



## Mr. Pasquale A. Caputo

April 17, 1935 - December 26, 2017

UTICA - Pasquale A. Caputo, Operatic tenor extraordinaire, son, husband, professor of languages and voice, brother, animal advocate and father to Baryshnikov, Moumouche, Liu, Mikey..., mentor, uncle, friend, left this earthly realm for another on Tuesday, December 26, 2017. He went peacefully in his sleep. He was 82.

Born in Utica on April 17, 1935, to the late Pasquale and Mary (Verno) Caputo. He proudly lived his Italian heritage throughout his life, and he was the first of his Italian immigrant family to attend college. He was a graduate of Columbia University in New York City and taught at the prestigious Brooklyn Academy of Music. He studied voice with his beloved Maestro, Marino Cremesini, in Florence, Italy for years. After his voice studies in Italy, Pasquale became leading tenor with the Tri-Cities Opera in Binghamton, New York. He opened up the world for his family and friends through his life and his extensive performances in the United States and abroad, including New York City, Italy, and France among other locales. Close to his heart were renditions of Neapolitan songs, and his repertoire included more than fifteen operas, sacred works, and art songs sung in French, German, and Italian. He released four CDs including his performance at the Town Hall in New York City. Pasquale enjoyed his career as an Italian teacher as well as Department Head of Foreign Languages at T.R. Proctor High School, retiring in 1991. He also served as a programmer for the Italian Panorama Hour on radio stations WYUT and WUTO, was the founder and Past President and Artistic Director

for the Utica Opera Guild, and a member of the Mohawk Valley Opera Society. To his loved ones, he brought his love for Opera, Ballet, Classical Music, and his love for animals as well. He lived his life with kindness, compassion, grace, and open heartedness while pushing people's boundaries, whether through teaching voice or just by living a courageous life. His sister, Ann, who was a professional Jazz and Blues singer, would joke that Pasquale took up singing to compete and outdo her!

Shall we all continue his legacy by living a kind, brave, passionate, and open-hearted life filled with music (and animals!)? And how can we ever forget that wonderful, endearing laugh?

The Greeks don't write obituaries, they just ask one question: "Did this person live life passionately?" YES, YES, YES, per certo, with finesse and aplomb.

We all owe you so much and love you so, so much.

We loved walking in your big footsteps.

Rest in Peace, Pasquale.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday from 4-7 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in honor of Pasquale's love and advocacy for animals may be directed to Spring Farm Cares, online at [www.springfarmcares.org](http://www.springfarmcares.org) or by mail to 3364 State Rt. 12

Clinton, NY 13323; envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

Pasquale's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Thursday morning at 10:00 from the funeral home and at 11:00 at St. Mary of Mt.

Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish where his Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Fr. James Cesta. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Pasquale's life tribute was written by his niece, Cynthia Capalupa-Durand.

# Cemetery Details

## Calvary Cemetery

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

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

JAN 4. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary of Mount Carmel / Blessed Sacrament Parish  
648 Jay St  
Utica, NY 13501  
(315) 735-1482

# Tribute Wall

MK

“ I had the immense pleasure of playing the harp on Pat's CD "Te Voglio Bene, Napule". I still listen to it regularly and I especially enjoy it when I'm driving through the White Mountains in NH. Such an amazing musician! What a pleasure it was to have known him, to have heard him sing, and to have worked with him. You will always be in my heart, Pat. Your music lives on!! My condolences go out to his family and closest friends.

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**Myra Kovary** - April 11, 2025 at 11:46 PM

NM

“ My deepest condolences to the entire Caputo Family. There are so many memories of your dear Pasquale starting as a child with my mother in the chorus of *The Masked Ball*, to an adult dog and cat sitting Aida-from a puppy, Bari, Mickey, Lilly, Moomoush and I am missing one (little black mix) My mother's lessons and my own. The recitals and parties. Many rehearsals tagging along with my mother at the Utica Opera Guild. Then not only tagging along but also performing with the Mohawk Valley Opera and singing in the choruses of *Sour Angelica* and *La Traviata*. He shared so much talent with not only the City of Utica, but the world and expanded that talent through his students. So many who were able to develop and grow under his tutelage. And how he loved his animals! No dog or cat was spoiled more than those under his care.  
You are now joined with the Master's. Sing with the angels Maestro!  
Nancy Zangrilli

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**Nancy Manley** - January 04, 2018 at 01:09 PM

ML

“ Our dear Pasquale aka Junior...you were a great man. Always loved when you came to grandma Emily's. You would light up the room. Grandma and my mom loved you! ❤️❤️

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**Marie Ferrio LaPolla** - January 03, 2018 at 05:28 PM

PE

“ Our dear Pasquale has died, you who brought so many of us a taste of heaven on earth through your wonderful artistry, your deep humanity, your beautiful song, your angelic talent and your warm, gracious and welcoming smile. You, who created an entire opera of your life- making room for everyone on the stage of your heart. You, who inspired me in my college years as a teacher and in my adult years as an artist and a true renaissance man. You, who showed us all the beauty of language, art, music and love. You, who were so lovingly prodigious in the sharing of your knowledge, sensitivity, and talent. You were an angel on earth for us and now you are an angel in heaven. So many of us will never forget you- we have carved deep spaces for you in our hearts and in our memories. Your song continues on - we can still hear you; we always will. We were so lucky to have known you and we thank God for the treasure that you will always be for us. Grazie, Pasquale- per tutto! - Peter Elacqua

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**Peter Elacqua** - January 02, 2018 at 06:52 PM

LP

“ To my dear Pasquale.....I will always remember our walks with the dogs; our cups of tea; our recitals that lasted forever and the beautiful flowers all around your home. I am so sorry that my schedule will not allow me to say goodbye to you in person. That makes me sad. You will always remain a part of my life and memories for all that you taught me and all of the operas we shared. May you be at peace and find beautiful rest. I will sing to you from my heart....always, Your darlinka, Leonarda Priore

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**Leonarda Priore** - January 02, 2018 at 03:18 PM

RA

“ *My Dear Brother Pasquale may you rest in peace and sing joyfully for God. Enjoyed many Christmas Eves with you at our sister lucys home. Your sister Rose Almond*

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**Rose Almond** - January 01, 2018 at 05:19 PM

LS

“ *Uncle Pat may you rest in peace and sing with the angels. I will always remember your warm smile and beautiful heart. Your niece Lucy Spina*

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**lucy Spina** - January 01, 2018 at 05:12 PM

JC

“ *Pasquale helped create some amazing singers throughout his years on earth. The true gift of his amazing musical talent is evidenced not just by his gorgeous tenor voice, but by all of the outstanding singers he helped to create throughout his life. He's gone from the physical world, but his song lives on through all of us, his students who were blessed to have learned from him, this powerful art form.*

*I will always cherish our basements lessons with Mikey howling from beneath the piano. Rest well my Angel of Music, my father of song. Thank you for helping me find my voice.*

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**Jodi Castello** - January 01, 2018 at 02:13 PM

C-

*Thank you, Jodi, for that extraordinary tribute*

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**Cynthia Capalupa -Durand** - January 01, 2018 at 05:38 PM

C-

*Cynthia Capalupa -Durand*

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**Cynthia Capalupa -Durand** - January 01, 2018 at 05:39 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



EmpressLydia Carretero - December 31, 2017 at 02:00 PM

LS

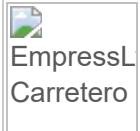
*Uncle Pat rest in peace and sing with the angels. I will always remember your warm smile and beautiful heart. Your niece Lucy Spina*

lucy Spina - January 01, 2018 at 05:06 PM

CC

*That's a great picture*

Cynthia Capalupa - January 01, 2018 at 05:40 PM



“ *RIP Pasquale Caputo, not only were you my mentor; you were my friend. You took me under your wing to prepare me to be your Pri Madonna. You will be truly missed by so many in the Utica area and the T.R. Proctor HS alumni. Your voice will be appreciated in heaven as much as we appreciated it. Until we meet again.*

EmpressLydia Carretero - December 31, 2017 at 01:57 PM

JR

“ *My mother’s Uncle Pasquale was such a kind, warm man. His voice was unique and beautiful. I remember him being friendly and welcoming. He loved to share husband gift with those around him. He touched a lot of lives and will be missed.  
Rest peacefully.  
Love,  
Joa Riboul (Witte), daughter of Karin Capalupa Witte*

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**Joa Riboul** - December 31, 2017 at 08:45 AM

SB

“ *My Dear Pasquale,  
I will miss your kindness, compassion, and loving smile. You had a passion for all you did, and it was so contagious. The lessons we shared are, and always will be beautiful memories for me. Thank you for sharing your gift of music and teaching.  
Susan Milograno Brown*

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**Susan Milograno Brown** - December 30, 2017 at 09:06 PM

AM

“ *Pasquale Caputo was my mom's (Jean Axelson) "stage lover" for years in the Utica Opera Guild. They performed many operas as lead soprano and tenor together in the 60's and 70's. Their last opera was Tosca in 1972.  
Amy Axelson Myers*

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**Amy S Myers** - December 30, 2017 at 02:41 PM

LC

“ My dear brother Pat , we will always remember the XMAS Eve times we had at your house, you playing the paino, and jack & I and your nieces standing by you singing XMAS caroles! Now you are resting in peace with mom & dad! Give them kisses from all of us! We will pray for u , and you will always be in our hearts and minds! Love you , your sister lucy , jack & family!

lucy caputo - December 29, 2017 at 10:41 PM

LC

“ Lucy Caputo sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Pasquale A. Caputo



lucy caputo - December 29, 2017 at 10:33 PM

D(

“ Pasquale. You were my teacher for years. You helped turn this shy little girl to a beautiful soprano. I will never forget your teachings and have been passing on your knowledge to my teenage daughter as well. Heaven has welcomed a beautiful angel who will entertain them all with his beautiful voice.

Dawn

Dawn Holub (DeSantis) - December 28, 2017 at 06:48 PM

LD

“ Pasquale, my teacher, my friend, and "Angel of Music". I am so heartbroken to hear of your passing. When I came to you to study it was just before my 16th birthday. You told me you would teach me the Italian exercises, methods and opera songs. I told you I liked musicals. Luckily Phantom of the Opera had become popular and that linked us together. Years later you would sing at my wedding, despite fighting an awful flu. No one would have known you were sick that day as your voice rang out throughout the church. I will never forget your compassion, encouragement, and love for life. Thank you is not enough for everything you inspired in my life. Much love from your "Bambina" - Lisa

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**Lisa (Mlynarski) Davis** - December 28, 2017 at 08:50 AM

L)

“ My big brother ,haven't seen you in so many years since I have moved out of State I have so many great memories of you in my past years growing up , I was always so proud to say that wonderful singer was my brother. You sang so beautiful at my daughters wedding and she was so honored,I hope you have comfort now as you entered gods home ,love you big brother and fly high with the angels, love your baby sister Linda degrace ❤️

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**linda degrace ( sister )** - December 28, 2017 at 07:55 AM

JC

“ My dear brother you were not able to be at my wedding last year but your voice was as I had them play you singing the Our Father with Jim playing the organ from your CD..  
My dear friend Father Alex Oneto in Boston is saying a Mass for you this Sunday.  
Rest in Peace my dear brother.  
your brother Joey

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**Joseph Caputo** - December 27, 2017 at 08:55 PM

LP

“*Pasquale was my mentor and voice teacher for over 15 years. I will recall so many treasured moments of times spent together; operas and performances and walks with the dogs. He would lovingly say: Darlinka....make us some tea!! It is difficult to say goodbye. With love. ..Leonarda Priore*

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**Leonarda Priore** - December 27, 2017 at 07:03 PM

NP

*Pasquale was my mentor for many years. We often discussed the arias I will perform in Italian. The songs I would sing with the choir for St. Cosmo and St. Damiano making sure every note and every Italian word was perfect. I will miss Pasquale not only as my mentor, but as my dear friend.  
You may be gone, but you will never be forgotten by me.  
Nick Pezzulo*

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**nick pezzulo** - December 27, 2017 at 11:21 PM

LD

*My heart is so saddened knowing you have left us. You life's purpose was fulfilled. I have never met such a loving passionate musical soul so filled with life & music. Pasquale was my 1st voice teacher when I lived back home in Utica NY. I treasure each & every moment we spent together. He was hard on me but taught me how to sing & prepared me for what lay ahead before I followed my dreams to become a singer in NYC. I will never forget our moments-your beagle howling under the piano while I sang, you showing me your wingspan & heart. The weekly cookies & tea! The look on your face when I handed you my 1st CD. You even put me in the bill for my first recital @ Grace Church. I can hear your beautiful soft voice & your laughter. I will treasure the moments we had. I consider it a privilege to have been able to learn such a craft like bel canto bec that is the first you gave me; beautiful singing. My heart is broken. I will never forget you & your smile & love for all things. I know you are flying thru the clouds with God & his angels on the symphony of music that you were made of. I can't wait to see you again in heaven.*

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**Laurie D'apice** - December 28, 2017 at 03:04 AM

JS

*I have such fond memories of Pat singing at my home. He inspired a life long love of opera--he will always be Mario in my mind! with fondness, Joan Shkane*

**Joan Shkane** - December 28, 2017 at 03:33 PM



*Dearest Pasquale; you first were my Italian teacher for four years at Proctor High School and your love for all things Italian was part of the fiber of your being especially as expressed in Italian opera . I remember your many trips to NY City for concerts and auditions .I went to College and after returning home I began my treasured journey as your voice student singing in 2 operas Utica Opera Guild and Mohawk Valley Opera Society, and many concerts and recitals under your directorship. You were a brilliant man and musician and loved inspiring us to develop our craft, Bel Canto singing, You taught me to sing because I loved it first, Your voice was gorgeous, a beautiful tenor with impeccable technique which I was so privileged to learn from you, I will always treasure our friendship and that some days if I was depressed, you'd stop the voice lesson and we'd sit and have a heart to heart talk, and I so wish we could have one right now,, I will always love you and treasure you in my heart ...until we meet again....Diana Carparelli Hill*

**Diane Hill** - December 29, 2017 at 07:48 AM

BS

*Heaven has gained an Angel like no other. God's Choir of Angels will never be the the same.*

**Beverly Schrader** - December 29, 2017 at 12:01 PM

CC

*Dear Uncle, Where do I begin to express how much you mean to me? You have always been a great influence in my life. My life has been shaped by your example. My mother's adored,spoiled baby brother! Always surrounded by your sisters and grandmother who worshipped you..*

*You personified everything Italian.*

*You introduced me to Opera,Ballet, New York City, Europe.*

*I went on to go to college in New York , studied dance (still do),moved to France.*

*You were always there for me.*

*My father and you taught me to love and respect animals.*

*I've become an animal communicator.*

*Your kindness, open heartedness and compassion for all sentient beings is the legacy I and my children will carry forth with.*

*Til we meet again,caro zio.*

*Je t'aime. A bientôt*

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**Cynthia Capalupa** - December 30, 2017 at 06:50 AM

GG

*So sorry to hear of the passing of my friend and mentor, Pasquale. When I graduated from SUNY Fredonia in '72, I came home to Utica and began studying voice with Pasquale Caputo. Whet a great, hard-working, and intense voice teacher, he helped to become a better singer, tenor, person. He hired me to sing with the then Utica Opera Guild, and then recommended that I go down to Binghamton to sing with his teachers and the Tri-Cities Opera. Thank you, Pasquale! I thrived there, singing over 20 lead roles, and going on to get a manager in NYC and singing around the country for several years. Thank you my friend for your knowledge, wisdom, and musical expertise. You will be missed...*

*Gerald Grahame*

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**Gerald Grahame** - January 20, 2018 at 04:11 PM



*Sorry to be learning of the great Pasquale Caputo's death so many years later. In high school or early college, I sang in the chorus for my very first operas, Cavalleria rusticana and I Pagliacci, with Pasquale singing the leads in both, gloriously. Rest in peace, maestro. You were an inspiration.*

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**Timothy Carney** - July 16, 2021 at 10:19 PM