



Rosa Maria "Rosemary" (Lapertosa) Trisolino

March 3, 1933 - December 28, 2014

Mrs. Rosa Maria "Rosemary" (Lapertosa) Trisolino, age 81, passed away peacefully on Sunday, December 28, 2014 at the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center with her loved ones by her side.

Born in Utica on March 3, 1933, Rosa Maria was the daughter of the late Ottavio and Antonia (Dormio) Lapertosa. She attended T.R. Proctor High School and completed her studies with the Class of 1951. She then continued her education at the St. Elizabeth Hospital School of Nursing and graduated in 1954 which was an important time and milestone in her life. Upon the completion of her Internship at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in New York City, she became a Registered Nurse which opened the doors to a lifetime of caring for others.

On September 29, 1962 she married Joseph D. Trisolino, Jr., and as she delightfully declared, "Life with Mr. Jay was always interesting!" Rosemary wore her wedding ring until she passed, a telling testament to the 43 years they shared until Jay's passing on December 6, 2005.

Rosemary began her life's work as a nurse for Dr. Frank Leone, M.D., a wonderful and influential working relationship that enhanced her life. She then accepted a position at the St. Elizabeth Medical Center where she enjoyed a 40-year career as a Registered Nurse, Charge Nurse, and Discharge Planning Coordinator, retiring in the early 1980's. She also served as a House Mother at the St. Elizabeth School of Nursing, sharing with students the wisdom she accrued over the years, and giving them encouragement to

succeed.

As the matriarch of her family, Rosa leaves a great legacy of love, understanding, and maternal goodness. She was sensitive, compassionate, and truthful, yet her core values always won out in any decision she made. She was intuitive and always knew what to do at all times. She was the mother who drove her kids and their friends to a concert, and was always there to bring them home. She maintained a unique relationship with each of her children, her grandchildren, and her siblings. She was also a true friend, held in the hearts of those she brought into her circle of life. And if you were in Rosemary's life, you were at her table. Her children couldn't think of one time in which the doors to their home weren't open to friends in need to share a meal, or to use the family's encyclopedia library. Although she was humorous and witty, she was sensitive to scornful negativity and condescending criticism. She was fiercely independent and brave in the face of adversity. Like a steel magnolia, she was soft-hearted, but strong-willed. With her edgy sense of humor, she was the incontestable queen of comments and one-liners. She honored family gatherings and hosted the holidays. She kept up with technology and the times --- she loved Facebook, connecting with relatives, relating good news, and enjoyed the laughs and jokes. She had a fondness and empathy for her house pets, especially Dozer, the "Prince of Dogs". She enjoyed the simple pleasures of life -- a drive to take in the beauty of the fall foliage, and deer by the side of the road, and she could name homesteads and families as if she were giving a history lesson of East Utica. She was an avid reader of medical material, mysteries, and love stories. She was a Boston Red Sox fan, but respected the fact that her son was a New York Yankee fan, often causing a phone call to comment on defeat or glory. Rosemary was proud of her Italian heritage and the hearty work ethic and traditions that were honored heirlooms of her ancestors. Rosemary's spirituality and Catholicism inspired and directed her life, and her faith was rock solid. She attended First Friday Adoration and was a member of the St. Theresa Society at her home parish, St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church, an

affiliation that dates back over three generations and 100 years of her family's devotion to St. Anthony of Padua parish. She was supportive of all church services and festivals, and was always available to offer her hospitality and time. She was a member of the St. Elizabeth Alumni Association and through her participation with the T.R. Proctor High School Reunion Committee, she was able to keep ties with friendships that were formed 50 years ago. Looking back, Rosemary lived her life hoping that the Lord would say, "Well done, my good and faithful servant. Enter into your rest!"

Rosa is survived by her daughter, Lisa C. Roach of Clark Mills and Bernard Morosco; and her son, Joseph Trisolino III of Utica, affectionately known as "Genesee Joe"; Rosa was so proud of his long term and entertaining radio career. She also leaves her cherished grandchildren, Matthew and Sara Hofmann-Roach who resided with Rosa (Sara was a wonderful companion and caregiver to her Nonna), Sarah and Rick Sabin, and Amanda Roach and fiancé Trevor Goodenough; and her 3 great-grandchildren who Rosemary saw as stars in the sky, Logan, and Juliana Roach; and Leah Sabin. She will also be remembered by her sister, Lorenza "Laura" Zizio; her brother, Angelo Lapertosa, for whom she provided loving and supportive guidance for many years; many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and in-laws, Kathleen Lapertosa, Angela "Lee" LaBella, Gina and Luca Esposito, Elaine and David Seeley, and Juliann and Michael Houghton. Rosemary was blessed with a host of wonderful friends from all walks of life, and she will be missed and remembered by many. She was predeceased by her brother, Francesco "Frank" Lapertosa; her niece, Celia Zizio; and her in-laws, Casimir Zizio, Moses LaBella, Lucille Trisolino, Celestine Surace, Marie Johnson, and Sebastian Trisolino.

The family is grateful to Nurse Practitioner Karen Rounds-Clarey who offered her support and friendship to Rosemary; Dr. Timothy LaFonte; the staff of the Masonic Care Community of NY/Saratoga Household who gave the family the ability and confidence to care for Rosemary during her stay; the personnel of

the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center ICOU who did everything that anyone could ask for, and their kindness shined as a beacon of hope; and the staff of the CCU who gave Rosemary a dignified and peaceful passage. The family honored Rosa's life at a private time. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Rosemary's funeral service and Celebration of Life which will commence on Saturday morning at 10:30 at St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church where her Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. Mark Kaminski and Deacon William Dischiavo. The family will receive visitors at the conclusion of the service. By family request, please omit flowers. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

2407 Oneida Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 735-2727

Tribute Wall

LL

“ Matt, Sara, and everyone...I am so sorry for the loss of Grandma Rosie. She was a woman of much love and shared that love with everyone. The world is a better place because of who she was and all the lives she touched. She and Jay are together again, and I'm sure they are smiling down on all of you. Hold tight all the memories and keep up on all the traditions she created with you all! Love to each of you!!

Laura Lewin - January 03, 2015 at 06:24 PM

JK

“ Joe and Lisa, I am so sorry to read of your Mom's passing today. She was a wonderful woman and a fantastic neighbor to our family for many years. I will keep each of you in my thoughts during this difficult time. Joanna Welsh-Kurdziolek

Joanna Kurdziolek - January 03, 2015 at 11:37 AM

LR

oh Joanna! we felt the same about your Mom. Thank you so much!

Lisa Roach - January 03, 2015 at 04:31 PM

DB

“ Joe and Lisa I am sorry for the loss of your mom. I have known Rosa for many years. We worked together at St. E's and have been on the alumni board together for a number of years. She was a great lady.
Dolores Boehlert

Dolores Boehlert - January 02, 2015 at 04:07 PM

LR

Thank you Delores. Mom had many good friends at St. E's! Lisa

Lisa Roach - January 02, 2015 at 09:24 PM

TO

“ *Tauni O'Toole lit a candle in memory of Rosa Maria "Rosemary" (Lapertosa) Trisolino*



Tauni O'Toole - January 02, 2015 at 12:19 PM

LR

Thank You .Lisa

Lisa Roach - January 02, 2015 at 09:25 PM

DL

“ *Joe and Lisa sorry to hear of the passing of your Mother. Although it has been many years since we have seen each other, it is a pleasure to have known such a wonderful and caring women. As a friend of your father and his family at the bridal shop both on Genessee and Bleecker Streets, they always welcomed me into their circle of family and friends. May she rest in peace. David (Lee) Lia*

David (Lee) Lia - January 02, 2015 at 07:15 AM

LR

Thank You very much!

Lisa Roach - January 02, 2015 at 09:26 PM

DF

“ Not many people look forward to going to school, but I always looked forward to seeing Mrs. T. I loved her, she was so nice and had a great sense of humor. RIP Mrs. T, you'll be missed. God Bless, heaven has another angel !!!!!!!

Deirdre Feeney - January 01, 2015 at 05:03 PM

LR

She LOVED the students and Daycare kids at the school of Nursing!

Lisa Roach - January 02, 2015 at 09:27 PM

PB

“ Rosa was my first head nurse on 3B when I began my career at St. Elizabeth. She was kind and compassionate, and a pleasure to work with. It was my honor to serve with her on the SECON Alumni Board as well. I will miss her kindness and laughter - St. Elizabeth won't be the same without her.



Patricia Burns - January 01, 2015 at 03:26 PM

LR

Thank You! She spoke highly of you too!

Lisa Roach - January 02, 2015 at 09:28 PM

TC

“ I have had the pleasure of knowing Rosa for over 40 years. She was the head nurse of 3B when I first graduated from st. E's, and years later we served together on the Alumni Board. Her sense of humor and compassion will always be first in my mind when I think of her. I will miss her!!

Terry Abeline Carden - January 01, 2015 at 03:13 PM

LR

Thank you so much . She was a great nurse!Lisa

Lisa Roach - January 02, 2015 at 09:37 PM

AE

“*Rosemary had been a wonderful friend and nurse for years to me. She loved working at the College of Nursing and took time always to say a kind word to every student who stopped at the desk. She was indeed like a second mother to many of the students when she would ask "how did the test go?" "You can do it"...There is a special place in heaven for her. She never forgot how it feels to be a student or beginning nurse. RIP Rosa... Amy Elinskas*

Amy Elinskas - January 01, 2015 at 03:09 PM

LR

Thank You Amy. She truly did love that work and everyone there. She was always excitedx on the first day of a new semester!

Lisa Roach - January 02, 2015 at 09:38 PM

ES

“*Rosemary has been in our lives for more than 50 years as a dear sister-in-law, sister, and friend. Her calm and gentle advice was always sought and welcomed. Her passing leaves a giant void in our hearts.*

Elaine Trisolino Seeley and David Seeley

Elaine Seeley - January 01, 2015 at 12:05 PM

LR

She certianly loved you too! Thanks for all your support. Lisa

Lisa Roach - January 02, 2015 at 09:39 PM

DB

“ *Mrs. T was one of the house mom's when I lived in the nursing dorm. She was always there with kind words and inspiration. She cared for us all each and every day. Our sincerest condolences to you all.*

Dorothy and John Bennett - January 01, 2015 at 10:35 AM

LR

Thank You! She was one of a kind! Lisa

Lisa Roach - January 02, 2015 at 09:40 PM

DH

“ *Dawna Hohall lit a candle in memory of Rosa Maria "Rosemary" (Lapertosa) Trisolino*



Dawna Hohall - January 01, 2015 at 10:30 AM

DH

God Bless her sweet soul! She was an icon of the College of Nursing and a great support not only for myself, but for many others as well!

Dawna Hohall - January 01, 2015 at 10:35 AM

LR

She loved you students for sure! Thank you.

Lisa Roach - January 02, 2015 at 09:40 PM

C'

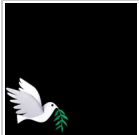
“ As a "new grad" of St. E's in 1970, I worked with Rosa in ICU. She was a calming influence to all in a very hectic environment. I loved her sense humor and wittiness, she was so kind to patients and family and a tower of strength. She was a mentor and friend. She was a dedicated member of the SECON Alumni Board and I could always enjoy connecting with her each year at the banquet. She will be sorely missed, but remembered forever.

Carole Griffin Gondek '70 - January 01, 2015 at 09:37 AM

LR

Thank you. She was a terrific woman. Lisa

Lisa Roach - January 02, 2015 at 09:41 PM



“ Gina Paratore lit a candle in memory of Rosa Maria "Rosemary" (Lapertosa) Trisolino



Gina Paratore - January 01, 2015 at 07:52 AM

LR

Thank You Gina, Lisa

Lisa Roach - January 02, 2015 at 09:42 PM

TF

“ Our condolences on you mom's passing. Take comfort in knowing she is reunited in Heaven with her beloved for eternity. Peace and prayers.



Tim & Colleen Moylan Family - January 01, 2015 at 07:01 AM

LR

Thank you Dear Friends! Lisa

Lisa Roach - January 02, 2015 at 09:43 PM

KM

“ *My sincere sympathies for the Trisolino family. "Mrs. T" was such a special person! She was there to help me get thru nursing school. Each time I'd go to school she was there with a smile, and many many encouraging words. She truly cared about us students, and made such an impact with her presence! We shared stories, and giggles and tears....praying for her peace and thankful for knowing her. Much love, Kathy Moccaldi RN*

kathy moccaldi - January 01, 2015 at 03:12 AM

LR

Kathy , she died peacefully and without Pain. A reward for a good life. Thank you. Lisa

Lisa Roach - January 02, 2015 at 09:43 PM

ML

“ *Dear Lisa, Joe and family members:*

From the time I was a very little girl, I remember Rosemary working in my dad's office (Frank Leone, M.D.) and the many years after that when she was at St. Elizabeth's. My parents thought the world of her. She was a wonderful nurse and all her patients loved her. She had a warm and generous spirit. Although my brothers and sisters are deeply saddened by her passing, we are confident that she didn't have to wait long in God's "waiting room". :-)

- Mary Lourdes Leone

(On behalf of Tony Leone, Dolores (Leone) Tozzi, Rosemary (Leone) Wittlinger, Frank Leone and Roger Leone)

Mary Lourdes Leone - December 31, 2014 at 09:58 PM

LR

Oh! How nice to hear from you! We all remember Doctor and your Mom so fondly! She spoke so highly of you all. Thank you so much!
Lisa

Lisa Roach - January 02, 2015 at 09:45 PM

DS

“ I remember when I first moved to Utica and Aunt Rosemary invited me to Thanksgiving. Although I had visited as a child, moving there as an adult was daunting. After a while I began to adapt and when Aunt Rosemary said to me, "See, she's a Steel Magnolia now," that was one of my proudest moments. She was a remarkable woman who always assured me there was nothing I couldn't do. God bless you, Aunt Rosemary. Thank you for all of your love. You will be missed.

Dana Sherman - December 31, 2014 at 02:24 PM

LR

She loved you and the kids so much! Thank you for all your support.
Lisa

Lisa Roach - January 02, 2015 at 09:46 PM

GE

“ Our sister-in-law Rosemary was so integral a part of our lives that it is hard to believe we will not see her on a regular basis as we have for over fifty plus years, She and my brother Jay were the most gracious of hosts for years and years to the whole family and boy were they great at it. Rosemary's beautiful daughter and son and grandchildren and great grand children had a lovely relationship made easy by proximity and great love. Our sympathy to Laura her sister and Angelo her brother with whom we spent much time. The Polish and Italian church tests and festivals where we all met will never be the same. She had a direct path to heaven where I am sure such celebrations abound. Gina and Luca Esposito

Gina and Luca Esposito - December 31, 2014 at 02:19 PM

LR

Thank you so much Aunt Gina and Uncle Luca! Lisa

Lisa Roach - January 02, 2015 at 09:47 PM

GL

“ We will miss Aunt Rosemary. She had a great career and was a kind and loving family member. Our sincere condolences to Lisa and Joe and families.

Gary and Jeanne LaBella - December 30, 2014 at 10:40 AM

LR

Thank You Gary and Jeanne. She always enjoyed your visits too! Lisa

Lisa Roach - January 02, 2015 at 09:48 PM