



## Mrs. Maxine F. (Allen) Gelfuso

July 14, 1931 - May 1, 2021

UTICA - Our mom, Maxine F. Allen Gelfuso, passed away May 1, 2021 at the Masonic Care Community of NY with her family by her side.

She was born July 14, 1931 in Brooklyn, NY weighing only 2 lbs. 5 oz. Her mother, Lepha (Fearon) Allen, was told not to bond with her as she was not expected to live, but from the beginning she defied all odds and went on to live a long, wonderful life filled with friends, family, and much love. Maxine was raised in Pratt's Hollow and Utica, NY, graduating from Utica Free Academy in 1949.

In September 1952 she married our dad, John G. Gelfuso. They shared more than 52 years of marriage until his passing in 2005. Together they raised five children in their beloved West Utica home where everyone was welcomed.

Maxine retired from St. Luke's Memorial Hospital after over 25 years of service in the Admissions and ER Department. She was an active member of the PTA while her children attended Washington School. She was also a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, a mentor at Kernan School, and was probably most proud of her title as the "hat lady", providing hats, mittens, and scarves to any student in need.

Our mom had a loving and accepting personality; this resulted in many lifelong friendships, including a special bond and friendship with her sister Margo.

Mom attended Grace Church and was a longtime volunteer at the Emmaus House.

Maxine is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, John B. and Emmy

Gelfuso; her daughters and sons-in-law, Linda and Dr. Charles Burns, Mary Ann and William Knapp, Janie Gelfuso and fiancé Eddie Ebbert, and Carol and Mark Sterling; her grandchildren, Jennifer and Angel, Christina, and Benjamin; Curt and Nicole, Alan and Kelly, the memory of Cassidy Fearon Knapp who passed in December 2019, Katy and Manju; Alyssa, Austin and Courtney; Elijah, Alex, Matthew, Kayla; 13 great-grandchildren; 2 great-great-grandchildren; and her sister and brother-in-law, Margo and Stanley “Scotty” Kalwara. She also leaves her nieces, nephews, all of whom shared a special bond with mom; great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins; and sister-in-law, Barbara Allen. She was predeceased by her brother, Melvin Allen; and her brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Anthony and Laura Gelfuso.

We would like to thank the nurses and staff at the Masonic Care Community for the love and care they provided our mom.

Private services for our Mom will be held at the convenience of our family with interment beside our Dad in Calvary Cemetery to follow. Please consider a donation to a charity of your choice in her name if you so choose.

During this time of social distancing that we are all experiencing, please take a moment to connect with Maxine’s family through the “Memories” section of her obituary. Our prayers go out to all as a sign of our continued support.

This obituary was lovingly written by Maxine’s family.

# Cemetery Details

## **Calvary Cemetery**

2407 Oneida Street  
Utica, NY 13501  
(315) 735-2727

# Tribute Wall

PW

“ It was an honor and an working with Maxine in the ER..She was always thoughtful, kind ,respectful to all the staff, along with the people coming into the ER. You always had a soft spoken personality no matter what emergency situation that you had to deal with. You were a Very Important Member of our ER staff. Heaven truly gained a new Angel. Rest In Peace Dear Friend...God Bless Your Beautiful Soul..Jane & Paul

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Paul Waszkiewicz - May 10, 2021 at 10:52 AM

GM

“ To John, Linda, MaryAnn, Janie and Carol and Margo: What great memories Maxine gave us, from our times on Oswego St., Sharing all the memories at Washington School. Carol and our Megan always together. Maxine and I spent alot of time together too. SHE ALWAYS HAD A GREAT SMILE FOR EVERYONE. I last saw you Mom at the Masonic, last year when I was visiting, and we had a nice visit. So sorry that you were denied visitation for so long last year and hopefully you got to see her these past couple of months. Ernie and I sent our condolences to you all. Gwen and Ernie Mancini

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Gwenda A Mancini - May 10, 2021 at 09:35 AM

SW

“ To all Maxine’s family....I have such warm memories of your Mom and your Dad....they always welcomed me and my sister, Donna, into their home....for hours we would play ...the Gelfuso house was always fun...because of Maxine💔💔💔Susan (Williams) Wagner

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susan Wagner - May 09, 2021 at 10:30 AM

DM

“ Linda, Chuck & family: I am so sorry about your mom's passing. No matter their age or health, losing our mom is hard. What a beautifully written obituary. It sounds like your mom was an amazing woman, the rock of her family. Deb Martin

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**Deb Martin** - May 08, 2021 at 09:48 AM

MZ

“ To the family of Maxine, Your Mom was a great person, You probably won't remember but I used to babysit for you . She was so sweet. My deepest sympathy to all of you Maxine zarski

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**maxine Zarski** - May 08, 2021 at 09:35 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Maxine F. (Allen) Gelfuso.



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May 07, 2021 at 10:16 PM

CC

“ Chuck & Linda I am so sorry for your loss  
Craig Cardinale

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**Craig Cardinale** - May 07, 2021 at 12:24 PM

RH

“ My condolences to the family. I remember Maxine from work, she was a beautiful woman. May she RIP



Rosemarie Hughes - May 07, 2021 at 12:17 PM

AG

“ My loving nana will be dearly missed but one of my absolute favorite past times with her is when she would come visit us in Florida and walk me and my brother to school and home from school! I hate to miss the service but will be in attendance via internet! I love all my family and am here for each and every one of y'all during this time of need! Prayers for the Gelfuso family! Xo

Alyssa Crabtree (Maxine's granddaughter) - May 07, 2021 at 11:52 AM

LG

“ Linda Guarascio lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Maxine F. (Allen) Gelfuso



Linda Guarascio - May 07, 2021 at 11:04 AM

LG

Carol and family,  
My condolences, your mom was a very nice lady. I worked with her at St Luke's. She will be missed. Prayers to you and your family 🙏🙏🙏  
🙏

Linda Guarascio - May 07, 2021 at 11:06 AM

PH

“ Jane so sorry to hear of mom’s passing. I can remember her at Washington School for the ice cream social or helping teachers out on flag day. Guess those days are gone when we gathered respectfully and honored our flag!  
Rest In Peace  
Peter Huckabone



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**Peter Huckabone** - May 06, 2021 at 06:08 PM