



## Melvina Jean (D'Acunto) Rabbia

December 29, 1931 - January 9, 2011

Melvina (D'Acunto) Rabbia was surrounded by loving family when she was called

home to be with the Lord on January 9, 2011.

She was born in Utica, NY, on December 29, 1931. She married Joseph Rabbia and

they enjoyed 61 years of love and devotion to each other and their family.

They

resided in Utica most of their lives until 2003 when they joined their children and grandchildren in

Liverpool, NY.

Melvina was educated in Utica schools and received a license in cosmetology at

the Utica School of Beauty which launched a successful business career for several years as owner and operator of Mel's Beauty Salon. However, she was best

known for her LOVE of family, friends and her Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

She loved serving her family and spent countless hours serving her Lord through

counseling, bible studies and various ministries at her church. She gave 1000 percent as wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother as they meant

the

world to her. She loved her siblings dearly and all of her nieces and nephews were all so special to her. Everyone she met fell in love with her as she always exuded love, care, kindness and warmth. She will be forever loved and missed by all.

She is survived by her loving husband, Joseph; her son and daughter-in-law, Thomas and Andrea Rabbia; and her daughter and son-in-law, Theresa & Joseph Peplinski. She leaves behind 9 beloved grandchildren: Thomas Rabbia, Diana (Rabbia) & Harley Hinton, Matthew Rabbia, Sara (Rabbia) & Will Johnson, Michael Rabbia, Nicole Peplinski, Celeste Peplinski, Joseph Peplinski and Michael (& Rebecca) Peplinski; and her step-grandson, Zachary Fitzgerald. Also surviving are her precious great grandchildren: Kailee, Krista & Olivia Rabbia, Norah & Harley Hinton, Jr. and Michael & Alaina Peplinski and the most recent addition, Francesca Peplinski, born on her great grandmother's birthday, December 29, 2010 which brought great joy to her. Survivors also include her sister Frances (D'Acunto) Dixon and her brother Benedict D'Acunto, both of Utica; and many precious nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her siblings, Ralph, Anthony, Rachel and Ernest D'Acunto.

Visitation will be held on Friday from 4-7 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. 932 South St. corner of Hammond Ave. Melvina's funeral will commence on Saturday morning at 10:00 from the funeral home and 11:00 at Redeemer Church

located on Herkimer Rd. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Gideon International Bible Society to purchase bibles to spread the Word of God, which was the desire of her heart.



# Cemetery Details

## Calvary Cemetery

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

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**JAN 14.** 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.  
932 South Street  
corner of Hammond Ave.  
Utica, NY 13501  
(315) 724-6714  
eannacefh@roadrunner.com  
<https://www.eannacefuneralhome.com>

## Service

**JAN 15.** 10:00 AM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.  
932 South Street  
corner of Hammond Ave.  
Utica, NY 13501  
(315) 724-6714  
eannacefh@roadrunner.com  
<https://www.eannacefuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall

NP

“ Happy Heavenly Birthday Grandma (Dec 29). I'm falling asleep knowing I'll awake on your birthday. I think of you everyday. You were so unconditionally loving, wise, beautiful and my world. I love you so much! You're still my screensaver on my phone. ❤️



Nicole Peplinski - December 29, 2024 at 12:57 AM



“ I love you grandma. I miss you. I think of you everyday. I'm so blessed to have you as my grandmother and second mother. You are eternally in my heart.



Nicole Peplinski - August 20, 2023 at 01:37 AM



“ Happy Mother's Day in heaven grandma. I think of you everyday. Thank you for unconditionally loving me and being there for literally everything. I love you. 💕💕



Nicole Peplinski - May 14, 2023 at 11:18 AM

NP

“ Happy birthday in heaven grandma. I love and miss you so much. ❤️



Nicole Peplinski - December 30, 2021 at 01:18 AM



“ I think of you everyday. Love you so much! 💕💕



Nicole Peplinski - May 22, 2021 at 01:36 PM



“ I hear you all day, everyday guiding me. Your wisdom and unconditional love still nurtures me and carries me through. How I love you Gram. ❤️



Nicole Peplinski - March 10, 2021 at 12:49 AM



“ Wrote about you in this article. Love you so much Gram. 🥹❤️



Nicole Peplinski - August 15, 2020 at 09:27 AM



“ Thinking of you. I love you so much gram.



---

Nicole Peplinski - July 27, 2020 at 01:45 AM



“ I take you with me everywhere I go. I love you eternally my beautiful grandma ❤️



---

Nicole Peplinski - June 07, 2020 at 07:48 PM



“ Think of you & pop daily. At each situation and season in my life I wonder about your reactions if you were here. How we love and miss you both! 💕👍💕



---

celeste peplinski - April 04, 2020 at 01:34 PM



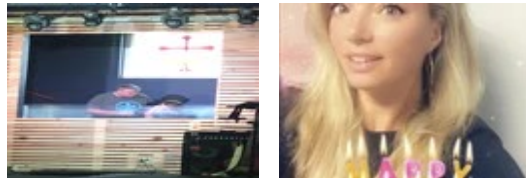
“ Gram, you would always say, “It’s all about love; everything is about love. “ I know what unconditional love is because of you. Miss you so much❤️



Nicole Peplinski - December 05, 2019 at 01:46 AM

CE

“ We talked about you & pop at my fam bday last night. My mom always says I look like you. Cesca was born on your bday (10 days before you went to heaven) and so neat to see how she has many of your ways....she’s loving, loves the Lord...so sweet.



celeste - July 26, 2019 at 01:48 PM

CP

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall

celeste peplinski - May 22, 2019 at 08:32 PM

CP

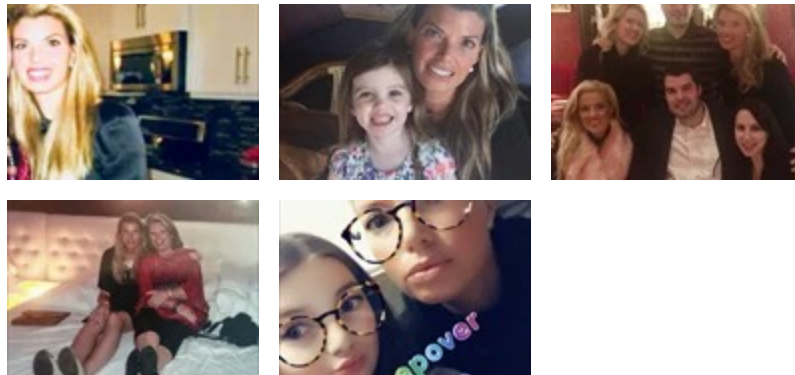
“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



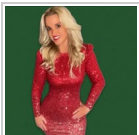
-----  
celeste peplinski - May 22, 2019 at 08:32 PM

CP

“ Gram! Oh how we all think of you & pop daily! Thoughts of you both make me smile. You both had lives well lived and so loved. You made us each feel special and valued. I spend so much time with the family and know you'd be proud. The next generation is such a riot. You and both would get a kick out of them. My mom carries on your wonderful traditions and has us over for family meals all the time. The feeling and fulfillment of your love is always felt. 💕 Some pics of us.



-----  
celeste peplinski - May 22, 2019 at 01:54 PM



“ Oh Grandma, I miss you so much. Thank you for loving me so unconditionally. ❤️💕❤️

-----  
Nicole Peplinski - March 05, 2019 at 07:03 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Nicole Peplinski - January 23, 2019 at 03:47 PM



“ Happy New Year Grandma! I love you and Pop eternally ❤️



Nicole Peplinski - January 02, 2019 at 12:31 AM



“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Nicole Peplinski - August 13, 2018 at 12:44 AM



“ I miss you so much. How I miss your kindness, unconditional love and wisdom. I love you eternally Gram. ❤️

Nicole Peplinski - August 13, 2018 at 12:42 AM



“ *Missing you so much this weekend. I love you Gram. ❤️*

Nicole Peplinski - March 12, 2018 at 04:30 AM



“ *We had the nicest family vacation at Atlantis, in the Bahamas 🇧🇸  
We talked about you and pop daily! 😘*



Nicole Peplinski - February 13, 2018 at 02:38 AM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Nicole Peplinski - February 13, 2018 at 02:34 AM



“ *3 files added to the tribute wall*



Nicole Peplinski - February 13, 2018 at 02:31 AM



“ 7 yrs ago today you went to be with the Lord.  
Gram I miss you so much! I love you forever.



---

Nicole Peplinski - January 10, 2018 at 02:30 AM



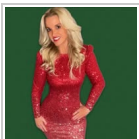
“ Miss you so much! Finishing up Christmas shopping and getting ready to fly back home. I think of you everyday & many times a day. I love you Gram! 🥰❄️🎄

- how cute is this pic of Joe and baby Jacob!?!



---

Nicole Peplinski - December 19, 2017 at 02:55 AM



“ Oh Gram, how I miss you. I'm reading this book 📖 and it asks the reader to reflect on our happiest moment as a child and my mind instantly thought of helping you cook sauce and spaghetti 🍝 in the kitchen. We were simply talking, cooking and hugging and it was the first thing to populate in mind. I realized it's probably because I felt so unconditionally loved. Thank you for showing me what unconditional love is. I love you forever. 🥰



---

Nicole Peplinski - November 29, 2017 at 01:57 AM

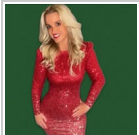


“ October is National Italian American Heritage Month and while celebrating I'm constantly reminiscing about you and pop! I miss you so much! I love you! 🥰❤️🇮🇹



---

Nicole Peplinski - October 24, 2017 at 01:26 AM

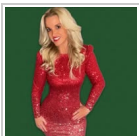


“ My mom, Celeste and I are wine tasting in Napa and we talk about you and papa constantly. We love you guys so much!



---

Nicole Peplinski - September 05, 2017 at 08:24 AM



“ Always thinking of you Gram. Love you forever!



---

Nicole Peplinski - May 16, 2017 at 12:25 AM



“ *Nicole Peplinski sent a virtual gift in memory of Melvina Jean (D'Acunto) Rabbia*



---

**Nicole Peplinski** - December 13, 2016 at 12:16 AM



“ *Nicole Peplinski lit a candle in memory of Melvina Jean (D'Acunto) Rabbia*



---

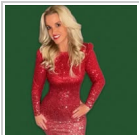
**Nicole Peplinski** - December 13, 2016 at 12:14 AM



“ *Oh grandma, I think of you everyday . As I prep for the holidays I get so excited about seeing everybody... I miss you. You're always on mind but you seem to be even more now; your birthday is this month, your Anniversary is this month and you were such a big part of why the holiday season was so special. I love you forever!*

---

**Nicole Peplinski** - December 13, 2016 at 12:13 AM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



---

**Nicole Peplinski** - May 08, 2016 at 11:22 PM

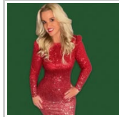


“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



---

**Nicole Peplinski** - March 02, 2016 at 12:00 AM



*I still reap the blessings of all your prayers grandma! Thank you for loving me unconditionally. Thank you for continually telling me I could "do all things through Christ who strengthens me." I miss you so deeply! I love you!*

---

**Nicole Peplinski** - March 02, 2016 at 12:03 AM



“ Thinking of you grandma! I love you! I miss pop too! 🤔💕💕



---

**Nicole Peplinski** - December 14, 2015 at 01:22 AM



“ Gram,  
*I was reading through your Bible; looking at notes you added and a booklet you stored in it. I read this:  
"Thoughts are things; they occupy space in the mental field. A healthy state of mind is achieved and maintained when the thinker willingly lets go of the old thoughts and takes on the new. The action of the kind on the body is, in some aspects, similar to that of water on the earth. Living old thoughts over and over keeps the inlet of the new thoughts closed. Then begins crystallization."  
You were as wise as you were beautiful! I know what unconditional love is because of you; I love God because of you! I love you so much gram!*



---

**Nicole Peplinski** - November 16, 2015 at 10:12 PM



“ *Malvena Dimambro sent a virtual gift in memory of Melvina Jean (D'Acunto) Rabbia*



---

**malvena dimambro** - November 06, 2015 at 08:35 PM

CO

“ Courtneydimambro lit a candle in memory of Melvina Jean (D'Acunto) Rabbia



courtneydimambro - November 06, 2015 at 08:35 PM

NI

“ Grama, I think of you and pop everyday! I moved last week and one of the first things I did was place your picture in every room. I love you so much.

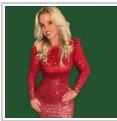


nicole - January 29, 2015 at 12:53 AM

CE

“ I think of you & pop everyday.....I'm so thankful we were blessed with such amazing grandparents - fun, understanding, wise & safe havens....we All knew we could always go to you with Anything.....you both will always be remembered in admiration. - celeste

celeste - December 12, 2014 at 03:34 PM



Safe haven... Yes, they were always that for us!

Nicole Peplinski - November 17, 2015 at 03:18 AM

NI

“ I'm thinking of you my beautiful grama. I love and miss you deeply.

nicole - October 15, 2014 at 10:50 PM

NI

“ Nicole lit a candle in memory of Melvina Jean (D'Acunto) Rabbia



nicole - October 15, 2014 at 10:44 PM

NP

“ Oh Grama, I love and miss you so much. I'm so grateful you chose to be the exceptional woman you were. I love you.

Nicole Peplinski - April 24, 2014 at 11:14 PM

NP

“ Nicole Peplinski lit a candle in memory of Melvina Jean (D'Acunto) Rabbia



Nicole Peplinski - April 24, 2014 at 11:03 PM

BM

“ Brittany Manolescu lit a candle in memory of Melvina Jean (D'Acunto) Rabbia



Brittany Manolescu - October 08, 2011 at 10:01 PM



“ Hi Gram! I'm at your Florida house now. I feel your presence everywhere. This is the first time I have been here since you went on to heaven. I was so eager to see how you left things. The first thing I noticed when entering your bedroom was a book about Miracles God has done, on your nightstand. I then looked on your dresser and see notes on faith. Thank you for being a powerhouse of love, faith and determination. You gave us admirable qualities to look up to and apply to our lives. I strive to live my life with the same love, faith and determination you taught us about. We shall see each other again in heaven some day. Oh, what a wonderful reunion that will be! :)

---

**Celeste Peplinski** - June 18, 2011 at 05:41 PM



“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



---

**Celeste Peplinski** - June 18, 2011 at 05:30 PM



“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



---

**Celeste Peplinski** - June 18, 2011 at 05:29 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



---

**Celeste Peplinski** - June 18, 2011 at 05:28 PM

BM

“ *Miss you Aunt Ma! I think about you and my grandma everyday! At least she's not alone and you guys are keeping each other company. You were the most genuine, kind loving person EVER. Your family loves and misses you dearly.*

---

**Brittany Manolescu** - May 04, 2011 at 09:57 PM

ME

*Brittany, Celeste and I were so touched by your comment. Thanks honey!*

---

**Melvina5** - June 19, 2011 at 10:11 AM

BM

*You're welcome! We all loved her dearly now theyre all having a family reunion in heaven Aunt Ma Grama Poppy Uncle Ernie Aunt Dollie Uncle Ralph Noni and Nono and the rest of the bunch!*

---

**Brittany Manolescu** - July 20, 2011 at 08:16 PM

NP

“ *Happy Easter my sweet grama! I love and miss you so much!*



---

**Nicole Peplinski** - April 24, 2011 at 01:23 PM

NP

“ There are so so many memories I have with my grandma. She was a second mother to me. She was one of my bestfriends. Every morning we spoke and did Bible study, prayed and talked. That was typically the first of many calls for each day. When she passed I asked for one thing. I asked for her Bible. I read it every morning and thank God for her. I relish every note and highlight she has in her Bible. Today I read this highlighted verse, "If you faint in the day of adversity, your strength is small." Proverbs 24:10  
My grandmother's strength was impressive. She truly could run circles around me and most others! She always said "The joy of the Lord was her strength" and joy and strength she embodied!

---

**Nicole Marie Peplinski** - March 28, 2011 at 09:11 PM

NP

“ Rebecca Peplinski was added to the Family Tree.

---

**Nicole Peplinski** - March 28, 2011 at 09:00 PM

NP

“ Bertha D'acunto was added to the Family Tree.

---

**Nicole Peplinski** - March 28, 2011 at 08:59 PM

NP

“ Francesca Grace Peplinski was added to the Family Tree.

---

**Nicole Peplinski** - February 13, 2011 at 09:12 PM

NP

“ Alaina Grace Peplinski was added to the Family Tree.

---

**Nicole Peplinski** - February 13, 2011 at 09:11 PM

NP

“ *Michael Domenic Peplinski was added to the Family Tree.*

Nicole Peplinski - February 13, 2011 at 09:11 PM

NP

“ *Joseph Peplinski was added to the Family Tree.*

Nicole Peplinski - February 13, 2011 at 09:11 PM

NP

“ *Joseph Peplinski was added to the Family Tree.*

Nicole Peplinski - February 13, 2011 at 09:10 PM

NP

“ *Michael Paul Peplinski was added to the Family Tree.*

Nicole Peplinski - February 13, 2011 at 09:10 PM

NP

“ *Joseph Paul Peplinski was added to the Family Tree.*

Nicole Peplinski - February 13, 2011 at 09:09 PM

NP

“ *Celeste Marie Peplinski was added to the Family Tree.*

Nicole Peplinski - February 13, 2011 at 09:09 PM

NP

“ *Nicole Marie Peplinski was added to the Family Tree.*

Nicole Peplinski - February 13, 2011 at 09:09 PM

NP

“ *Theresa Rabbia was added to the Family Tree.*

Nicole Peplinski - February 13, 2011 at 09:07 PM

NP

“ *Joseph Anthony Rabbia was added to the Family Tree.*

Nicole Peplinski - February 13, 2011 at 09:07 PM

NP

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Nicole Peplinski - February 13, 2011 at 08:46 PM

NP

*Gram and Pop about to leave for lunch with me (Summer 2010).*

Nicole Peplinski - March 28, 2011 at 08:55 PM

NP

*Gram and Pop getting ready to go to lunch with me (Summer 2010).*

Nicole Marie Peplinski - March 28, 2011 at 09:02 PM

JK

“ *The Rabbia and Nicastro families' histories go back at least 40 years. Both my Mom and Dad have passed away but the happy memories are still there. Melvina was such a vibrant person. She found humor in everyday occurrences and would get a "kick " out of some of my stories. She was also a good listener that could comment and give useful advice. At the time I knew her she was a hairdresser. She was always smiling and that smile would light up a room. I wanted to say how sorry I was for your loss. I also regret not seeing Joe, but understand the circumstances. Our families have indeed grown and you have a lovely family. Joe and I will keep you in our thoughts and prayers.*

Joseph Deborah Kinney - January 15, 2011 at 11:18 AM

JH

“ *Terry, I am sooo sorry for your loss! Pls accept my condolences for all of your family at this trying time.*

Joan Hill - January 14, 2011 at 11:44 AM

AG

“ *Grams will be greatly missed. I always look forward to seeing her when I come to Syracuse to visit my other family.*

Adam Guralnick - January 14, 2011 at 06:04 AM

PV

“ *Phil Jackie Vennero sent a virtual gift in memory of Melvina Jean (D'Acunto) Rabbia*



Phil Jackie Vennero - January 13, 2011 at 04:50 PM



“ *Patti Haddix sent a virtual gift in memory of Melvina Jean (D'Acunto) Rabbia*



---

**Patti Haddix** - January 13, 2011 at 12:47 PM



“ *Melvina was like the joy of the Lord personified. She always encouraged me and I always looked forward to seeing her. I'm sure her reward in heaven is great.*

---

**Michelle Wright** - January 13, 2011 at 08:46 AM



“ *I never had the privilege or honor of knowing Celeste and Nicole's Grandmother, but I know from all the wonderful things they have told me, she was a hero to them, walking life in the love of Jesus. I am grateful for the influence she had on her Granddaughters, 2 of my dearest, most wonderful friends. Praise be to God for the life of this precious woman. Her life-devotion to her Maker will live on as a great legacy in her family forever. Much love, admiration, and many hugs to the entire Peplinski family.*

---

**Emily Morton** - January 13, 2011 at 08:32 AM

CH

“ I only met celeste's gram once but what an impact she made on me. The many other interactions were over the phone and through celeste. When celeste and I were on the phone she would always send her blessings and love and what a great sense of humor she had. She had the gift of encouragement as well. She lifted me up in prayers and I am forever grateful. Celeste spoke of her so often and her gram influenced her so much that I feel in a way Melvina lives on through Celeste and all of those she impacted with God's radiance and love. She is at peace with Jesus now and I know He has rewarded her greatly for her faithfulness. She will be sorely missed since she showed such love and was loved so dearly loved back. See you in heaven one day. Xo

---

**Chamonix** - January 12, 2011 at 09:52 PM

AR

“ Gram was a remarkable person. I've never known someone to be as kind, caring, positive, loving and happy as she was. This woman truly cared for everyone and boy, could you feel it! She was a gift from God that will never be replaced on Earth. I am happy for the pain and suffering to have ended, but very sad for the sorrow that her death has brought to many. She was a one of a kind, and the obituary said it correctly ... if you met her just once, you truly fell in love. We'll miss you, Gram! Thank you for all of the joy and happiness that you brought to everyone around you!

---

**Anna Romano** - January 12, 2011 at 08:39 PM

JP

“ No one ever had a better Mother-In-Law. She was a huge part of making my children the people they are today. Although small in stature, she left a giant footprint on her life path. Glory has just received a new child of God, who can make the best meatballs. The smell of garlic will now permeate the heavens

---

**Joe Peplinski-son-in-law** - January 12, 2011 at 08:07 PM