



Mrs. Rachel M. (Pontonero) Faga

May 14, 1932 - March 8, 2026

UTICA- Mrs. Rachel M. (Pontonero) Faga, age 93, passed away on Sunday, March 8, 2026.

Born in Utica on May 14, 1932, Rachel was the daughter of the late Anthony and Angeline (Bouse) Pontonero. She was raised and educated in the area and was a graduate of T. R. Proctor High School.

On April 26, 1952, she joined in holy matrimony with Carmen H. Faga. The couple shared over 52 years together prior to Carmen's passing on March 7, 2004.

Rachel found employment as an office manager at Smith, Treiber, and Whitting, a position which she loyally held for many years.

Above all, Rachel was giving, loving, and devoted to her family. She was an excellent cook—her pasta dishes in particular stood out, though she was also famous for her amazing sauces and soups. Her culinary skill meant she was often called upon to host Thanksgiving and whip up her legendary turkey dinner. She was selfless in nature and tended to her husband in sickness and in health. She was always there for her loved ones to help them through good times and bad and assist with any adjustments.

At one time, she was an avid bowler and enjoyed playing poker. She loved her Schnauzers Fritz I, Fritz II, Heidi, and Bobo. She was also an avid New York Yankees fan.

Rachel is survived by her son, Ralph A. Faga. She cherished the memory of her daughter, Sharon A. Jones, who preceded her on December 28, 2021. She also leaves behind her son-in-law, Jeffrey Jones; grandchildren, Christopher Jones, and Dana L. Jones; and brother, Anthony J. Pontonero. She was additionally predeceased by her sister and brother-in-law, Maryrose and Richard D. Azzarito; and brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Dominick and Josephine Faga. Her memory will forever be cherished by her nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins; in-laws, Mary Jane Zammiello (the late Frank Zammiello); and dear friends, Annie Perritano, and Ellie Bianco.

In keeping with Rachel's wishes, the family will honor her life privately. Entombment will take place in Resurrection Chapel Mausoleum at the convenience of the family.

Cemetery Details

Resurrection Chapel Mausoleum

Champlin Ave.
Utica, NY 13501

Tribute Wall

JD

“ Holding the memories of my dear godmother, Rachel, and the great friendship she had with my mother, Alice Delitto. Rest in peace. My condolences to Ralph and her family. Jim Delitto

Jim Delitto - March 14 at 08:38 AM

RF

Thank you time flies I can't believe you remembered me Ralph take care

Ralph Faga - March 14 at 05:03 PM