



Mr. Richard S. Zasa

September 30, 1937 - June 13, 2015

Mr. Richard S. "Rich" Zasa, age 77, passed away on Saturday, June 13, 2015 at the Woodmere Rehabilitation & Health Care Center in Long Island. Born in Utica, on September 30, 1937, Richard was the son of the late Dominick F. and Elizabeth (Fornaro) Zasa. Raised and educated locally, he was a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School/Class of 1956. A proud veteran of the United States Navy, Rich honorably served his country from 1958-1962 stationed in the Pacific aboard the USS Scanner, a guardian-class radar picket ship, 'always there searching to protect' her crew and countrymen. After his naval duty, Rich joined the Merchant Marines where he worked for a couple of years transporting cargo and military personnel in the navigable waters of the United States. In the civilian sector, Rich held various jobs; he drove a taxi, worked as a mason with his father, and served as a security guard at the Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute, a position he found most enjoyable. Richard was a talented artist in his own right, specializing in caricatures of well-known people. Independent by nature, Richard valued his privacy and took his own path in life. He enjoyed conversing with friends and family over coffee and sharing an occasional tall tale, and he had a special love for his siblings. Rich cherished California and traveled there often. Richard is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Andrea and Jim Wakefield of Sauquoit; his grandchildren, Victoria Elizabeth Wakefield, and James Andrew Wakefield; his brother, Gerald J. "Gerry" Zasa; and his sister, Elizabeth M. Zasa, both of Utica. He was predeceased by his infant sister.

The family wishes to thank the outstanding care givers of the St. Luke's Home and the ICOU Department at Faxton/St. Luke's Hospital; their kindness and compassion was of great comfort.

Richard's family will celebrate his life in a private gathering. Funeral services will be held privately with interment in Calvary Cemetery. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave.

Tribute Wall

MT

“ *Richie always had something corny to say, was a funny guy, loved his coffee and liked to draw a lot. I met Richie in 1975 when he had his huge dog (a Saint Bernard) named Butter....what a dog, good grief...!!... He'd stop by the house regularly for coffee and stories...should have been a story teller.. he could have rivaled Shirley Temple...now he tells his stories to the Angels....Rest in Peace old friend*



Michael S. Terrell - June 18, 2015 at 08:25 AM

EZ

“ *We had a beautiful daughter together. I did love you! We just couldn't live together. Will always have good memories about you.*



Ethel M Zasa - June 17, 2015 at 12:49 PM