



## Mrs. Phyllis M. (Vennero) Fasolo

September 3, 1944 - November 7, 2020

UTICA - Mrs. Phyllis Marie (Vennero) Fasolo, 76, a native of Utica, residing in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, entered into rest Saturday, November 7, 2020 at Grand Strand Medical Center.

She was born in Utica, NY September 3, 1944, the daughter of the late Felix and Rachel Vennero. On February 16, 1963 in St. Mary of Mount Carmel Church she was married to Michael Fasolo, Sr. They had a love like no other, holding hands their entire life. Phyllis's life was blessed and filled with so much love from her family and friends. Her smile lit up a room and everyone that met her felt her beautiful heart.

She was a loving and devoted mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Together with her husband, she raised five children and their children. Her love for her family was always her first priority. She loved with her whole heart, sharing laughter, hugs and kisses every day. Her beautiful spirit lives on through her family and her memory will live in their hearts—especially Sunday sauces and her famous “solid” dressing.

She is survived by her husband Michael; her children, Michael and Terri Fasolo, Rachel Rogers, Phil Fasolo, Phyllis and Brian Saville, and Marc and Joelle Fasolo; her grandchildren, Amanda and Jason Babson, Michael and Taylor Fasolo; Matt Rogers and Kaleigh Miller, Derek Rogers; Isabella, Dominick, and Benjamin Fasolo; Sean, Samantha, and Sarah Saville; and Emma, and Brady Fasolo and the memory of her granddaughter Addison Fasolo (2008); and great-granchildren, twins Jack, and Bennett Babson. She

also leaves her brothers, sisters; and in-laws, Roseanne Vennero DeMetri, Bernadette Vennero Cappa, Bernard “Ben” and Debbie Vennero, Phil and Jackie Vennero, Anthony and Kristen Vennero, Michelle and Scott Springer, Rachel Vennero Helmes, Anthony and Carla Fasolo, Karl Fasolo, Kenneth and Renee Fasolo, and Marie and Steve Garramone; several nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and her life-long friends, Elaine and Dean Burrows who all hold a dear place in her heart. Among the many awaiting her arrival in heaven are her mom and dad, her beloved granddaughter, Addison, in-laws, Victor and Philomena Fasolo, Claude DeMetri, and her friends, Annette and Dick Dellahunt.

A special thank you to Amanda Cataldo, Dr. Lee, and the Johns Hopkins nursing staff.

A Memorial service will be held on Friday, December 11 at 10:00 at the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes. Social distancing, registration for contact tracing, and a mask covering your nose and mouth will be required. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to her favorite charity, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital online at <https://www.stjude.org>. Envelopes will be available at the service. Inurnment will be held at Calvary Cemetery Mausoleum.

During this time of social distancing that we are all experiencing, please take a moment to connect with Phyllis’ family through the “Memories” section of her obituary. Our prayers go out to all as a sign of our continued support.

# Cemetery Details

## Calvary Mausoleum

2407 Oneida Street  
Utica, Ny

# Tribute Wall

RS

“ *Fasolo Family,*

*Veronica and I were very sorry to hear about the passing of your beloved wife, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, sister, sister-in-law and aunt, Phyllis.*

*We have added you and your family to our daily prayer list. And, when we attend mass on Sunday, we will add you and your family to our parish book of prayers.*

*Having bid adieu to the matriarch of my family, I can appreciate and empathize with your sense of pain and loss. It's not easy saying good-bye to the matriarch of one's family regardless of age/health because they are so very special having brought us into the world and having nurtured us throughout our lives with a special love that only a mother can provide.*

*May our Good Lord watch over, bless, protect comfort and console you and your family as you endure this difficult, trying and sad time in your lives.*

*Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to you and your family in your time of loss and sorrow.*

*Rob & Veronica Sherman*

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**Robert Sherman** - December 14, 2020 at 04:58 PM

JC

“ *To the Fasolo Family,  
I have very fond memories of Mrs. Fasolo. When I think of her the words to describe her that immediately come to my mind are loving, gentle and kind. She just had that special way about her that made you feel loved. Although I haven't seen her in many years, Ive often thought of her especially after I heard of her illness. She was a beautiful person inside & out and am truly very sorry for your loss.*

*Love,  
Jackie Capuana*

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**Jackie Capuana** - December 08, 2020 at 06:46 PM

TS

“ *Thomas Saladino lit a candle in memory of  
Mrs. Phyllis M. (Vennero) Fasolo*



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**Thomas Saladino** - December 08, 2020 at 06:04 PM

“ It’s pretty surreal sitting at my computer about to type a memory of my sister Phyllis. I still think at times it may not be true but then reality hits and I find that sadly it is.

What can I say about my sister Phyllis, the second oldest of the Vennero brood. I know I can say she was a beautiful person inside and out. She was a person who cared about her Family, all of us, especially her husband Michael and their children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. She was the biggest fan of anything they all participated in from baseball to dance and always spoke of all of them. She also watched over all of them, with the fierceness of a mother bear and her cubs, always ready to protect when needed. Yet she could light up a room with her smile. She was a unique person and will never be forgotten. We have so many memories of times with Phyllis. Probably the one that always made us laugh was about the fruitcakes. Years ago, when we were younger, every year near Christmas, my mother and sisters would meet at Phyllis’s house to bake. I can remember the mounds of cookies and special items that were made for the holiday including my mother’s special fruitcake.

Phyllis loved to bake, and she was a master at anything she tried. So for years after my mother passed, she continued to make a lot of the cookies every Christmas. The only thing that was missing was my mother’s fruitcake. (Which was a popular delicacy).

Since Phyllis was such a master at baking, she held the recipe ledger that once belonged to my mother. So, one year near Christmas I decided to ask Phyllis for the recipe. After some negotiating, she finally gave it to me. I was excited and got all the ingredients I needed and couldn’t wait to get a cake in the oven. I did, but when it came out it was a brick. I called Phyllis to tell her about it and she told me I must have done something wrong. I tried a few more times but they all came out the same. So, I gave up. The following year I tried again, and the first cake came out the same. I again called Phyllis to tell her and again she said I was doing something wrong. So, after a second brick I gave up. A few days later I got a call from Phyllis who said “I’m sorry” as soon as I



*answered. She went on to tell me that when she copied the recipe from the book, she wrote baking powder instead of baking soda (thus the bricks). I tried the correct recipe and viola' – perfect fruitcakes. I'm happy to know that Phyllis and the family enjoyed those fruitcakes for many years since then. We would talk about it every year when she got her fruitcake and laugh.*

*I will always have special memories of my sister Phyllis. The only consolation of her passing is that she is no longer suffering. May you rest in peace Phyllis and enjoy the company of your family who were waiting for you. We will see each other again.*

*Ben & Debbie Vennero*

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**Ben & Debbie Vennero** - December 08, 2020 at 03:16 PM

CM

*Absolutely beautiful Ben. May she rest in peace.*

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**Cathy Massoud** - December 30, 2020 at 03:29 PM

BD

“ *Brad and Amy Davies purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mrs. Phyllis M. (Vennero) Fasolo.*



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**Brad and Amy Davies** - December 08, 2020 at 02:27 PM

CF

“ *Marc and Joelle, we are so very sorry for you loss of your beautiful mother. Her legacy and love live on for sure.*

*Cindy and Tony Fiorilli*

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**Cindy Fiorilli** - December 07, 2020 at 07:51 AM

BD

“ I hope that reading the moving tributes and seeing the pictures of my beautiful cousin provides some solace her family. Truly a life well lived and her spirit will live on forever in the hearts of everyone she touched. My mother visited Phyllis shortly after she gave birth to Michael and always said she never saw anyone more beautiful at that moment. It wasn't until today that I realized Phyllis and Marianne shared the same birthday.

Boomer DeConti - December 05, 2020 at 07:45 AM

LG

“ Love, Boomer, Piedad, Anthony, Emily and Gisela purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Mrs. Phyllis M. (Vennero) Fasolo.



Love, Boomer, Piedad, Anthony, Emily and Gisela -  
December 05, 2020 at 07:24 AM

KF

“ Karen Frosch lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Phyllis M. (Vennero) Fasolo



Karen Frosch - November 28, 2020 at 07:53 PM

KF

“ *Phyllis was a wonderful and remarkable woman. She was a hard worker, a loving mother and wife. My heart goes out to Michael - they had a special bond and love like no other. Her children meant the world to her and the love and respect they had for Phyllis was special. I spent many nights babysitting them and in turn they for my kids - they all will always have a special place in my heart and I send big hugs to each of them.*

*I can never remember Phyllis without a smile on her beautiful face and even her eyes twinkled when she smiled. She always had a cup of coffee no matter when you visited her. Her smile and cup of coffee will be what I remember her by. I was lucky to have her as a sister-in-law.*

*Rest In Peace Phyllis you have touched so many lives in a beautiful way and will be missed dearly. Michael, Mike and Terry, Rachel, Philly, Phyllis and Brian and Marc and Joelle I send you my love and heartfelt condolences. Aunt Karen ❤️*

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**Karen Frosch** - November 28, 2020 at 06:53 PM

 Terri Fasolo

*Thank you Aunt Karen*

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**Terri Fasolo** - November 30, 2020 at 01:50 PM

CH

*Phyllis did have a wonderful smile. I am so happy i met her and Mike Charlene Rogers, RN from Johns Hopkins - Baltimore*

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**charlene** - December 07, 2020 at 12:33 PM

PV

“ *Phil & Jackie Vennero lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Phyllis M. (Vennero) Fasolo*



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**Phil & Jackie Vennero** - November 25, 2020 at 04:59 PM

“ Memories are the heart's way of keeping those closest to us alive.....

*My sister Phyllis was the light in everyone's heart, certainly mine. As with all my brothers and sisters, we were raised with "family" as our main focus; love, respect, closeness and being undivided. My deepest condolences to my Brother (in law) Michael who loved my sister more than life itself, they were inseparable, to her children who felt her true love and devotion each and everyday. Our Prayers are with you all.*

*I have so many wonderful, beautiful memories of Phyllis, including Michael and the "kids", which are filled with laughter, joy, love and times spent together from many years ago to most recent. They will always be with me, as will she. Never fading. Her smile and those twinkling eyes made everything better, and if they didn't, her sauce definitely would! Phyllis was always admired, loved and looked up to by us and those who touched her life through work or other activities.*

*Phyllis always possessed and showed true courage with life and her illness, along with the battle she waged against it. She made every minute count by being with those she loved the most and seeing them when she could. Phyllis never complained of her pain or circumstance, but showed us how much she wanted to make us feel better about it all. Never wanting us to feel her pain or feel bad for her. That was Phyllis, selfless and always caring about everyone else!*

*We all take solace knowing that Phyllis is with those who have left us. She is at peace and no longer in pain, but the space she leaves in our Family is immense and will be felt everyday and only made bearable by our memories of her. May my sweet sister Phyllis rest in peace and enjoy all of God's joys. We pray that Michael and his family be granted strength, courage and peace through this difficult time.*

*"Those we Love don't go away, they walk beside us everyday"*



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**Phil & Jackie Vennero** - November 25, 2020 at 04:58 PM



*That is beautiful Uncle Phil*

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**Terri Fasolo** - November 30, 2020 at 01:49 PM

AJ

“ *Anthony Fasolo, Jr. lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Phyllis M. (Vennero) Fasolo*



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**Anthony Fasolo, Jr.** - November 19, 2020 at 08:54 PM

“ It's been many years since I saw my Aunt Phyllis and Uncle Mike. Yet, I remember the both of them having made the trip to see me and to be with my mom – her sister, when I was hospitalized with a neurological condition. My Aunt Phyllis's smile and her bright personality was and will always be sunshine. I knew that it would be a long time before I would see them again as they were only just days away from moving to Florida and I. . .well I was not traveling very well at that time nor would that change in the years to come. So, as life always does, it moved on and flew swiftly past. But, the memory of them at the foot of my hospital bed has never left me, nor has that smile or that brightness that radiated from her. She definitely has her father's — my grandfather's, bright smiling eyes.

So, here we are ten years later. News of terrible things travel slowly, but it does travel. My Aunt and I corresponded a few times when I found out the news of her illness. And I realized a period in all our lives had begun. A time I had been dreading for a long time. Yes, we are all older now and yes, we've all moved from one life transition to another. A time where in the beginning the happy news far out paces the sad. . . But now we've arrived at a time in our lives where the news of those we love is hardly good or happy... and no logic of expectance or rationality can ever prepare us for this inevitability.

*How could it?*

*How could we ever wrap our minds around the thought that those who have always been a part of our lives, from as far back as memory will allow — could one day not be there anymore?*

*My first thoughts when I heard the news of my Aunt's illness was her family. Her children and her husband, my uncle Michael. I could not even begin to touch the idea of what they could be feeling. And although I've been far from my Aunts, Uncles, my cousins, and now their children for decades now, I have always felt the strings of connection as if we were still children. As if we were to find*

*ourselves all in one room again, it would be as if time had not passed at all. My memories may be few, but they are strong and filled with love. And with the passing of time and life's feverish forward march, those memories contain within them a tender admiration for my cousins and their beautiful and loving mother — my Aunt Phyllis. Because, I know that the happiness within their lives is a direct reflection of their mother.*

*I know she is free now, and she has gone home. She is with those who have gone before her and who have been looking on and waiting for her. Although she is not with us anymore, I do know that she is where happiness lives and love truly does rise above all. And for her family, my uncle and cousins I can only give my deepest, saddest, sympathies which I know will never be enough. Please know that I love you all and always have and I have always loved you, my god-mother Aunt Phyllis.*

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**Anthony Fasolo, Jr.** - November 19, 2020 at 06:49 PM



*Beautiful tribute Anthony*

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**Terri Fasolo** - November 30, 2020 at 01:54 PM

A blue square profile picture with the initials 'JG' in white.

“ *Rachel, Margaret Buckley and I want to let you that we are thinking of you and sending our prayers at this sad time for you. We hope that you and your family can be together in person or virtually to honor your mother, and that your heart will be warmed by memories of happy times you shared with her.*

*Warmest Regards, Judy Gorman*

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**Judy Gorman** - November 17, 2020 at 12:04 PM

AD

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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Amy DeMetri - November 16, 2020 at 07:24 PM

AD

“ I have so many memories of being around my Aunt, Uncle and the Fasolo kids, with the entire Vennero family for that matter. Many of the happiest days of my past were shared with them all, even some of those not so happy, they helped share that burden.

One memory is branded in my mind. I was 12 years old and taking my confirmation at Saint Mary of Mount Carmel Church. Of course Michael, the oldest of the Fasolo kids was taking his along side of me. Or maybe I was along side of him, as he was a few months older than me. I chose my Aunt Phyllis, he my Dad.

While at the church practicing for the ceremony, a woman came up to me and made to comment, "It is so nice to have asked your Mom to be your God Mother". For obvious reasons, and maybe because I spent so much time at their home and vice versa, I resembled my Aunt. My Aunt did correct woman and said, "Oh dear, don't tell my sister that!" My Aunt and I did chuckle and I recall her smiling eyes. She always had those smiling eyes.- I was pretty proud that I not only had one amazing Mom of my own, I also had a beautiful Aunt that due to my looks, I was happy to be mistaken for as her daughter. My own beautiful Mom and her sister, my special Aunt Phyllis, have wonderful genes!!

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Amy DeMetri - November 16, 2020 at 07:18 PM

AD

“ *Amy DeMetri lit a candle in memory of Mrs.  
Phyllis M. (Vennero) Fasolo*



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**Amy DeMetri** - November 16, 2020 at 06:57 PM