



## Rocco D'Alesandro

November 13, 1927 - September 2, 2008

Mr. Rocco "Rocky" D'Alesandro, age 80, of North Utica, passed away in the comfort of his home on Tuesday, September 2, 2008, after a courageous battle with cancer.

Born in Utica on November 13, 1927, Rocco was the son of the late Anthony and Grace (Palmisano) D'Alesandro. He was raised and educated locally. Rocky was a familiar face in the Utica area, a friendly man who enjoyed walking the city streets, happy and proud to know so many people, especially those of the Utica Police Department and the Utica Fire Department. A dependable, socially-concerned man, Rocky enjoyed volunteering for community service events such as bell-ringing for the Salvation Army. He was thoughtful and dependable, always remembering the 'special days' of his friends and loved ones. He will also be remembered for his "Rocky-isms" which included logical gestures delivered in a comical way. He loved country-western attire and was a great fan of western movies and country music. He especially loved to play guitar. The past 30 years of his life were made more comfortable through the care of the Arc of Oneida-Lewis Co. where he had outstanding opportunities and many memorable days, especially his 19 trips to Lake George to ride on the "Mini Haha". He was a member of the East Utica Senior Center, and most recently he attended the Sitrin Adult Day Care. He was a loving brother to his sister, Josephine, who graciously adored him and oversaw his well-being. He was a communicant of St. Mark's Church. Rocky is survived by his beloved and cherished sister, Josephine M. Morrock

of North Utica; his nieces and nephews, Emily and Gil Shaffer, Karen and Tom Szalkowski, Anthony Morrock and Missy Spraker; his great-nieces, great-nephews, great-great-nieces, great-great-nephews, and cousins. He also leaves many friends, with special mention of Phil Talento, a wonderful advocate who truly cared for Rocky's happiness and comfort. Rocky was predeceased by his brother-in-law, Frank Morrock.

The family is grateful to the Arc of Oneida-Lewis County, especially those at the Jeanette Drive residence: Alicia Albright, Paul Browne, Roman, Vinny, Mylo, Asia, as well as the entire staff and many friends who cared for Rocky in the true meaning of friendship and family. A thank-you is also offered to the staff of Hospice & Palliative Care, Inc. for their sensitivity and spiritual support. Visitation will be held Friday from 10:30-12:30 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. 932 South St. corner of Hammond Ave. Rocco's funeral service will commence on Friday afternoon immediately upon the conclusion of visitation at 12:30 from the funeral home and at 1:30 at St. Mark's Church where his Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

# Previous Events

## Service

SEP 5. 1:30 PM (ET)

St. Mark's Church  
440 Keys Road  
Utica, NY

# Tribute Wall



“ Rocky was always the sweetest man. I worked at Cavallos years ago and occassionally he would come in to enjoy the entertainment. I always enjoyed his visits, and dreams of being a cowboy! Over the past few years I have seen him at the mall a few times with friends; I'm not sure if he recognized me but I would always say, "Hi Rocky". He would giggle like a schoolboy and squeeze out a hi as well as a wave. I will always remember his kind soul and sweet, genuine smile...He was truly one of a kind.##imported-begin##Theresa Graziadei##imported-end##

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September 08, 2008 at 09:06 AM



“ I will never forget the time Rocky saw a big guy about to beat me up and he got in front of me and told that guy "no touch Geno or I hurt you" He had arms of steel from all the hard work he did. It seemed like a million years ago when we both lived on Catherine Street and Rockys mother was still alive. We were great friends who hung around together. We would sit on the front stoop of 763 Catherine St with a loaf of Rintrona's Bread and 3 or 4 cans of sardines, and eat and eat and eat, then dip the bread in the oil and eat some more. Rocky used to eat with us sometimes on Sunday and my mother used to tease him and say Rocky, where do you put all that food? He loved her meatballs. He even had a beer with his meal sometimes, but only one. He and I would go to the Cardamone Produce and I would steal a watermelon while he was working unloading rail cars full of vegetables. He would preach to me about stealing. He was a very devoted son and brother. We would go to his sisters house on Jay Street sometimes. I never heard Rocky speak a bad word about anyone and he always used to tell me that no one would bother me or my sister as long as he was around. Years later, I ran into Rocky on the streets and we would reminisce about the past, and our families. Throughout the years since Catherine Street I have left New York, but have thought of Rocky on many occasions and wondered how he was doing. I'm glad he had such a good life surrounded by friends and family and hope he didn't suffer with much pain. Rocky was a great man who gave with his heart and never asked for anything in return. I will miss him, but I will never forget him and the great times we shared. Memories only come around like these once in a lifetime. Rest in peace, and may God bless Rocky###imported-begin##Geno DiFondi###imported-end##

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September 06, 2008 at 08:24 AM



“ It was great knowing Rocky. my thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends##imported-begin##Sarah Singletary##imported-end##

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September 06, 2008 at 12:14 AM



“ Uncle Rock, In the past 52 years of my life we have shared many meals, told many stories and made many jokes, but the things I will remember most are your soft spoken words, your caring nature and your ability to make us laugh.

Rock it's your turn to do the dishes!

I'm going to miss you!##imported-begin##Anthony Morrock##imported-end##

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September 04, 2008 at 10:44 PM



“ Rocco, it was a pleasure.##imported-begin##Monita Webb##imported-end##

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September 04, 2008 at 11:31 AM



“ It was a great joy and pleasure to have known Rocky. My heart felt thoughts are with him and his family. Special prayers go to all the staff at Jeanette Drive and the guyes who live there. Peace be with you...Laurie##imported-begin##Laurie Dingman##imported-end##

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September 04, 2008 at 10:50 AM