



Robert A. Palazzo

June 10, 1954 - March 14, 2008

Mr. Robert A. Palazzo, age 53, of Utica, passed away unexpectedly on Friday, March 14, 2008 at the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center with his family by his side.

Born in Utica on June 10, 1954, Robert was the son of the late Ralph E. and Josephine (Venturino) Palazzo. Raised and educated in Utica, he was a 1972 graduate of T. R. Proctor High School and an alumnus of Utica College with a degree in political science. He was also trained as a paralegal at Adelphi University in Long Island. On May 21, 1977 he married the former Pam Marafioti with whom he shared 30 years in a compatible and loving relationship graced with a mutual dedication to each other. Bob and Pam complimented each others personalities, especially as parents.

Bob began his employment as Director of Research at the Management Resource Center in Utica and subsequently worked as Director of Human Resources at Fujitsu – ICL Systems. On May 2, 1994 he joined SUNYIT as Assistant Director of Career Services where he served on numerous committees during his 15 year tenure at the college. He concurrently taught part-time at H.C.C.C. His career paths were enhanced by his standards of excellence and his ability to be present and aware of the needs of others. Bob was admired for his strength of character which was evident in the manner in which he committed himself to relationships and his overall endeavors. He was a respectful man who strived for high ideals and standards which made him a great role model. He promoted and encouraged an open relationship

with his daughters, and so often looked forward to spending precious time doing things that were important to them as well as inviting them to partake in the enjoyment of activities most important to him. All who knew Bob were aware of his witty personality and the art of delivery that was always intended to lighten a mood.

Endowed with civic and community pride, he was very active as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Oneida County Historical Society, where he was a longtime volunteer responsible for numerous displays and exhibits. He was a member of the Mohawk Valley Society of Human Resource Management, president of NY Dollars for Scholars, and a founding member of the Proctor Class of '72 Reunion Committee. Bob's devotional life was just as committed and involved as his public life. As a faithful parishioner of St. Anthony of Padua Church, he was a Past President of the Parish Council, served on the Finance Committee, was Chairperson of the Hope Appeal Campaign, past-secretary of the Holy Name Society, and very active with the Heritage Campaign, the annual St. Anthony Feast, the Sts. Cosmo & Damiano Feast, and the church-sponsored Chicken BBQ's and fish fries. Among his favorite pastimes were supporting sporting events, especially those of the N.Y. Yankees and the N.Y. Jets, collecting varied memorabilia, appreciating nature and the amazement and uniqueness of God's creatures, and in more recent years, favoring his time in the kitchen as an amateur chef. Bob is survived by his wife, Pam; his daughters, Jennifer Palazzo of Albany, and Lindsay Palazzo of Utica; his sister and brother-in-law, Marlene & Scott Tayler of Ilion; and his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Sam and Ann Marafioti of Ft. Meyers, Florida. Survivors also include his sister-in-law, Jessie Marafioti; his nieces and nephews, Nathan Marafioti and fiancée Nicole Slater, Peter Marafioti, and Jessie Marafioti; Adrienne Sansone and fiancé Nicholas Paoni, Anthony Sansone, and Marcella Tayler; his cousins; his aunts and uncles, Frank and Carmella (Cam) Venturino of Palmyra, NY, Tim and Genevieve Venturino of Syracuse, and Nancy Venturino of NJ. He was also blessed with many wonderful friends throughout the years. He was predeceased by his

paternal grandparents, Louis and Maria Palazzo; maternal grandparents, Sebastian and Ettorina Venturino; aunts and uncles, Joe Venturino, Edgar and Madeline Palazzo, Lena and Geno Mancini, Fannie and Joe LoGalbo, and Theresa and Frank Seppi; and his brother-in-law, Pat Marafioti.

The family is grateful to Bob's family physician, Dr. Christopher Clark, for all his dedication and support throughout the years and especially over the past four weeks. A special thank you is extended to his longtime childhood friend, Emmett Martin, who visited Bob daily and with much dedication during his recent illness.

Visitation will be held Monday (today) from 5:00-8:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. By family request, please omit floral offerings. Robert's funeral service will commence on Tuesday morning at 9:00 from the funeral home and at 10:00 at St. Anthony of Padua Church where his Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Tribute Wall



“ It was just a little while ago I asked you for a copy of your "Santa Poem" aka the santa face that appeared on the men's room floor at the Society. You were thrilled that I wanted another copy. Bob you will be missed. I am honored to have known you. Jodi##imported-begin##Jodi A. Wisnoski##imported-end##

March 19, 2008 at 08:35 PM



“ Dear 'Lazzo, we will all miss your smile, sense of humor, your laughter, and endearing personality. Your family gave you an amazing memorial; the pictures through the years, from your First Holy Communion, portrait with Mar, engagement and wedding to your beautiful wife, Pam, the birth of your girls, the family get togethers, to your parents, in whose arms you are once again. In our faith, we know you are watching over Pam, Jennifer, Lindsay, and Marlene. We pray they are comforted in knowing that. Rest in peace, friend.##imported-begin##Lorraine, Nick, & Joey Dominick##imported-end##

March 19, 2008 at 06:37 PM



“ Bob was a great guy. He served the Historical Society sincerely and will be greatly missed. A good man for the public.##imported-begin##Donald Wisnoski##imported-end##

March 19, 2008 at 05:11 PM



“ I met Bob at a SUNY Career Development conference in 2003 and saw him again at the 2004 conference. He remembered my name and we had enjoyable conversations at both conferences. Bob’s genuine warmth, kindness, and respect for others were so apparent. We had a number of things in common. He was just one year younger than I was and we both grew up with Mickey Mantle as our favorite Yankee, I also met Phil Rizzuto, etc. I interviewed unsuccessfully at SUNYIT for a Cooperative Education Coordinator job in the fall of 1978. I can’t help believing that had I worked at SUNYIT, that we would have watched a few Yankee games together. I attended his wake and the turnout of his family, friends, and acquaintances confirm how well he was loved, liked, and respected by those that had the honor of spending time with him. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife Pam, his daughters, Jennifer and Lindsay, and the rest of his family.##imported-begin##Ralph E. De Musis##imported-end##

March 19, 2008 at 04:36 PM



“ To the family and friends , i am so sorry. your loss Bob in our hearts and prayers.. I just saw bob at our class reuniion. its a sad time for everyone##imported-begin##Therese (hobaica) Laffey charlotte, nc ##imported-end##

March 18, 2008 at 10:02 PM



“ When I read Bob’s obituary, the first thing that comes to my mind is he died at the same age as my uncle Ross, which then leads me to think of the title of a Billy Joel song; “Only The Good Die Young”. Even if you did not know Bob that well, there are many things that indicate that he was and is one of “The Good”. The love and kindness of his family, the tearful yet wonderful stories we heard about him in church today, all the stories from students and colleagues and friends written here... all a testament to a man with a heart of gold who is gone way before his time.

My deepest sympathy goes out to Pam, Lindsay and Jennifer during this difficult time. I can not even imagine how hard it would be to loose one of my parents, let alone at such a young age, and my heart really does break for them.

Gary Acey

P.S. Bob – may you go with God, and please keep the ending of the show “Lost” a secret. I still want it to be a surprise.##imported-begin##Gary Acey##imported-end##

March 18, 2008 at 09:22 PM



“ Bob was a friend and colleague. I will always remember him in deep and animated conversation with so many students when I passed career services on my way to teach a class over the years. We had many wonderful conversations about the changing workforce and student needs. But I'll especially remember all the talk of baseball whenever spring training rolled around. I'm a lifelong Met fan but I don't ever recall an unkind word we ever had although our loyalties were with different teams. We shared so many laughs and insights about the sport.

I'll also remember Bob's unrelenting determination to get to work even when he was having troubles getting around. Gently but forcefully he worked to make his way to his office, an event, or back to his car. His determination to overcome his own obstacles was as powerful an example for all of us as one can imagine. Yet, in all his struggles I don't ever recall Bob showing that he was down or disconsolate. When I think of Bob I'll always see him smiling with a kind word for anyone - he was always a caring, concerned, and compassionate human being.

I'll miss him.

Russ Kahn##imported-begin##Russell Kahn##imported-end##

March 18, 2008 at 11:13 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you and your daughters.##imported-begin##KAY BROCCOLI##imported-end##

March 18, 2008 at 08:27 AM



“ Mrs. Palazzo & family-

My deepest sympathy on your loss. I attended UC with Bob and we have kept in contact throughout the years through our community involvement. He always had a friendly greeting and warm smile. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this difficult time.##imported-begin##Victor J. Fariello Jr.##imported-end##

March 17, 2008 at 10:40 PM



“ Pam and family, We wish you the strength to get through this ordeal. We are there to help if you need us.##imported-begin##David & Claudia Mallen##imported-end##

March 17, 2008 at 05:09 PM



“ We at Utica College have lost an alumnus we could be very proud of. I knew Bob by way of the Oneida County Historical Society, where we served together on the editorial board of the journal "Mohawk Valley History." I also shared Bob's interest in the history of Santa Claus and remember his wonderful talk at OCHS on the subject.
My sincere condolences to his family.##imported-begin##Frank Bergmann##imported-end##

March 17, 2008 at 12:24 PM



“ Pam,

The SUNYCDO family will miss Bob deeply. His friendship and dedication to family, friends and community was apparent in every word he spoke. At conferences, he spoke often of his love of family and the joy he received in community activities. Even with the medical issues he faced over the years, Bob focused on others - helping us laugh and focus on the sweeter side of life. He blessed us all.##imported-begin##Bob Frederick (Friend from SUNYCDO)##imported-end##

March 17, 2008 at 12:11 PM



“ I'm so sorry to hear of Bob's passing. I was shocked to see his obituary when I opened the sunday paper yesterday. I became friends with Bob almost instantly upon meeting him at SUNY IT in 1994. Over the years, we kept in touch and every so often, he'd come out to hear my band, Fritz's Polka Band. Bob will truly be missed and was a person of great character. My deepest condolences.....##imported-begin##Fritz Scherz##imported-end##

March 17, 2008 at 12:04 PM



“ Dear Pam & Family,

Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. Bob was a friend and colleague at SUNYIT.

As Dean of the School of Business I worked closely with Bob on Career Placement matters over the past 5 years. Bob was instrumental in restoring the undergraduate Human Resource Management concentration based on employer requests for students. Just 5 weeks ago Bob submitted a report on student job placement that will help the School of Business attain AACSB International accreditation. We will miss Bob's leadership, sense of humor, and friendship.

I regret that I will not be able to attend the visitation or funeral for Bob as I will be on a business trip in Albany.

Sincerely,

Steve Havlovic##imported-begin##Stephen Havlovic##imported-end##

March 17, 2008 at 11:58 AM



“ I want to recall to you the many times I was with Bob over the last 15 years in SUNY Career Development Organization and related activities. I wonderful giving man with a captivating smile and voice. Always a friendly hello and handshake.

Trust that he has helped thousands of students over his years at UTC and certainly will be missed by myself and others in our state-wide organization.

I am sorry that I will be unable to come to the services this week. My prayers are with you and your family.

Bob Casper

SUNY Oswego##imported-begin##Bob Casper##imported-end##

March 17, 2008 at 11:32 AM



“ I'm so sorry for your loss. Bob and I knew each other for many years thanks to our involvement with the State University of New York's Career Development Organization (SUNYCDO). His energy and drive to engage his colleagues and to keep us laughing will remain memorable.

Bobbie Karp

SUNYCDO President##imported-begin##Bobbie Karp##imported-end##

March 17, 2008 at 11:32 AM



“ Pam and girls,
So very sorry to hear of Bob's passing. Just the sound of his name brought back so many happy memories. He was one of the true gentleman of our time. I will always remember him when I hear the class of `72. Victor##imported-begin##Victor Cardillo##imported-end##

March 17, 2008 at 09:27 AM



“ Jenn and family,

I wish you comfort and support during this difficult time. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Best,

Chris##imported-begin##Chris Hunsberger##imported-end##

March 17, 2008 at 09:24 AM



“ A blessing to me to have known him. He always had a smile and I enjoyed our conversations together that always led to baseball. A tip of my Ballcap in his honor....I will miss him.
Pam, I pray for strength for you and your family.##imported-begin##David Rose##imported-end##

March 17, 2008 at 09:17 AM



“ I will miss you Bob, it was a pleasure working with you and talking with you over the time that I knew you. Rest in peace friend.##imported-begin##Michael Saltzman##imported-end##

March 17, 2008 at 09:03 AM



“ Pam and family,
Bob was a great person and will be missed. You are in my prayers
during this difficult time.##imported-begin##Cathy
Gates##imported-end##

March 17, 2008 at 08:57 AM



“ My love and sympathy to Pam and family.##imported-
begin##Andrew Sciortino##imported-end##

March 17, 2008 at 06:49 AM



“ We had some great times at our family functions. You could always
count on Robert for some good conversation and many laughs. We
will sincerely miss him.##imported-begin##Doris and Bernie
Tayler##imported-end##

March 16, 2008 at 11:15 PM



“ Pam, my heart goes out to your and the girls. Being a young
widow myself, 11years now I can tell you that it is the hardest hurt in
the world. No time heals, we may laugh at times, but we cry all the
time. Once someone told me the mouring is like a onion peel one
layer at a time. I will be there for you anytime day or night. We will
cry and we will laugh! Please keep your faith.##imported-
begin##Beverly Poccia & Son##imported-end##

March 16, 2008 at 09:38 PM



“ My Dear Pam, Jennifer & Lindsey. I was so shocked to read about you great lost. God Blessed you with a beautiful family, and a beautiful life, and this is what you have to be thankful for and remember. It is so hard to let go the pain in your hearts, but the love you have for each other will help you though this, and your faith in God. My heart goes out to you and We will always keep you in our prayers. God Bless you and keep you strong. May He rest in Peace. Love Linda and family.##imported-begin##Linda Sciortino & Family##imported-end##

March 16, 2008 at 08:42 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you all. I will miss his smile and wit at our family functions, but I will always remember the laughs and happy times.##imported-begin##Robin Tayler##imported-end##

March 16, 2008 at 04:51 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are sent to the Palazzo Family during this very difficult time. Bob will be missed by all of us.##imported-begin##Lou & Joanne Shields, Oneonta, NY##imported-end##

March 16, 2008 at 03:47 PM



“ Pam,

My thoughts and prayers are with you and your children.##imported-begin##Sylvia Pescatore##imported-end##

March 16, 2008 at 03:30 PM



“ For Robert...

I can honestly say:

I never saw you without that endearing smile on your face.

I should have stopped and visited, like I always said I was going to.

You were the nicest smartest funniest person I have ever met...oh, I've met nice...and I've met smart...and I've met funny...but, put that all together – you beat them hands down.

Joey, Mom, Poppa...and all the Aunts and Uncles that made up this lovable, crazy - I don't know what I would have done with them - family...greeted you with open arms...just as your Mom and Dad greeted them when they arrived.

I know what your wife is going through.

I know my girls know what your girls are going through.

I know they will be fine – in time - but will never, ever stop missing you.

Your life touched more people than you probably thought.

You will always be remembered....with warmth and smiles.

...with much love and sympathy, from my family to yours...##imported-begin##JanMarie LoGalbo##imported-end##

March 16, 2008 at 01:57 PM



“ Pam, Jen, and Lindsay I am so so sorry for you lost and am saddened to hear what happened. You are in my thoughts and prayers. If you need anything, even though I am so far away please do not think twice about letting me know, Jen you know why, even if you need someone to lend you an ear who understands. Please stay strong for each other. God bless and take care of each other.##imported-begin##Tiffany Preston##imported-end##

March 16, 2008 at 01:02 PM



“ Pam and family - I was shocked and saddened to read about Bob's passing. Although we were never close friends, I have known Bobby since St. Anthony's grammar school, through Proctor High and Utica College. He was one of those people that I was always happy to see. It was easy to know that he was just a terrific, high quality person, in so many ways. I am happy that I spent time with him last year at a couple of exhibits at the Oneida County Historical Society. They were the last times I saw him. I can only imagine the huge loss it must be for all who truly knew and loved him. My deepest, heartfelt sympathy for your loss.##imported-begin##Dan Falatico##imported-end##

March 16, 2008 at 10:18 AM



“ Dear Robert,

You will always be remembered as a wonderful loving person and exceptional father, that we were fortunate to have touched our lives. Thank you for sharing your love. You will be missed dearly by many.

May you rest in peace.

Love,

Larry, Jessica, Ashley & thier families.##imported-begin##Larry Hart & Family##imported-end##

March 16, 2008 at 08:46 AM



“ Pam, Jennifer, and Lindsey, We were deeply saddended to hear of Rob's passing. Please know that you have our deepest sympathies and that you and your entire family are in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. With Love.....##imported-begin##Michael, Paula, Marisa Maggio##imported-end##

March 15, 2008 at 09:53 PM



“ Pam,

I only knew Bob for a short time and unfortunately it wasn't under very good circumstances but I grew to love him...and all of you for that matter. Even though he was sick, it rarely seemed to get him down. What a great personality. I only wish I knew him when he was well. My heart goes out to you and your girls...I've never seen such a truly devoted family. All of you are in my prayers. God bless and stay strong.##imported-begin##Jessica Aiello(CA-ICU)##imported-end##

March 15, 2008 at 09:35 PM



“ *I worked in the Career Services office at SUNYIT with Bob and he was always there to help students, day or night. I can still picture his office plastered with Mickey Mantle memorabilia. His humble personality and humor brought pleasure to anyone who met Bob. Our hearts go out to his family during this difficult time.##imported-begin##Dave Christopher##imported-end##*

March 15, 2008 at 03:25 PM



“ Pam and girls,
Our deepest sympathy to all of you. You are all in our thoughts and prayers. He is in a better place now.
Here is a poem that I would like to share with you. It helped me get through some tough times.

THE "DASH"

*I read of a man who stood to speak
At a funeral of a friend.
He referred to the dates on his tombstone
From beginning - to the end.
He noted that first came the date of his birth
And spoke of the other dates with tears,
But he said what mattered most of all
Was the DASH between those years.*

*For that dash represents all the time
that he spent alive on earth...
And now only those who loved him
Know what that little line - the DASH - is worth.*

*For it matters not, how much we own;
The cars...the house...the cash.
What matters is how we live and love
And how we spend our DASH!##imported-begin##Michele and Tom
Vanno##imported-end##*

March 14, 2008 at 03:04 PM



“ Always in our hearts.##imported-begin##Gary, Beth, Josh and
Jake##imported-end##

March 14, 2008 at 12:21 PM