



Mrs. Regina M. (Gelfuso) Waters

September 1, 1958 - July 29, 2017

FRANKFORT - Mrs. Regina M. (Gelfuso) Waters, age 58, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, July 29, 2017 at the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center with her loving family at her side.

Born in Utica on September 1, 1958, Regina was the daughter of the late Thomas R. "Tom" and Vincenza P. "Chancey" (Angrisano) Gelfuso. She was a graduate of Utica Catholic Academy/Class of 1976. She continued her education at the St. Elizabeth School of Nursing where she earned her degree as a Registered Nurse graduating as Salutatorian of the Class of 1987. She continued her professional studies at SUNY Institute of Technology where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing. In 1977 she married David M. Waters and to that relationship came two "precious" sons and a bond that endured throughout the years. Regina had a second chance at love when she met John "Mike" Holehan in 2009. They shared common traits and a compatible relationship. They married in 2014, a great day in both their lives. Regina began her career in the healthcare field as a Candy Striper at St. Elizabeth Hospital. She went on to earn her RN and moved across the street to the St. Elizabeth Women and Children Health Center where she worked as an Obstetrics/Gynecology Nurse, and later as a Nurse Manager. She was a member of the New York State Nurses Association. She subsequently decided to return to more direct patient care in Pediatrics, where her patience, playfulness, and compassion had a calming effect on children even when they had to take a "big shot". At her untimely passing, Gina was admired by all for

her sensitivity and dedication to nursing which she truly loved. She fought and survived a life threatening illness at a young age and subsequently developed a dream of helping others. Her family is grateful she had the opportunity to realize this dream and wishes to thank Dr. Mark Griffing for his dedication to her care through the years.

In her private life, as in her professional life, Gina was kind and selfless and she would do anything for her family's well-being and happiness. She was often known to carry a hardship by herself so as not to burden her children. When she began babysitting for the kids, she always played the 'bad cop', or at least she thought she did. But it was really her wisdom that they will come to remember as well as the guidance she afforded them. Although she was wickedly playful and funny, she was also an easy mark, but handled it well. Above all else, she was a wise and protective matriarch who adored her sons. As a grandma, she was very tender and adoring of her grandkids. Being with the twins were her joyful moments and she will be remembered as calm-natured and forever loved.

Regina loved to read, and in the spring, plant a vegetable garden. When it was a productive growing season, she shared great meals prepared from the bounty of her garden. Her signature meals were hearty, simple, and memorable - chicken soup, and beans & escarole, the best among family favorites. Through the years, Gina embraced the challenge of sailing, camping, horseback riding and many outdoor adventures that became lasting memories. Her home was adorned with little artifacts of these memorable times, including sailboats, lighthouses, and books. "White Squall" was her favorite movie, a high seas voyage of a lifetime where nature tests the crew's courage and will to survive... you may want to watch it! She was also incredibly crafty in sewing, knitting, needlepoint, and cross stitch, a passion that she passed on to her niece Vincenza. She made special outfits for her boys for the holiday season.

In her younger years, Regina was told that she may never conceive, and when she was able carry two children, she was overjoyed, especially when

they grew to be great kids. She thanked God for his grace in granting her two sons. She worked hard in raising them and went on to higher education, a wonderful family life, and a fulfilling career in healthcare.

Gina knew her Lord and never took life for granted. She prayed for the intentions of so many and she dedicated her time and efforts to many more. She was a good soul, through and through.

Regina is survived by her husband, Mike; her beloved sons and their loves, David Mark and Amber Waters, and Justin Daniel Waters and fiancée Andrea Bonomo; and her grandchildren, twins Austin Thomas, and Alexandria Rae Waters. She will also be remembered by her brothers and sisters-in-law, Louis S. "Lou" and Kim A. Gelfuso, and Thomas "Tommy" and Lana Gelfuso; her sisters and brother-in-law, Annette and Thomas Bick, and Darlene Buttimer; her nieces and nephews, Joseph and Jennifer Gelfuso, Andrea Gelfuso, and Lisa and Christopher Dousharm; Melissa and Christopher Abdoo, Vincenza Bick; Matthew Buttimer, Lauren Buttimer, and Joseph Thomas Buttimer; Isabella Gelfuso, and Kasia Gelfuso; great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, aunt Nicoletta Fiorentino; and Mike's family, Leila and Steven Jabour, Jamshid "Jim" and Nicole Holehan, and their children, Sophia, Rocco, Shea, and Finn. She was blessed with best friends, Mary Barr, and Gina Aiello, and her many co-workers. She was predeceased by her brother-in-law, Steve Buttimer, and nephew Jason Waters.

The family wishes to thank the staff of Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center, especially Dr. Ramesh Cherukuri, Dr. Ashish Regulagadda, Dr. Charles Eldredge, Dr. Ghassan Koussa, Dr. Joseph Booth, Dr. Lisette Alfaro-Berg, Dr. Anand Ravi, and Dr. Nicholas Qandah for their professional expertise; the nursing staff including Andrey, Oksana, and Clarissa; Therapy Services personnel, especially Molly; Care Attendants, especially Brandy, and many others, all of whom provided exceptional comfort to Gina, including Dr. Sami Abdul Malak of Crouse Hospital for his contributions to her care. The family would also like to thank friends and family members, too numerous to name,

who have shown tremendous support during a difficult time.

Visitation will be held Friday from 4:00-7:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. The family will remain until all have been seen. Memorial contributions may be made to the family enabling them to establish a fund for a Nursing Program. Regina'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 her Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. Mark Kaminski. Committal prayers and Interment will take place graveside in Frankfort Center Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Frankfort Center Cemetery

Frankfort, NY 13340

Tribute Wall

GP

“ I am so sorry about just finding this out. I worked with Regina for many many years. She is my friend. Everyone would confuse us when calling our names, so I was nicknamed Gina P., so we would know which one of us were being called. My sincere condolences to you and your family.

Gina Paratore - April 09, 2018 at 07:01 AM

FO

“ Regina and I were friends when we lived on Wetmore Street. I remember her grandfather's grapevines and the playhouse in the yard. The neighborhood kids were me (they always called me Cookie), Regina, Cindy Schortino, Michael Desantis, Marilyn Brower. I remember my family visiting when you moved out to Welshbush Rd. So sorry for your loss. I wish we had kept in touch. Condolences to her boys, grandchildren and friends.

Felicia Otero - August 11, 2017 at 05:59 PM

MT

“ I went to nursing school with Gina. She was such sweet kind person. Seeing her graduation picture brought back so many memories from school. I remember when she got pregnant our second year and gave birth to David. I was able to work on a few projects with her and even go to her home and her mother's home at one time. We had that Italian thing going also. I had not seen her since graduation but my heart breaks that she had to leave us so soon. My thoughts and prayers are with her sons who I know we her happiness and her family and husband. Love and Prayers Michele Liscio Trzepacz 🍷❤️🙏



Michele Liscio Trzepacz - August 06, 2017 at 08:06 PM

MM

“ Mike: We were so saddened to hear of Regina's passing. She had become such a wonderful addition to the Holehan family. We were overjoyed to see that you found such extreme happiness in each other's company. Her love and kindness to all will never be forgotten. Our prayers are with you and your family Mike.

Mike and Amy Murphy - August 06, 2017 at 06:28 AM

DH

“ With deepest sympathy at this most difficult time. I worked with Gina at the Women's Health Center for many years and found her to be the most caring and delightful person I had ever met. Her kindness toward the patients knew no limits. Her attention to the staff was uncharacteristically warm and caring. She made it fun and enjoyable to come to work. I will miss her terribly. Daniel J. Horth, MD

Dan Horth - August 04, 2017 at 03:57 PM

DM

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the Gefuso and Waters family on Gina's untimely passing.



Don Marino - August 04, 2017 at 02:50 PM



“ I was so saddened to hear of Gina's passing. I am blessed to have so many memories with Gina at work and play, I regret I am not in NY. I extend my sincere sympathies to the family. May your grief be softened by your memories. Julie Cully

Eannace Funeral Home - August 04, 2017 at 02:16 PM

CM

“ Dearest cousins,
I am deeply sorry and shocked at the passing of beautiful Regina. I remember her as a beautiful baby who grew into a kind and loving woman. Although we never saw each other that much through the years, when we did I was always greeted with a smile and warm hug. She truly is one of God's most beautiful flowers in his garden.

I will be unable to attend the services, for I will be out of town, but know that you are all in my thoughts and prayers. Love, kisses, hugs to you all and I pray for your strength through this most difficult time. Rip beautiful Regina xox

cousin Cheryl Mondì

Cheryl Mondì - August 04, 2017 at 08:01 AM

WB

“ With love, Joe and Liz Baia purchased the Floor Plant for Sympathy for the family of Mrs. Regina M. (Gelfuso) Waters.



With love, Joe and Liz Baia - August 03, 2017 at 05:15 PM

MP

“Gina was one of the kindest and most generous people I have had the pleasure of meeting. She was a great mother, which I fortunately was able to witness first hand during many lengthy stays at her home in my youth; she always treated her son's friends as part of the family and would do anything for anyone who asked. Her bright personality and sense of humor have and will continue to remain firmly in my memories. My thoughts, prayers and deepest condolences go out to Dave, Justin and all of her family and friends.
-Mark W. Paciello

Mark W Paciello - August 03, 2017 at 12:57 PM

FA

“From : MVHS Medical Group Administration purchased the Healing Tears - Blue and White for the family of Mrs. Regina M. (Gelfuso) Waters.



From : MVHS Medical Group Administration - August 03, 2017 at 11:23 AM

MG

“May God look after you, my closest female friend of very many years. May he provide you an endless summer with the finest sailing and may your spirit often find its way to Narragansett Bay. You were a wonderful person, a caring brilliant nurse, a complete woman, and the finest mother. You will be in my heart and soul forever. My condolences to your loving family including David and Justin who are like the sons I never had. I'm very proud of you and will always be there for you.
Dr. Mark E. Griffing

Mark Griffing - August 03, 2017 at 09:31 AM



“ *Fields of Europe was purchased for the family of Mrs. Regina M. (Gelfuso) Waters.*



August 03, 2017 at 09:18 AM



“ *My condolences to the entire Gelfuso and Waters Family. So sorry for your loss. Paula Schmidt Aversa*



Paula Aversa - August 03, 2017 at 09:02 AM



“ *Karen Dare sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Regina M. (Gelfuso) Waters*



Karen Dare - August 02, 2017 at 02:28 PM



“ *Kathleen De Lalla sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Regina M. (Gelfuso) Waters*



Kathleen de Lalla - August 02, 2017 at 11:45 AM



“ *Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers was purchased for the family of Mrs. Regina M. (Gelfuso) Waters.*



August 02, 2017 at 08:01 AM



“ *Deanna Santino lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Regina M. (Gelfuso) Waters*



Deanna Santino - August 01, 2017 at 08:07 PM



My prayers and thoughts are with David and Justin and the entire family. So very sorry

Deanna Santino - August 01, 2017 at 08:09 PM



Gina always had a smile and a kind word for everyone. She will be missed by everyone that knew her. Thoughts & prayers to her sons, David and Justin and her family.

Peter Maneen - August 02, 2017 at 01:25 AM



I wish there was some way I could take your pain away. So saddened of the loss of your loving, mom, grandmother, wife and sister. We had alot of laughes and good times together, throughout the years. May the precious memories you have in your hearts, somehow ease the pain .Until we need again; Rest in peace, sweet Gina. With all our love, thoughts and prayers to all her family and dear friends.

Mark and Diane Miller - August 02, 2017 at 06:50 AM

TS

Our thoughts and prayers are with your family. We were so saddened to hear of her passing which brought back memories of her wonderful personality.

Travis Sacco - August 02, 2017 at 08:00 AM

TK

With our deepest sympathy on Regina's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family. May your memories comfort you at this difficult time. With love.

Therese and Mark Kamilow - August 03, 2017 at 07:32 AM