



Mr. Nicholas A. "Nick" Cerro

October 23, 1941 - June 7, 2018

NEW HARTFORD – Nicholas A. “Nick” Cerro, age 76, passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, June 7, 2018, from complications related to pulmonary fibrosis, with his loving family by his side. He was born October 23, 1941, in Utica, the son of the late Nicholas and Rose (Viggiano) Cerro; there, he was raised and educated, graduating from Utica Free Academy in 1959. He received an Associate’s degree in Police Sciences from Mohawk Valley Community College and later graduated from Utica College with a Bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice.

Nick married Janet G. Morton on August 26, 1963, a joyous union lasting nearly 55 years. Establishing residence in the village of New Hartford, they raised their two children together and generated a lifetime of memories. He began his law enforcement career as a uniformed trooper with the New York State Police and rose through the ranks, culminating in many years as a highly respected senior investigator and polygraph specialist with the Bureau of Criminal Investigation. Retiring after 24 years of distinguished service, he became Chief of Police in the Town of New Hartford, where he continued his dedication to public safety. His final career accomplishments came as a security director at Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation / National Grid. Nick was a long-time parishioner at St John the Evangelist Church in New Hartford. He was a member of a number of law enforcement associations including the NYS Troopers Police Benevolent Association, NYS Association of Former Troopers, and NYS Association of Chiefs of Police. He was also a

long-time board member with the Utica Gas & Electric Federal Credit Union. His greatest joy was spending time with his children and grandchildren, always bringing out his great sense of humor and creative storytelling ability. He was affectionately known as Papa, and it was his favorite name. He cherished the time he and Janet shared during summers at the family camp in Verona Beach. He was an avid sports fan, rooting on (and being frustrated by) the Buffalo Bills, New York Mets, and Syracuse Orange. He also loved all kinds of music and enjoyed attending concerts, marching band competitions, and shows, especially those featuring family members.

Nick is survived by his wife Janet; his daughter and son-in-law, Denise and Drew Deapo of Liverpool, NY; and his son and daughter-in-law, Nicholas R. and Kirsten Cerro of Baldwinsville, NY. He also leaves behind his four beloved grandchildren: Nicholas Deapo, Isabella Cerro, Alyssa Cerro, and Kayla Cerro. Also surviving are sister and brother-in-law, Carmelita and William McCabe of Florida; sister-in-law Carolee Coleman of Pennsylvania; many nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews, and cousins; and wonderful friends who, while too numerous to mention, know who they are and what they've meant. Nick was predeceased by two brothers and sisters-in-law, Vincent "Whitey" and Agnes Cerro, and Felix "Phil" and Virginia Cerro; one sister, Philomena Cerro; sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Marcia and Arthur "Wayne" Carey; and brother-in-law John Coleman.

Special thanks to family doctor William Krause, MD, for his friendship and care for many years, and Patrick Dooley, respiratory therapist at Faxton St. Luke's Healthcare.

In keeping with Nick's wishes there will be no public visitation. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Nicholas' funeral service and Celebration of Life which will commence on Monday afternoon at 1:30 at the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes where his Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. Joseph Salerno. The family will receive visitors at the conclusion of Mass. Entombment will take place in Calvary Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Those so wishing may make contributions, in Nick's memory, to the NYS Troopers PBA Signal 30 Benefit Fund online at www.signal30.org or the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation online at <http://www.pulmonaryfibrosis.org>; envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

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

Tribute Wall

EG

“ *Jan...Nick Jr....and Denise....I am so sorry...I just found out Nick passed away today...you are all in my prayers..he was such a kind and nice man....love to all of you!❤️*
Elaine Giudilli

Elaine Giudilli - June 29, 2018 at 05:40 PM

AS

“ *Dear Jan,*
You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. You and Nick were so good to my Mom, Linda. We are so sorry for your loss. Nick always made us smile, he was always happy and he loved you and those grandkids so much!
Our deepest condolences,
Amy & Rob Stoller

amy stoller - June 12, 2018 at 07:12 PM



“ *Healing Tears - All White was purchased for the family of Mr. Nicholas A. "Nick" Cerro.*



June 11, 2018 at 10:11 AM



“ *Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers was purchased for the family of Mr. Nicholas A. "Nick" Cerro.*



June 11, 2018 at 09:09 AM



“ *Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Nicholas A. "Nick" Cerro.*



June 10, 2018 at 05:18 PM



“ *Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Lavender and White was purchased for the family of Mr. Nicholas A. "Nick" Cerro.*



June 10, 2018 at 04:22 PM



“ *I am so very sorry for your loss
He was truly an amazing man.
From Dennis & Sarah Deapo*



Dennis & Sarah Deapo - June 10, 2018 at 10:20 AM

WS

“ With love from, Stephanie Suarez purchased the Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White for the family of Mr. Nicholas A. "Nick" Cerro.



With love from, Stephanie Suarez - June 09, 2018 at 11:00 PM

DK

“ Nick was the light in every room. He was bigger than life and will always be remembered for his kindness, integrity and dedication to his family and his friends. The world won't be the same anymore but at least we have a thousand stories that still make us laugh - out loud! So long my friend. First star to the right and straight on 'til morning. Buy coffee at Whitey's for my dad, it's his birthday.

Denise and Dave King - June 09, 2018 at 10:24 PM

JE

“ Uncle Nick - you will never be forgotten. What an honor and privilege it is for me to carry on your legacy. In honor and memory of you, I will continue to serve and protect and uphold the fine traditions of the NYSP. I hope you know what an amazing man and role model you have been to not only myself, but to countless of others. I know you, Papa & Nani, Uncle Vinny, Aunt Mena and all of our other loved ones are smiling down upon us, and always watching over, guiding, and protecting us. We will do all we can to help Aunt Janet, your children and grandchildren during this time of sorrow and grieving. We miss you and we love you.....always & forever (JAJ - 2231)

Jennifer - June 09, 2018 at 07:15 PM

CM

“ *The greater the love the deeper the hurt. We loved you dearly Nick and pray for God's grace and guiding hand for Jan and your family. You loved them with all your heart and were so proud of all. Your legacy will live on through the path you forged as a man of great integrity and honor. There's no doubt you're watching from heaven with a warm smile and twinkle in your eye. Rest in peace dear friend... memories of time spent together will forever be held in our hearts. With Love, Charlie & Karen Mirabella*

Charlie Mirabella - June 08, 2018 at 10:30 PM

CM

“ *Charlie & Karen Mirabella lit a candle in memory of Mr. Nicholas A. "Nick" Cerro*



Charlie & Karen Mirabella - June 08, 2018 at 10:16 PM

HA

“ *Nick was without question one of the finest Senior Investigators that ever served in the NYSP Always a gentleman. A great friend. Sincere condolences to Jan and family. Sincerely Howie and Patty Allen*

Howie Allen - June 08, 2018 at 06:21 PM

DJ

“ *Dominick A. Froio Jr. lit a candle in memory of Mr. Nicholas A. "Nick" Cerro*



Dominick A. Froio Jr. - June 08, 2018 at 06:13 PM

DJ

Sincere Sympathy to Cerro Family. Nick truly was a great man and a person who knew the brotherhood in his life. He will be missed but great memories will always exist. God Bless to all of the Cerro family and his many friends. RIP!

Dominick A. Froio Jr. - June 08, 2018 at 06:20 PM

PY

I had the pleasure of working with Nick at Troop Headquarters. He was a good friend and a great investigator. My sympathy to Jan and family.

Pat Yeman - June 10, 2018 at 07:00 AM

GZ

Nick, Kirsten and family, our sympathies to you. What wonderful memories to keep close to your heart. The family and the community have lost a special person.

Gail and Zac - June 18, 2018 at 04:38 AM