



Mr. Richard J. Guido

January 10, 1960 - September 24, 2014

The Metropolitan Opera, the preeminent venue for many of the greatest singers, dancers, actors, musicians, and performers in the world, has unexpectedly lost a beloved actor, mentor, and native son of Utica, Mr. Richard J. Guido, Jr., age 54, whose untimely passing occurred on Wednesday, September 24, 2014 at the New York Presbyterian Hospital in New York City, with his family by his side.

Born in Utica on January 10, 1960, Richard was the son of the late Richard J., Sr. and Jacqueline “Jackie” (Supina) Guido. He was a graduate of Notre Dame High School/Class of 1978 and a member of the football team. He furthered his studies at Herkimer County Community College where he earned an Associate Degree and continued his studies at Ulster Community College where he received his 2nd Associate of Arts Degree majoring in Performing Arts.

For the opportunity to perform and be associated with the theater, Richard relocated to Manhattan in 1996 where he accepted a position as a Staff Performer and stagehand for the prestigious New York Metropolitan Opera and was a proud member of the American Guild of Musical Artists during his tenure with the “Met”. Richard worked with many famous opera directors including Franco Zeffirelli and Bartlett Sher. He worked onstage with many of the most famous opera singers of our generation including world-renowned Luciano Pavarotti with whom he performed in the early 1990’s in the opera *Andréa Chénier*. Richard performed summer theater work at the Pioneer

Playhouse in Kentucky and at the Millbrook Playhouse in Pennsylvania. At the moment he was taken ill, he was in his role of Papa Momus on the opening night of *La Bohème* at the "Met". Just as his animation and vitality defined his professional life, his generosity of spirit and kind heart defined his personal life. He was funny, compassionate, and very unselfish. Although a perfectionist, his life had no limits. He awoke each day accepting of what would happen, and each day he inscribed his favorite numbers on a lottery ticket. He loved the excitement of New York City, and the friendships he made there were sincere and plentiful; he would do anything for those he loved. When family and friends visited, he was so happy in his role as host and guide to the beauty of the Big Apple, the city of which he was so proud. And he loved to shop - any time, any place. Richard loved his family and honored his parents and his heritage. His brother Larry and sister-in-law Debbie and their girls were close to his heart. When he came home to Utica to visit family and friends, it was always with a requisite to reminisce about the old days. On the holidays, he was "in charge", and everyone awaited his presence and his fun-loving personality. Richard's sentimental side was illuminated by his fine collection of family memorabilia, just as his unforgettable memory will live on in the hearts and minds of so many who were touched by his talents. In his youth, Richard was a Junior Councilor in The Order of DeMolay, a Masonic Youth organization for young men that teaches the virtues of reverence, love of parents, comradeship, patriotism, courtesy, and fidelity. He was able to share a common bond with his late father who served as an advisor for his Chapter. In accord with his Catholic upbringing, Richard was devoted to the annual preparation of bread in honor of St. Anthony, a tradition he upheld with his beloved aunts. When Utica was his home, he practiced his faith at St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church.

Richard is survived by his brother and sister-in-law, Larry D. and Deborah "Debbie" Guido of Whitesboro; his nieces, for whom he felt much love and pride, Samantha A. Guido, and Alexandra A. "Allie" Guido; his cherished aunts, Isabelle Guido, Phyllis Guido, and Marie Newell; his many cousins with

whom he was close and spent many happy times; members of his sister-in-law's Kauth family with whom he shared a great rapport; his host of friends in Utica and New York City, especially those at the Metropolitan Opera; and the Opera Houses; Mimi Scott was like a second mother to Richard. He was predeceased by his uncles, Raymond Guido, Vincent Guido, David Guido; his aunt, Roccatelle Cavaiola; and his cousin, Vincent Guido.

Richard's brother and family members are grateful to the Emergency Medical Services personnel for their timely response; the Emergency Room physicians and staff at New York Presbyterian Hospital for their intense efforts; Richard's longtime friend, Steve Sunderlin; his cousins, Lindsay Guido, and Mark Dumain, and family friend Marissa Sigbieny; all these kind souls were with Richie at the hospital during his untimely passing.

Visitation will be held Monday from 4:00-7:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Richard's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Tuesday morning at 9:30 from the funeral home and at 10:30 at St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church where his Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. Mark Kaminski. Interment will take place graveside in St. Agnes Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

St. Agnes Cemetery

Utica, NY

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **29**. 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

Tribute Wall

JS

“ *Larry and Guido Family,
So sorry to read of your brother's passing. My
thoughts and prayers are with you at this
difficult time.*



Jacquelyn R Schmidt - October 06, 2014 at 07:19 PM



“ *When I was 13 years old, Richard gave me his paper route. We had become very close friends in the 8th grade at St. Anthony's. That paper route was my first job. I didn't take it very seriously but it paid for my hot lunches during my freshman year at Proctor high school. Even though we soon grew apart because we went to different high schools, I always remembered Richard. I remember one time, many years later, when we ran into each other. We were in our early 20's, and even though so much time had gone by, it was like we were both in 8th grade again. Our conversation picked-up right where it left off. Richard was always a caring and giving soul. I regret that I did not keep in touch with him. When I see all the accomplishments that he achieved, I feel so proud for him. He truly lived the life that he was destined to. Richard, I thank you for the memories of our youth. Those times when I would hang out with you and your family in the first floor of that kitchen of the 3 story building that all of your family lived in. And, laughing to myself, I hated having to walk up those 3 floors to deliver your morning paper. Richard, you indeed, died too soon. I would have enjoyed reuniting with you today. God Bless your soul and your family.*

*Enjoy Heaven Richard, because I know that's where you are.
--Daniel Anthony Di Fondi*

Daniel Di Fondi - October 03, 2014 at 11:47 PM

PS

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you. Rich was a wonderful man. I went to college with him @ Ulster and we performed together. He was so special. He always had a smile on his face and a kind word on his lips. We always laughed and had a great time together, He will be missed by many. RIP Rich. I love you with all of my heart.



Patty Schoonmaker

Patty Schoonmaker - October 01, 2014 at 06:32 PM

HM

“ Thank you, Guido, for being a part of my growing up. For the pleasure of being your friend. Love.....always. You are missed



Holly Million - September 30, 2014 at 12:48 PM

CC

“ With deepest sympathy for the loss of such a great person. My old friend, we will meet again in a better place. I regret that I didn't make it to the Met to see you.
Chris Circelli

Chris Circelli - September 29, 2014 at 11:50 PM

MV

“ To Marianne Guido VanDreason and family, our deepest regrets to you and your family for your loss of Richard.
Sincerely,
Michael Ventura and Ann DeNigro and Family

Michael Ventura - September 29, 2014 at 10:18 PM

JP

“ *Joe Phillips lit a candle in memory of Mr. Richard J. Guido*



Joe Phillips - September 29, 2014 at 08:58 PM

JP

“ *Nothing but fond memories of a summer at Park Playhouse in "West Side Story". Farewell, Krupke, from Lt. Schrank. So sorry for your loss.*

Joe Phillips - September 29, 2014 at 08:58 PM

DM

“ *We only met this year in La Boheme , but Richard was a perfect colleague. Kind, supportive, impeccably prepared and with just the right touch of theatricality.*

I will remember him with much affection.

Donald Maxwell

Donald Maxwell - September 29, 2014 at 08:47 PM

DD

“ Richard was a friend both in grammar school and high school. Richard went from Utica to the big stage...what a wonderful career and life story. We can truly say "a star was born". Those who knew Richard will always maintain such fond memories of him whether you knew him in grammar school, high school or on life's big stage which followed with his success. Richards kind heart will forever be remembered and his candle remain aglow to warm both our hearts and our spirit.

God Bless Richard, his entire family and his large circle of friends. Our thoughts and prayers shall always be with you.

Peace,

Dicky D.

Dicky DeNigro - September 29, 2014 at 07:54 PM

DD

“ Dicky DeNigro lit a candle in memory of Mr. Richard J. Guido



Dicky DeNigro - September 29, 2014 at 07:28 PM

CR

“ Cheryl And Allen Rowe lit a candle in memory of Mr. Richard J. Guido



Cheryl and Allen Rowe - September 29, 2014 at 07:25 PM

KT

“ *Kathy Zacek Torbitt lit a candle in memory of Mr. Richard J. Guido*



Kathy Zacek Torbitt - September 29, 2014 at 04:59 PM

BB

“ *Bill Badner lit a candle in memory of Mr. Richard J. Guido*



Bill Badner - September 29, 2014 at 04:22 PM

RE

“ *Roger, Cindi & Jake Evans purchased the Healing Tears - Blue and White for the family of Mr. Richard J. Guido.*



Roger, Cindi & Jake Evans - September 29, 2014 at 01:33 PM

GM

“ *Gina and Rovinson Montes purchased the Sympathy Fruits Abound for the family of Mr. Richard J. Guido.*



Gina and Rovinson Montes - September 29, 2014 at 01:10 PM

PP

“ Pioneer Playhouse purchased the Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers for the family of Mr. Richard J. Guido.



Pioneer Playhouse - September 29, 2014 at 01:09 PM

BB

“ My most heartfelt condolences to Rich's family and friends.

I was fortunate to work and play with Rich at the Pioneer Playhouse in KY and the Grove Street theatre in NYC. He was one of the warmest, funniest, and most generous people I ever knew. He will be missed terribly by everyone who was lucky enough to know.

Peace to you, my friend.

Bruce

Bruce G Bradley - September 29, 2014 at 12:09 PM

PJ

“ 1 file added to the album PJC Family



PJC - September 29, 2014 at 11:24 AM

CA

“ I extend my sympathy to Rich's family. I went to Notre Dame with Rich and graduated in his class. He was such a nice guy. Always friendly and he had a great sense of humor. It's very sad to hear of his passing. I never got to keep in touch after graduation, but I have only good memories of him. Yesterday I found some photos I took in the gym and he's laughing, that's how I remember him. Carl Antonucci

Carl Antonucci - September 29, 2014 at 09:49 AM

LR

“ Lori Brucker Rahn lit a candle in memory of Mr. Richard J. Guido



Lori Brucker Rahn - September 29, 2014 at 06:45 AM

MP

“ Marilyn Majeski - Grove Street Playhouse purchased the Lavender & White Standing Spray for the family of Mr. Richard J. Guido.



Marilyn Majeski - Grove Street Playhouse - September 29, 2014 at 01:13 AM



“ White Sympathy Baskets was purchased for the family of Mr. Richard J. Guido.



September 28, 2014 at 07:22 PM

NL

“ It was an honor to be a colleague of this super talented power house. He was the pride of the opera house and his union. What a tragic loss!

Love to all,

Nat Lichtwar and

Linda Mays, former president of the American Guild of Musical Artists

Lady Linda (according to Guido)

Nathan Lichtwar - September 28, 2014 at 06:23 PM



“ Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Richard J. Guido.



September 28, 2014 at 06:05 PM

DD

“ Bob and I will forever remember what a great guy Richie was. We had many family gatherings with Richie there and he was always laughing and telling jokes and telling us how happy he was in the city.. Rest in Peace Richie and welcome home.. Your Mom and Dad are now rejoicing having you home with them. Our deepest condolences to all of the family. We were blessed to have had Richie in our lives. 🙏❤️

deb DiFondi - September 28, 2014 at 04:57 PM

KB

“ My condolence goes out to the Guido family. Richard was a great person and always had a smile on his face it was a pleasure knowing him. god bless rest in peace



Kirk Broomfield - September 28, 2014 at 02:08 PM

JZ

“ I had the privilege of attending college at HCCC with Richard. We often car-pooled, he knew I hated winter driving and as was consistent with his kind personality, he often drove several days in a row so I wouldn't have to. I am so very sorry for your loss, I know it is a great one for sure. Prayers sent to all of you for comfort.

joanne zennamo - September 28, 2014 at 11:25 AM

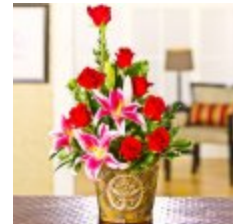
SR

“ All I can say is, Rich will be sorely missed by all of his UCCC theatre department family. And Rich: don't forget to move the bench because, Sue, she STILL doesn't move-a too fast. LOVE you. Sue Regan.

Susan Regan - September 28, 2014 at 10:50 AM



“ Forever Shining Star was purchased for the family of Mr. Richard J. Guido.



September 28, 2014 at 10:39 AM



“ *Rich, I am blown away by the number of lives that you have touched and blessed. I am grateful to have spent time with you during our teens. We were just a small part of a group of friends that spent their weekends driving from one end of New York State to the other. My time spent with you in DeMolay, are among the high points in my life. Your smile, your sense of humor... you always kept things light. While we lost touch for thirty years. Facebook brought us back together. Rich, your family and friends can rest easy. We have a new guardian angel watching over us. Thank you for sharing yourself with us. Godspeed my Brother. I send my love and prayers to Rich's family and friends.*

Warren Geyer - September 28, 2014 at 10:30 AM



“ *Healing Tears - Yellow and White was purchased for the family of Mr. Richard J. Guido.*



September 28, 2014 at 09:15 AM

JM

“ I was blessed with meeting Rich in 1976. I have many wonderful memories of our time spent together. Some time passed after high school and we didn't see each other but, shortly before his mom passed we renewed our friendship again. I felt like I had an awesome gift of his friendship. We have all lost an incredibly loveable, extremely talented man, with a beautiful smile and golden heart. To Larry and all the family may God Bless you and may all the love we have for Richard help get you through the next few days and months and years. Watch over us Richard and keep us safe....I will love you forever my special friend?

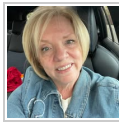


Jane Marie Moffett-Gigliotti - September 27, 2014 at 09:56 PM

JM

????

Jane Marie Moffett-Gigliotti - September 27, 2014 at 09:57 PM



Steve an I have many fond memories of spending time with Rich our Senior year at Notre Dame! Prayers for his family

Diane Hotaling - September 28, 2014 at 06:56 PM

Eileen Glenn

“ All my sympathies for your loss. Guido was a huge presence in every life he touched. I will always cherish our time at Millbrook Playhouse in The Mousetrap. Did we have some laughs. I feel blessed to have know him.



Eileen Glenn - September 27, 2014 at 03:57 PM



“ *Blue & White Sympathy Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Richard J. Guido.*



September 27, 2014 at 03:20 PM



“ *With So Much Love - The Super Crew, The Metropolitan Opera purchased the Blue & White Sympathy Standing Spray for the family of Mr. Richard J. Guido.*



With So Much Love - The Super Crew, The Metropolitan Opera - September 27, 2014 at 02:14 PM



“ *Love you Guido! I will never forget our moment with the TV in Happy Days this summer. It will always be OURS =) Miss you tons*

<3 Rebecca

rebecca kuznick - September 27, 2014 at 01:39 PM



“ *I will miss you forever my dear friend, Guido. We spent a lot of years together at Millbrook and I cherish the memories I have of you. I will never forget your kindness to me. Love you!*
Rose Ann Yannarella

Rose Ann Yannarella - September 27, 2014 at 11:18 AM

DH

“Richie and I have been friends for 43 years. We met through Rainbow and Demolay and he was the brother I never had. He did Mac and I the honor of being a groomsman in our wedding and later as Godfather to our daughter. His love and generosity extended to our children and he blessed them with his personality. I have millions of memories, all of which are filled with laughter and a few tears. Until we meet again my friend.

Donna Hartless - September 27, 2014 at 10:41 AM

DH

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Donna Hartless - September 27, 2014 at 10:41 AM

CG

“Rich was my first love 38 years ago. We shared many of our teenage years laughing and loving one another. Connected through two youth organizations; Rainbow and DeMolay, we often travelled in his Mom's Cordova from Buffalo to NYC in one day listening to Barbra Streisand on the 8-track. As I read so many of his tributes how he touched tremendous lives with love and laughter, it only rings true to who he was from within his heart and soul. You're with 'Jackie Mary' and your Dad yet remain with all of us with cherished memories on just what life is all about...love.

Carolann George - September 27, 2014 at 12:31 AM

JH

“ Many of us lost a wonderful friend when "Guido" passed away. He not only performed at the Millbrook Playhouse for the last 11 or 12 seasons And he was quite the ambassador for the Playhouse - everyone in town new and adored him. He will be missed so very much!

I personally will miss my friend who called me "Momma" while I in turn referred to him as "Vito". Along with his family, friends and co-workers I am deeply saddened by his passing. I know I will miss my friend but he will never be forgotten!! Love ya forever Vito!
Jo Anne Hoberman

Jo Anne Hoberman - September 26, 2014 at 11:21 PM

JM

“ Jennifer G. Meanor purchased the Cheryl's Classic Gift Bundle for the family of Mr. Richard J. Guido.



Jennifer G. Meanor - September 26, 2014 at 10:44 PM

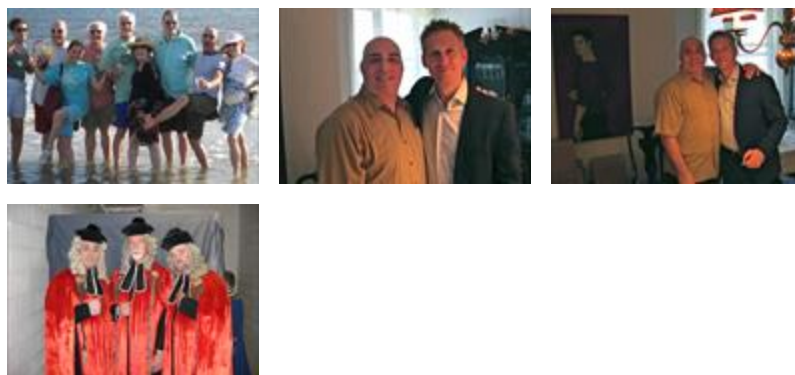
DD

“ Richie, we'll never forget all the thanksgivings you spent with us. All the goodies but most of all the fun we had especially the cleanup time. We cannot believe you're gone. Love forever, Cousins Deanna & Larry

Deanna Dumain - September 26, 2014 at 09:31 PM

BD

“ When Guido came into my life we were strangers. That lasted about a second. For more than 18 years he was a part of my life. The joy, the caring, the concerns, the laughter. He was a shining, loving light at the Metropolitan Opera and we all so mourn are loss, but know that we will always have him with us.



Bob Diamond - September 26, 2014 at 09:06 PM

Susan Calvert

“ Knowing Guido for the last 10 years at Millbrook playhouses has been a wonderful time. He he touched so many lives. He was a very important part of our theatre. We will miss you. Love you Guido!

Susan Calvert - September 26, 2014 at 07:27 PM

CP

“ Knowing and loving Richard for over 41 years, I have too many memories to count. But I will never have a friend that I have laughed with as much as I did him. What a wonderful gift he was to me and my family.

Chris Phelps



Christine Phelps - September 26, 2014 at 04:48 PM

KA

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Kara - September 26, 2014 at 03:05 PM