



## Mrs. Patricia M. "Patty" (DeStante) Dennison

October 29, 1942 - January 14, 2021

UTICA –Mrs. Patricia M. “Patty” (DeStante) Dennison, age 78, peacefully passed away on Thursday, January 14, 2021 in the comfort and dignity of her home surrounded by those who loved her most.

Born in Utica on October 29, 1942, Patricia was the daughter of the late Joseph J. “Joe the Barber” and Mary (Belmont) DeStante. Patty’s primary education began at Wetmore St. school and continued on to TR Proctor High School where she graduated with the class of 1961. Always honoring those friendships, she was enthusiastically involved with the Reunion committee and gathered monthly to share special time with the company of good friends. On June 11, 1966 she married Earl Harold Dennison. They shared 44 years blessed with mutual love and good memories. Harold endured health adversities and Patty was always by his side as they faced his challenges together. Always encouraging him and never complaining, she championed him through his obstacles until his passing on December 23, 2010.

With a desire to pursue a career in the healthcare profession, Patty enrolled in the Utica School of Practical Nurses, where she earned her New York State credentials as an LPN. Patty began her medical career at St. Elizabeth Hospital in the Labor Delivery/Maternity Department and upon the closing of that unit, she accepted a nursing position in the office of Dr. William Ryan, a job she truly loved. She had an energetic work ethic, and her empathetic nature was evident in the admiration, respect, and sensitivity she had for her patients. She truly enjoyed her calling in life, and she was sad to retire due to

her illness.

In 2008, Patty was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. Never giving up the fight, she pursued every treatment option both near and far...and wished there were more.

Patty applied herself to her life's work as a caregiver of many generations of loved ones. She was kind and welcoming, she enjoyed having company, and her home was open to everyone, every day. It was a lively, happy house, and she always had popcorn ready. A visit to Patty's always included a "nice cup of coffee". Patty's home had an atmosphere that welcomed anyone to do whatever they wished, whether it was to eat, drink, or just gather. She was a remarkable, relaxed hostess.

Always up for a new adventure, Patty lived life to the fullest. She enjoyed traveling, especially her many trips with her daughter, Jennifer. They were like "Thelma and Louise" as they set out on driving ventures and visited many places, whether it was a beach, a holy shrine, an outlet center, a parade, fireworks, or out for a meal. She also enjoyed and appreciated the trips to Spain and Italy with her son and daughter-in-law. Patty's love and good times were shared with extended family, and she so enjoyed them. This past summer they spent a most memorable week at White Lake where she sat by the water, taking everything in. She was so happy to gaze upon all the people that really made her happy. May you hold and cherish a memory you had with Patty, for she never forgot anyone, anytime, or anything. She was a hero in so many people's lives; whether it was on the home front, at her workplace or any time anyone needed her, her energy was boundless. She was a faithful communicant of St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church.

Patty is survived by her daughter Jennifer, her caretaker who gave her heart and soul to her mother's wellbeing and her son-in-law, Wade Karam; her son, Joseph E. Dennison and daughter-in-law, Elizabeth Docteur; and her cousins, especially acknowledging Nikki, who was like a sister to her and her husband, Anthony Fraccola, Nicole, who held a special place in her heart and affectionately called her "Popeye" and her husband, Taylor Hadsell, John V.

Lucarelli who was like a brother to her, and his wife, Marie; John, Jeanna, John, and Lauren Marraffa; and Michael and Debbie Belmont; her best friend from childhood, Maria Bruno; brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Fred and Kay Dennison; and a host of friends who became extended family, including: Donna Grippe and Don Kratzenberg, Ondrea and Steve Getz and their children, Carmine, and Ellia who were the sunshine in her life and always brought a smile to her face, and the children of her late friends, Barbara and Andy Laria; Anne Marie, Marie Elana, Andrea, and her godson, Anthony. The family is grateful to Dr. William Ryan, who was not only her employer, but also her doctor, and whom she loved as family. He went above and beyond as physician and friend; Debbie Shorey, her caregiver, whose daily arrival Patty looked forward to, for her companionship and care; Dr. Alicia DeTraglia who helped Patty throughout her fight with cancer; and nurse practitioner Stacy Jaskolka who cared for Patty with compassion. A special note of thanks to Fr. Mark Kaminski for the Lord's blessing and prayers shared at her home; and Deacon Bill Dischiavo for years of prayers and friendship. The family will honor and commemorate Patty's life at a private time. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Patty's funeral service and Celebration of Life which will commence on Friday, January 22, 2021 at 11:30 am at St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church where her Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. John Rose. Face masks are required and social distancing and contact tracing will be implemented. Those wishing to express an act of kindness in Patty's honor may make a contribution to a charity of your choice. The family will escort her privately to her place of rest beside her husband. During this time of social distancing that we are all experiencing, please take a moment to connect with Patty's family through the "Memories" section of her obituary.

# Tribute Wall



“ Dear Jen and Wade, we are so sorry for your loss..

*Joseph and Mary Plado*

Joseph Plado - January 26, 2021 at 12:46 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Patricia M. "Patty" (DeStante) Dennison.



January 22, 2021 at 08:28 AM



“ Jen, we are sorry to learn of mom's passing. She always had a smile and kind word. You were the light of her life as you know. Deepest sympathies Rich and Maria Salamida

Maria Salamida - January 20, 2021 at 07:12 PM



*Dear Jennifer, we are so sorry to learn of your mothers passing. She was a wonderful woman. Love and prayers.  
Adrienne Pezzulo Sniezek*

Adrienne - February 01, 2021 at 09:02 PM



“ Dear Jen and family. We are so sorry for your loss. Your mom was always a beautiful person inside and out. Rest in peace Patty.

Elizabeth Leone-Normat - January 20, 2021 at 01:01 PM

JK

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



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**Jennifer Karam** - January 19, 2021 at 10:27 PM

JK

“ A few memories of Mom



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**Jennifer Karam** - January 19, 2021 at 10:23 PM

JL

“ Jennifer,

*So very sorry to hear of your moms passing.*

*John Lilli*

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**John Lilli** - January 19, 2021 at 02:33 PM

RH

“ Jennifer, Wade and family  
So very sorry to hear Patty has passed. We worked together at St E's for many years. She was a good lady, friend and co- worker. May she Rest In Peace.  
Rosanne Karam Hebert



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**Rosanne Hebert** - January 19, 2021 at 08:46 AM



“ Rose Garden Heart was purchased for the family of Mrs. Patricia M. "Patty" (DeStante) Dennison.



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January 18, 2021 at 12:59 PM

KV

“ Jennifer, Wade and family  
Please accept our deepest sympathy on the loss of your Mom. It's a comforting thought that your parents are once again together.  
Kathy and Butch Ventura

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**Kathy Ventura** - January 17, 2021 at 10:51 PM

LR

“ I loved working with Patty on L&D/Maternity at St. E’s. She was the best co worker, and talk about energy, she never ran out! I just made the New York Bakery Style Cheesecake recipe that she gave me about 45 years ago. It was handwritten and I had written Pat Dennison on it. I spoke of her to my daughter just a week ago and although I hadn’t seen her in years; I remember her with fondness. God bless you, Patty.



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**Liz Rice** - January 17, 2021 at 09:32 PM

KW

“ Jennifer, My deepest condolences on the loss of your mom. A wonderful person with a big heart. Her bubbly and fun loving personality always ready for a road trip is what I will remember most.  
With love,  
Kim Wessinger

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**Kim Wessinger** - January 17, 2021 at 08:20 PM

EH

“ Jennifer,  
  
Sincere condolences to you, Wade, and your family on the loss of your mother. May beautiful memories remain in your hearts forever. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this most difficult time.  
  
Elaine & Ron Hawley

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**Elaine Hawley** - January 17, 2021 at 04:35 PM

MH

“ We did not know Patty as long as most, but wished we had. Much Love, Gary & Monica Hadsell 🌸💙❤️👉

monica hadsell - January 17, 2021 at 03:53 PM

MS

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you Jennifer and your family. Your mother was a wonderful lady. We worked together at St. E's for many years. We worked hard but we had fun too! She now is with your Dad, the love of her life!  
Mary Lou Smith

Mary LOU Smith - January 17, 2021 at 02:08 PM

NP

“ Patty was a wonderful girl in high school and a wonderful woman in life, always a giving and good person, I had the honor of working with her Dad at UPD, the whole DeStante family were humble people, Rest In Peace, its another loss for the Proctor Class Of 1961

Nicholas Parrotta - January 17, 2021 at 11:09 AM

TM

“ Patty was a Special Lady. She was always smiling and a very giving person. My thoughts are with the family at this difficult time.

Toni Biancardi Murphy - January 17, 2021 at 11:06 AM

CP

“ Jennifer:  
Our heartfelt sympathy over the loss of your mother. May your memories bring you comfort. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and Wade.  
Carla & Frank Percia

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**Carla Percia** - January 17, 2021 at 10:58 AM

SS

“ Patty was more than a nurse, an angel on earth!  
As Dr Ryan's nurse we were fortunate to have a most knowledgeable and caring friend. May Patty's family know how much she meant to my husband and me! Sincerely

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**suzanne sychtysz** - January 17, 2021 at 10:42 AM

JC

“ What an amazing strong lady. I knew Patty through Donna Grippe and bringing her husband to mass at St. Anthony's and ALWAYS admired the compassionate, caring, strong woman that she was. My thoughts and prayers are with you Jennifer and your family.  
Rest in peace Patty . God Bless You.

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**Jeanie Ciruzzi** - January 17, 2021 at 09:39 AM

SK

“ I feel very blessed to have known and worked with Patty for so many years at Whitesboro. She was always so kind to her patients and to all of us. She was a wonderful friend and I enjoyed all the times spent with her. We all always had a good time and lots of laughs with Patty. Jennifer, Joe and all Family, my deepest sympathies and please know my thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Sally Kulow

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**Sally Kulow** - January 17, 2021 at 08:13 AM

CB

“ We met Pat at Dr Ryan’s office. She was always so kind. A very special lady. Heaven gained a beautiful angel. God bless.

Chris Buffa - January 16, 2021 at 08:01 PM

GT

“ I worked with Patty oh so many years ago at Oneida National Bank. I always admired her for being such a solid, sincere, friendly and kind woman. But what I remember her MOST for is cassatta- - yes, cassatta! One Easter she brought me a large piece which I brought home. My family loved it!. For sure, it was the best they had ever tasted. Of course they said they had to have the recipe. You might guess- - when I asked Patty for the recipe her response was there was none, her grandmother and mother just made it from memory and knew the ingredients and proportions by heart. She said she would try to sit down with them and make up a recipe. After many months she was successful and brought it to me. She eventually left the bank and we never saw each other again but I have never forgotten her because of that recipe. I still have the hand written paper she gave it to me on and still to this day make it every Easter. Every time I make it I say to myself, "this is Patty DeStante's recipe". I hope from Heaven she can read this and it brings a big smile to her face. My deepest sympathy to her family. She was such a wonderful person and losing her is so very difficult for you. Take good care of each other during this sad time.

George Tulloch - January 16, 2021 at 05:02 PM

SG

“ The world is a bit sadder today with the loss of Pat but heaven is rejoicing! I remember all the fun times we had working on Maternity together at St E’s Hosp. Never a dull moment when Pat was on duty-her love and compassion always obvious. She will always be in my heart and prayers and God bless her family. Sylvia Gentile

sylvia gentile - January 16, 2021 at 03:28 PM



“ Jennifer, your mother was truly blessed to have a daughter as loving as you. May you cherish the wonderful memories that you shared together.

*Thinking of you and Wade.*

*Love, Tammie*

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**Tammie Gillmett** - January 16, 2021 at 02:42 PM

MH

*We did not know Patty as long as most, but we wished we had. Much Love Gary & Monica Hadsell* ❤️💙💜💚💛

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**monica hadsell** - January 16, 2021 at 06:00 PM

EC

*JEN, My sincere condolences to you and your Family for the loss of Pat whom I always considered a Wonderful person. On that note I know that she went straight to Heaven, no stops along the way, and is with your Dad in Heaven, looking down through the stars {windows} to be with you always.*

*God Bless You EstherComito*

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**Esther Comito** - January 17, 2021 at 02:34 AM

LH

“ Jennifer and Wade, My condolences to you and all of your family. Patty was such an exceptionally beautiful person, always had a smile and was so loving and caring of others. I know God meet her at the gate and said "come right in". May God give you strength during this time and please feel comfort in knowing that she truly left her mark on this world.

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**Lois Hoyle** - January 16, 2021 at 08:31 AM



“ *My sweet Popeye, may you Rest In Peace. A lifetime with you would never be enough, until we meet again* ❤️❤️

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**Nicole Hadsell** - January 15, 2021 at 10:42 PM