



Mr. Richard P. "Rich" Fiorentino Sr.

October 8, 1952 - April 18, 2020

UTICA - On Saturday morning, April 18th 2020, our dad left this earthly life at the age of 67 to begin his next journey with those who have passed before. Dad was born on October 8, 1952, the second son of the late Lawrence and Fay (Ruggiero) Fiorentino. Raised locally, he graduated from TR Proctor High School, class of 1970. He continued his education at H.C.C.C. In 1974, he married our mother, Merry Christian, a union that has lasted 45 years and blessed them with three children.

Anyone that knew Dad knows that he is an incredibly hard and meticulous worker. Before his career in car business began, he was the manager of Stereo Center in the 1970s. Through the 1980s he worked in sales with NJ Curri's and later as co-owner at Tobin Chrysler Dodge in Clinton, NY. He had most currently worked at Rome Victory from which he retired in late 2017. The only thing more important than work in Dad's eyes was family and he worked hard to strike a balance to give both his all. He was able to maintain a longstanding Italian tradition of Sunday Dinners up until this past Easter Sunday. If you couldn't make it, you better stop by for leftovers which were always in abundance. Our childhood memories are filled with the remembrance of Dad's love of amusement parks, miniature golf, and ice cream. He went over the top every Christmas and would not open a single gift until we were through, so he could fully appreciate the joy of the moment. Dad's proudest role in life was undoubtedly becoming a Papa to his two grandsons, Maxwell and Miles Olivera. From the moment they were born,

everything he did was for them. Maxwell had been lucky enough to stand alongside Papa and learn how to make sauce and homemade pizza. Miles had the honor of being babysat daily by Papa and NiNi, and together they would frequent Caruso's Pastry Shop, Chanatry's and the Avico Warehouse to stock up on the essentials. They will never, ever forget you.

Left to share his spirit with the world is his wife, Merry; son and daughter in-law, Richard Fiorentino, Jr. and Andrea (Grabski); daughters, Christa "Fi" Fiorentino, and Marissa Fiorentino (Joe Sabo); grandsons, Maxwell and Miles Olivera, and their father, Travis Olivera. Also mourning the loss of dad are his brother and sister-in-law, Ron and Norma Fiorentino; sister and brother-in-law, Diane and Dan Robertello; his aunts, Nina Fiorentino, and Nicolette Fiorentino; and uncle and aunt, Anthony and Linda Ruggiero. He also leaves his Christian family in-laws, Roberta Christian, Jeanne Wailes, Cindy LaPorte, Patty and Ted Bilsky, Lisa Christian, Rod and Susan Christian, Karen Christian, and Scott and Teresa Christian; and many cousins, nieces, and nephews who will surely miss getting their chops busted by Uncle Rich. Dad was predeceased by his parents, Lawrence and Fay Fiorentino; brother, Lawrence "Larry" Fiorentino, Jr.; mother in-law, Beverly Christian; brother-in-law, David Christian; and many beloved aunts and uncles, with special mention of his "Auntie" Rose Calaguiro.

Our family would like to extend deep appreciation to dad's doctors, Dr. Fred Talarico, Dr. Nicholas Qandah, as well as the ICU staff at St. Luke's Hospital. Dr. Q, you went above and beyond for our dad and our family and we will always hold the sincerest gratitude in our hearts for you. You not only guided us through the most difficult experience we have ever encountered, but our dad as well.

Private services have been entrusted to Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. with interment at Calvary Cemetery. Due to the social restrictions, we are unable to gather at this time but will hold a Celebration of Life service in the future.

Those wishing to express an act of kindness in dad's memory may make a donation to Mother Marianne's West Side Kitchen online at <https://mmwsk.org>

or by mail to Mother Marianne's West Side Kitchen, 702 Columbia St., Utica, NY 13502. In honor of our dad, it is our hope that anyone who has been touched by his presence, to fondly remember him by sitting down and enjoying a nice meal with family or friends.

This tribute was lovingly created by his daughter, Marissa.

Tribute Wall

DL

“ I was very sorry to hear of Rich passing. I worked with Rich for many years at Curri Olds. He had a terrific number of repeat customers which tells the type of guy he was.

*Respectfully,
Dick Lockwood, Parts Manager at Curri's*

Dick Lockwood - May 03, 2020 at 07:47 AM

DC

“ Merry, Ron, Diane and Family,

I'm sorry to hear of Rich's passing. I can remember all the good times we had through the years. We will keep him in our prayers.

Carol & Dom Colacicco

Dom Colacicco - April 24, 2020 at 12:17 PM

CI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Charles Isgro - April 22, 2020 at 11:03 PM

DR

I love this picture of my brother! Thank you so much for sharing!

Diane Robertello - April 23, 2020 at 09:04 AM

GS

My condolences to Marisa and the family.

Greg sabo - April 24, 2020 at 10:55 AM

TM

“ *My sincere condolences to the Fiorentino family, Richard and I shared many business moments together , auctions, meetings and events in the auto business, always a joy to talk and discuss business with him, God Bless the Fiorentino family in these trying times ..*

Tom Madia

Thomas Madia - April 22, 2020 at 09:03 PM

LF

“ *Dear Merry and family,*

I would like to express my deepest sympathy to you and yours. Take solace in the fact that life is everlasting. We will miss Richard.

*Love,
Richard's cousin,*

Laura Lee Fiorentino

Laura Lee Fiorentino - April 22, 2020 at 08:04 PM



CI

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Rich was a wonderful person as a friend and a pleasure to do business with. I'll never forget the high school events with Rich , the prom, and his grandfathers camp. Her was a kind man to buy cars from. I would call him from Clifton Park and ask him to pick a used car for me and I would drive to his dealership and pick it up. He was always fair and honest. I am sure he will be selling cars in heaven! God bless his family.

Charley and Grace Isgro

Charles Isgro - April 22, 2020 at 07:30 PM

EF

“ Dear Fiorentino family,

Mystical holy kisses to the entire family in this time of mourning.

In the peace of the Holy Trinity with sympathy,

Your cousin,

Ellen Sue Fiorentino

Ellen Sue Fiorentino - April 22, 2020 at 05:53 PM

CC

“ Merry, Richie and Andrea, Fi, MarMar, Ron and Norma, Diane and Dan and the Fiorentino and Christian families: Deepest Heartfelt Condolences. As you know, we were The Best of friends. We lived parallel livesWe worked together, traveled Denmark and Norway together, vacationed together, dated our future Brides together and even had our wedding receptions at the same place. We went on to undertake the tasks of raising our families. And, would you believe, we always ate well through all of this!

No one can ever forget a friend, mentor and confidant like Rich, Never.....

Love;
Chuck Curri

Chuck Curri - April 22, 2020 at 03:14 PM

LC

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I know how much family meant to Rich, and the great delight he showed when he was with his grandsons. I hope your memories will bring you comfort in the days to come.

Linda Carlson, Rome

Linda S Carlson - April 22, 2020 at 03:13 PM

GD

“ Merry and family,
So sorry to hear of Rich's passing. We lost touch through the years but memories date back to Proctor High on up to seeing you both at the pharmacy. A good and thoughtful man. Always thinking of others. Our prayers are with you.

Greg & Leigh D'Agostino

Greg D'Agostino - April 22, 2020 at 02:24 PM

NB

“ So sorry to hear of his passing.....He was a great guy...our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Nettie & Jim Blunt

Nettie Blunt - April 22, 2020 at 12:13 PM

JM

“ So sorry for the loss of Rich. I went to Proctor with Rich and he was a good friend. I kept in touch with him as we bought several cars from Rich and he was always fair and honest. One time when we went to pickup a new car my daughter who was probably 3 years old did not want to get rid of the car and was crying when we left. The next morning Rich called to see how Valerie was doing. Only a good kind hearted person would do that and that certainly was Rich. Again our deep sorrow and condolences for your family.

Joe and Julie Martin and family

Joseph Martin - April 22, 2020 at 11:23 AM

LD

“ Rich and I went through Thomas R Proctor Highschool. He was a wonderful person. I always bought my autos from him, he was so kind and thoughtful. So sad to hear this news, my thoughts and prayers are with his loved ones.

Lucille Duniec - April 22, 2020 at 08:45 AM

SP

“ We have very fond memories of Rich and are so sorry for your loss. Steve and Kris Pecheone

Steven Pecheone - April 22, 2020 at 08:03 AM

TO

“ *My deepest and sincerest condolences to my extended family. Rich was such a gentle and kind man, and one helluva great cook! He truly loved his family. I am going to miss you, Rich. Until we meet again, Godspeed.*

Much love familia Fiorentino.

Toni Corleto 😭

Toni - April 21, 2020 at 10:20 PM

RM

“ *Marissa & Family,
Our deepest sympathy and our prayers are with you. May God bless you with His comfort and angels surround you.*



Rose and Karen Moylan - April 21, 2020 at 05:34 PM

LO

“ *Fiorentino Siblings and Merry, Our sincere condolences on the passing of your father. I remember spending time as a child in his office at NJ Curri and Tobin as well as the times we all spent together on occasion at one of our houses. Your dad's laugh was an original, he always went out of the way to make someone smile. While we cannot be with you in person, please know we are there with you in spirit. We are lucky to have an example of our fathers' friendship and thus becoming friends ourselves growing up. God bless!*
Loren Curri Barletta and Cheryl Curri Timko



loren - April 21, 2020 at 02:33 PM