



## Melody L. "Mel" Sortino

January 31, 2015

Melody L. "Mel" (Lawrence) Sortino, went home to heaven on Saturday, January 31, 2015 when she passed away at the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center with the love and support of her family.

Born in Ogdensburg, NY, Melody was the daughter of the late George and Leona (Losey) Lawrence. She also knew the love of her late step-father, Robert Baker. Raised and educated locally, she attended Utica Free Academy. At one time, she was married to Frank Annese and to that union came the blessing of twin daughters. The couple remained close as parents and were always concerned for the wellbeing of each other and their children. Mel entered into a second union when she married Fernando A. Sortino on St. Valentine's Day in 1997; they loved each other, watched over each other's family, and shared meaningful moments and memories that will last forever. Mel worked as a waitress at various area restaurants and nursing facilities. She was a direct and honest person, persuasive in her viewpoints and passionate about her commitments. Even in the face of ill health, Mel strived to please everyone in her life. She loved to entertain family and friends, and she did it in her own special style, "a la Sortino". She was a multi-talented cook and baker, from gourmet meals to candy making, and back to comfort food. She did it all! Those were the happiest times for her. She watched cooking shows on television and took thoughts and ideas and created an even more superb meal. When she was in good health, she was passionate about cooking, listening to music, and

dancing. But her greatest joy was in knowing that her children turned out to be good people and experiencing the blessing of grandchildren bestowed by God. Mel enjoyed bowling, bingo, "playing the ponies", and books; crossword puzzles, energy of live music, and computer games. And most of all --- animals! She had a menagerie of God's creatures: her canine, B.B., her feline, Sandy, her birds, Fletch and Oscar, and her fish, Spike, all of whom lived in happy harmony under her gentle care. Mel had a great spiritual devotion to Our Lady of Fatima, Padre Pio, and St. Anthony.

Melody is survived by her husband, Fernando; her son, Carl "Shawn" Beyer; her daughters and son-in-law, Kalynn Kiley, and Kara and Sean Mazzatti; and her grandchildren, Alex, Gavin, and Gianna Kiley. She will also be missed by her sisters and brothers-in-law, Diane Dimock, Dawn and Carmelo Cotto, and Darlene Lawrence; her brothers and sister-in-law, Robert and Mary O'Connor, Robin Lawrence, Kerry Baker, and Leslie Baker; many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, in-laws, Kathy Lawrence, Jackie Lawrence, Anthony Sortino, and Robert Sortino; her good and loyal friend, Terri Moracco; her longtime neighbors, John and Christina Trzepacz, and Marky; and family friend, Dean Cassidy, who has been of great support during this difficult time. She was predeceased by her sisters, Infant Veronica Lawrence, and Beverly "Midge" Lawrence; her brothers, Connie Lawrence, William Lawrence, and James Carpenter; her husband's parents, Ferdinando and Concetta (Tramutta) Sortino; and her brother-in-law, Rosario "Za" Sortino. The family is grateful to Lori Otis of the St. Elizabeth Family Practice Center on Middle Settlement Road for her many years of compassion and understanding; the entire staff of the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center, especially the Critical Care Unit nurses and personnel, Sr. Sharon Anne, and Deacon Paul who provided spiritual solace to Mel.

Visitation will be held Tuesday from 4-6 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Melody's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Tuesday evening at 6:00 at the funeral home immediately upon conclusion of visitation with Rev. John Buehler

officiating the ceremony

# Tribute Wall

SW

“ Sharon Crouse Wood lit a candle in memory of Melody L. "Mel" Sortino



Sharon Crouse Wood - February 03, 2015 at 09:13 AM

SW

*My friend, sister-in-law and co-worker you will never be forgotten. All the fun times and great memories when we worked together for years. A great friend and fun person. She always brought the twins into work and was such a good mother. Mel you have been suffering for a long time and now you are at peace with my ZAZA. Love and miss you xo My prayers and thoughts go out to your family and your sister Dawn Cotto. xo*

Sharon Crouse Wood - February 03, 2015 at 09:21 AM



“ Mel, you were a great person and will be missed by all. Say hi to my mom in heaven!

Nasser Elmeir - February 02, 2015 at 03:07 PM

TO

*Great memories Mel, RIP,see you again some day...*

Tony - February 02, 2015 at 04:47 PM

FE

*ONLY GOD KNOWS WHY*

FERD - February 03, 2015 at 08:44 AM

JS

“ R.I.P. Melody I hope your in a happier place and out of your pain.  
My thoughts and prays go out to Dawn and the family.

janice ( tyo ) Sanderson - February 02, 2015 at 12:07 PM

TD

“ Kalynn we are so sorry for your loss. Our  
prayers and love go out to you and your  
family. We love you



The DeGristinas - February 02, 2015 at 08:54 AM



“ RIP..you were a wonderful lady and raised some wonderful  
kids....you even had a hand in samantha's life and i thank you for  
those times..

Raylene Lubey - February 02, 2015 at 08:31 AM

JR

“ John, Sue Rahauiser lit a candle in memory  
of Melody L. "Mel" Sortino



John, Sue Rahauiser - February 02, 2015 at 08:08 AM

DD

“ *Denise Doolen lit a candle in memory of Melody L. "Mel" Sortino*



denise doolen - February 02, 2015 at 08:06 AM

JR

“ *R.I.P You lighted up a room with your smile I have so many memories the best is you married my brother and was very happy.I am so sorry Ferd, and carl,Kalynn and Kara,and family.*

John Sue Rahauiser - February 02, 2015 at 08:00 AM

CL

“ *Cathy L. purchased the Fields of Europe Basket for the family of Melody L. "Mel" Sortino.*



Cathy L. - February 02, 2015 at 07:17 AM

CL

“ *I was so sad when I went on facebook this morning and read that Mel had passed away. She was the most loving person that I know. I met Mel through her brother Connie who I married. She has two beautiful daughters. I never got to meet her grandchildren but I am sure they are the light of her life. My thoughts and prayers are with everyone in the family. Love to all Cathy Lawrence*

Cathy Lawrence - February 02, 2015 at 06:58 AM

JP

“ So sorry for your loss , Mel was a very special lady and will be missed. God bless you today and always !!

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**julia pawlikowski** - February 02, 2015 at 06:32 AM

CP

“ Christine Pullman purchased the Silver Season Bouquet for the family of Melody L. "Mel" Sortino.



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**Christine Pullman** - February 02, 2015 at 06:13 AM

JP

“ Jacqueline Passalacqua lit a candle in memory of Melody L. "Mel" Sortino



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**Jacqueline Passalacqua** - February 02, 2015 at 05:54 AM

JP

*Carl and family,*

*The sun, the moon, and the stars, will forever be around, reminding you of the love you shared, and the peace she has finally found.*

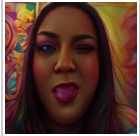
*Jacqui*

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**Jacqueline Passalacqua** - February 02, 2015 at 06:03 AM

FE

“ Toots Two hearts tat share one love. One life,2 dogs,2 cats,3 birds, & 3 brats "NOT THE GRAND BABIES" will always know joy. This nights for u.

Fernando - February 01, 2015 at 07:39 PM



“ I grew up in Melody's home, spending probably more of my teenage moments there than at at my own home. I will never ever forget her smiles and laughter. She was a fantastic and beautiful woman who will be missed by so many people. Kara and Kalynn, I love u both so so much and am here for both of you ladies if you need anything!

Samantha Lubey - February 01, 2015 at 07:16 PM



“ Healing Tears - All White was purchased for the family of Melody L. "Mel" Sortino.



February 01, 2015 at 05:33 PM

CF

“ My love and prayers go out to Ferd, Carl, Kalynn, Kara and families... Mel and I had so much fun together when we went dancing. Dance with the angels Mel, you're one of them. Love ya girl.

charlene fessia - February 01, 2015 at 01:21 PM

CF

“ *Charlene Fessia lit a candle in memory of  
Melody L. "Mel" Sortino*



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**charlene fessia** - February 01, 2015 at 01:17 PM