like yesterday that we were all on Lansing Street where time stood still. Mrs. Kennedy was a mother and a friend to all of us. How very fortunate we were to have her in our lives and our past. She was a remarkable lady who showed us all how to work are while enjoying life. Her house was always open to us and welcomed each of us into her family. She always treated me like a son. Mike, Joe, and Joann, thank you for sharing your mom with all of us. We all carry a special place in our hearts for Mrs. Kennedy. I will certainly miss her but the memories of her will live on always. My thoughts are with you all.

Vinny##imported-begin##Vinny Borello##imported-end##

May 25, 2009 at 08:53 PM