

Mr. Raymond K. Mazza, Sr.

December 24, 1930 - March 12, 2016

Mr. Raymond K. "Ray" Mazza, Sr., age 85, of Utica, passed away unexpectedly at the St. Elizabeth Medical Center with his loving family by his side.

Born in Utica on December 24, 1930, Raymond was the son of the late Joseph and Mary R. (Graziano) Mazza. He was a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School/Class of 1949 and he continued his studies at Utica College. A proud veteran of the United States Army, Ray honorably and bravely served his country as a member of the 8th Army, 25th Infantry Division, 35th Infantry Regiment during the Korean War. He was the recipient of 3 Bronze Service Star Medals for Meritorious service.

On September 18, 1954 Ray married his high school sweetheart, the former Freida Cabouch with whom he shared 61 years united in everything, especially their trust and love. They finished each others sentences and were of one mind as they met every triumph and tribulation of life, together.

Ray began his diverse working career at the General Electric Company, Radio/Receiver plant on Bleecker Street where he worked in Production Control for many years. He subsequently accepted a position at UNIVAC where he remained until their closing. He then held employment at the Mele Manufacturing Company, and lastly at the DeVine-Munson Machinery Company, the position from which he retired in 1995. Ray was compassionate and empathetic in his relationships, especially as patriarch of his family. He was his children's confidant, mentor, and source of strength. He was very

principled and his beliefs were rock solid. He imparted these values to his children by the way he led his life. Ray was a fair and forgiving man with strong social skills. He was an intellectual and inspiring story teller. He enjoyed family picnics and dancing with his wife at area venues. For many of his younger years, he played softball and golfed. Ray was most thankful for raising a family he was proud of and sharing his love and affection with his grandchildren. Patriotic and civically minded, he was a member of the Knights of St. John International, St. Anthony of Padua Commandery #385, a 32nd Degree Mason with the Masonic Lodge, President of the Director's Staff at Ziyara Shrine; Tau Zeta Fraternity, American Legion Post #229, Lifetime Member of the 25th Infantry Division Association, and President of the AVRA Association. He was a communicant of St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church. Raymond is survived by his devoted wife, Freida; his children and their loves, Cheryl and Kenneth "Ken" Payne of Utica, Karen Mazza and her husband Kenneth "Ken" Toback of Bayside, NY, Raymond K. Mazza of Utica, and Andrea and Scott Helmer of Frankfort; and his grandchildren, Lauren and Steven Kilmartin, and Russell Suppa; James Toback, Melissa Toback; John Hall; Victoria, and Brynlee Helmer. He will also be remembered by his nieces, nephews, especially acknowledging Ben Rizzo, and Greg and Leigh D'Agostino; great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, in-laws, John and Teresa Cabouch, and Lucille Groben; and his forever friends, Addie Foresti, and her late husband, Sam. He was predeceased by his sisters and brothers-in-law, Carmela and Frank "House" D'Agostino, Josephine and Joseph Rizzo, and Frances and Louis DiMare.

The family is grateful to the Emergency Room staff at St. Elizabeth Medical Center for their kindness and compassion.

Visitation will be held Friday from 4:00-7:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. The members of the Knights of St. John's Commandery #385 will assemble at the funeral home at 6:30, and the members of the Masonic Service Utica Lodge #47 will assemble at 6:45 for Ritualistic Services. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Ray's honor

may be made to the American Legion Post #229 or the Shriners Hospitals for Children with orthopedic conditions; envelopes will be available at the funeral home. Raymond's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Saturday morning at 9:30 from the funeral home and at 10:30 at St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church where his Mass of Christian Burial with Military Honors will be offered by Rev. Mark Kaminski. Interment will take place graveside at Holy Trinity Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Holy Trinity Cemetery

1500 Champlin Avenue
Utica, NY

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 18. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.
932 South Street
corner of Hammond Ave.
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 724-6714
eannacefh@roadrunner.com

Funeral Service

MAR 19. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church
422 Tilden Ave.
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 732-1177
<https://www.stanthonystagnes.com/>

Tribute Wall

CS

“ So sorry to hear of Ray's passing , we just received the information today from Patty Yokum, we are still in Florida till end of April. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time. Cindi and Carl Golas Sr.

Carl Golas Sr. - March 19, 2016 at 10:01 PM

LJ

“ I'm so sorry Ray Jr. and Frieda. Ray was such a smart, compassionate man. I remember having nice chats when he would drop off Mickey to get groomed. My thoughts and prayers are with your family. Sincerely, Lori Schell Johannssen

Lori Schell Johannssen - March 18, 2016 at 12:47 PM

HD

“ Freida and family - We are so sorry to hear of the loss of Ray. I can not think of him without it bringing a smile to my face. Dan and I remember all the times running into you, Ray, Addie and Sam out to dinner. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Dan and Helen (Montana) Darjany

Helen Montana Darjant - March 17, 2016 at 04:24 PM

TS

“ *My sincere condolences to FREIDA, CHERYL, KAREN, ANDREA AND RAYMOND ON the passing of RAY, Husband, Father, And My GODFATHER. it saddens me even more that I can not get there for the service. I still remember the times as a child on upper Blandina St. at the house with all of you. I will always remember him as loving Godfather who was always good to me. Even though I haven't seen him in quite awhile I will miss him.*

*GOD BLESS YOU ALL
TOM SARDELLI*

Tom Sardelli - March 17, 2016 at 12:25 PM

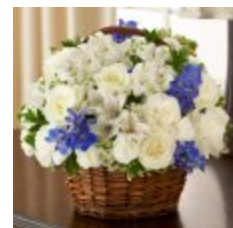
CB

“ *Picnics, days at the pool, coffee, birthday parties, weddings, daughters who were more like sisters than friends, talking over the fence and so, so much more. Thirty plus years of memories can never be forgotten. Frieda and family, my heart is filled with sadness and my deepest sympathies and love to all of you. Ray, we will remain forever and always your "neighborly neighbor" and "kid next door." RIP Ray and God speed.*

Cathy Bohan - March 17, 2016 at 08:25 AM



“ *Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Mr. Raymond K. Mazza, Sr..*



March 17, 2016 at 04:57 AM

KC

“ Ray was such a ray of sunshine, a wonderful smile and always a good word to say. We will miss him at MCC.

Kathy Contino-Turner - March 16, 2016 at 09:37 AM

CH

“ Freida, Cheryl, Karen, Ray, Andrea, just wanted to say I am so sorry for the loss of your Dad. He was a special man and will be missed by many. Treasure the memories you have of him and he will always be in your hearts. Will miss seeing his smiling face in church. Sending you all prayers and a warm hug to help you through the difficult days ahead. Cynthia Hommey

Cynthia Hommey - March 15, 2016 at 10:53 PM



“ Fields of Europe for Spring was purchased for the family of Mr. Raymond K. Mazza, Sr..



March 15, 2016 at 03:38 PM

DS

“ Deanna Salvatore-Lercara lit a candle in memory of Mr. Raymond K. Mazza, Sr.



Deanna Salvatore-Lercara - March 15, 2016 at 09:49 AM

AS

Dearest Freida and family.....I am so deeply saddened with the passing of wonderful Ray.....the obituary sums up his life perfectly! I am sorry I will not be able to attend services as I am out of state....my thoughts and prayers are with you. God Bless all of you. Former neighbor, Annette Smith

annette smith - March 17, 2016 at 09:36 AM

FD

Dear Karen, we are deeply saddened to hear of the loss of your father, Raymond.

May cherished memories of him give you and your family peace, comfort and strength during this difficult time.

Our heartfelt sympathy and prayers go out to you all, may his soul rest in peace.

Your NYCERS' Family

Felita DiLorenzo - March 17, 2016 at 10:40 AM