



Mr. Sebastian J. DiCesare

February 24, 1923 - March 19, 2014

Mr. Sebastian J. "Buster" DiCesare, age 91, a lifelong resident of Utica, passed away on St. Joseph's Day, Wednesday, March 19, 2014 at the Presbyterian Home for CNY, Inc. with his family by his side.

Born in Utica on February 24, 1923, Sebastian was the son of the late Giuseppe "Joseph" and Antonia "Antoinette" (Salamida) DiCesare. Buster was a lifelong Utica resident, where he received his education. In 1940 Buster joined the Civilian Conservation Corps and was stationed in Boonville where he was in forestry and planted hundreds of fir trees. A proud veteran of World War II, he served his country in the U.S. Marine Corps stationed in the Central/Southwest Pacific theater from 1943-1945. During his tour of duty, he participated in the consolidation of the Northern Solomon Islands, the Bismarck-Archipelago Operation, the defense of PivaYoke, as well as the capture and occupation of Guam. On August 4, 1945, while on leave during the war, he married the former Mary Potenza with whom he shared 68 years. Buster and Mary have been very proud of their life together, along with the blessing of their children and their family.

A freight handler for many years, Buster worked for the New York Central Railroad. In 1953, he embarked on a successful career journey as a master carpenter and cabinet maker. He was associated with J & R Zangrilli, Meyers & Laine, Five-in-One Construction, and Irving Bloom Association. This year, Buster achieved 50 years as a member of the Carpenters Union. An avid and devoted golfer, he frequented the courses at Twin Ponds, Valley View, and

Hidden Valley, having made 3 holes-in-one. Buster was also proud of his military service and was committed to helping his fellow veterans. He was a member of the American Legion Post 1376, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and he was a supporter of hospitalized veterans. He was an honorary member of the Knights of Columbus 189, Third and Fourth Degree where he was also past Faithful Navigator and Color Corps Commander. He and Mary were parishioners of the Sacred Heart Church for many years and are currently communicants of St. Anthony and St. Agnes Church.

Buster is survived by his wife, Mary; his daughters and sons-in-law, Annette and Francis Paparella, Joanne and John Bonvicino, and Anne Marie DiCesare and Ed Briggs, all of Utica; and his son, Richard DiCesare and Cindy Kosor of North Carolina. Buster mourned the loss of his son, Anthony "Tony" DiCesare, who passed away on December 18, 2012. He will be remembered by his daughter-in-law, Mary DiCesare of Utica; his grandsons, Scott St. Onge, David St. Onge and Kelley Thorpe, and Sebastian K. DiCesare; his brother and cherished friend, Joseph DiCesare Jr. of Utica; many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and in-laws Helen DiCesare, Connie DeCesare, John Potenza, Jody Potenza, Angie Fitzgerald and her husband Jim; and his friends. He was predeceased by his brothers, Pasquale "Pat" DiCesare, Peter DiCesare, and Carl DeCesare; his sister, Lorenza; his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Vito and Serafina Potenza; and his in-laws, Shirley DiCesare, Dominick and Ann Potenza, Abbate "Pat" Potenza, Palma "Polly" and Raymond Zangrilli, Rose and Joseph Fiore, Rocco and Catherine "Kate" Graziadei, Ida and Peter DeCarlo Sr., Stephen and Mary Potenza, Nancy Potenza, and Antoinette Pandolf and her husband Tony.

The family wishes to acknowledge the staff of the PRC and Presbyterian Home for the love, care and compassion they gave to Buster while in their care.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday from 4:00-7:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. The Knights of Columbus will gather at 6:30 for a prayer service. By family request, please omit floral

offerings. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Buster's funeral service and Celebration of Life which will commence on Wednesday morning at 11:00 at St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church where his Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by Rev. Mark Kaminski with Military Honors conferred. Entombment will take place in Resurrection Chapel Mausoleum at Holy Trinity Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Cemetery Details

Resurrection Chapel Mausoleum at the convenience of the family

1500 Champlin Avenue
Utica, NY

Tribute Wall

JC

“ My deepest sympathy to the DiCesare family. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.
Buster will be always be remembered by my fond memories of him. A fine man that he surely was. My fondest memory is of a job I worked on when I was 16. My friends home was moved across RT 12 where the Riverside mall is next door to my parents home. My dad John (Blubs Curri) Buster and Joe, what a great time it was. All the joking and laughs we had. The things Buster taught me about carpentry that I have cherished my whole life. The things that my Dad and Joe taught me about cement, blocks and concrete, thank GOD I never chose that as a career. I still remember the lyme burns and rough cracked hands. Joe how did you do it. Buster is surely in heaven playing golf and doing a few side jobs to keep his skills honed. Thanks for letting me share. Sincerely John Curri Satellite Beach, Fl

John Curri - March 27, 2014 at 09:47 AM

DS

“ what words do you say when your hero dies. What do you say when your values, heritage, and tradition disappear in what seems overnight, When 91 years of stories told to you in detail of history, heart and laughter are no longer told to you. I always knew this day would come, and also have known more than half my life it would be one of the hardest emotional days in my life. there are only two words that i would say and thats THANK YOU..i love you pop and will never forget what you installed in me without ever realizing you did david [dew-dew]

david st.onge - March 26, 2014 at 05:57 PM

VF

“ *My deepest condolences.... He was an amazing man that contributed so much to his family and friends. Buster - you will truly be missed. You are now with one of your old friends, my father. tell him I miss him! Till we see one another again my friend.....*

Vincent Ficchi - March 26, 2014 at 08:08 AM

DS

vin you mean so much to our entire family thanx for celebrating pops life with us. guess whos getting the hvac job when hes done building our home

david st.onge - March 26, 2014 at 06:01 PM

LM

“ *The DiCesare Family*

Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. We wish you peace.

Linda and John Maloney - March 25, 2014 at 04:44 PM

CK

“ *'Death is nothing at all' ~ Canon Henry Scott Holland of St. Paul's Cathedral*

Death is nothing at all. I have only slipped away into the next room. I am I, and you are you. Whatever we were to each other that we still are.

Call me by my old familiar name, speak to me in the easy way which you always used.

Put no difference in your tone, wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow.

Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes we enjoyed together.

Play, smile, think of me, pray for me.

Let my name be ever the household word that it always was, let it be spoken without effect, without the trace of shadow on it. Life means all that it ever meant. It is the same as it ever was; there is unbroken continuity.

[There is absolute and unbroken continuity. What is this death but a negligible accident?]

Why should I be out of mind because I am out of sight?

I am waiting for you, for an interval, somewhere very near, just around the corner.

All is well.

My Love, Prayers and Sympathy to the Family. I loved Dad the minute I met him!. He will be missed, but never forgotten.

*Love,
Cindy*

Cindy Kosor - March 25, 2014 at 03:40 PM

SN

“ Annie:

So sorry to hear of your Dad Buster's passing. Although I never had the privilege of meeting Buster I always remember your wonderful stories and great love you had for your Dad. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family Ann.

Sandi Nowicki

sandra nowicki - March 25, 2014 at 12:35 PM

RZ

“ *To Aunt Mary & family - I am so sorry for your loss of Uncle Buster. He sure was a great man & I have many fond memories of him as a little girl. Growing up as Grandma Polly's "side kick", I remember all the fun times at your house. Uncle Buster always put his bird back in the cage when I came over because he knew I was so scared, even though he used to yell at me saying there was no reason to be afraid! May God Bless you all during this difficult time. RIP Uncle Buster, you will always be remembered!*
Love,
Rhonda Zangrilli-Russell

Rhonda Zangrilli-Russell - March 24, 2014 at 01:56 PM

CS

“ *To Annie and family:*

I am so sorry for your loss. I know how difficult it is to lose a loved one. Enjoy all the memories you have and they will help you through this tough time.

Charlotte Stanger

Charlotte Stanger - March 24, 2014 at 09:03 AM

TP

“ Annette, I am so sorry to hear of your dad's passing. While caring for him at PRC, we had so many laughs together. I remember the day he came in and you told us that his nickname was Buster, then told us we would find out fast the reason behind it. Haha, yes we did. I truly enjoyed him and think of him often. God bless you and your family. RIP Buster!
Theresa Plano

theresa plano - March 23, 2014 at 06:16 PM

RZ

“ Aunt Mary,Annette, Joanne, Ricky and Annie, Ray will never forget the fun he had on the golf course with Uncle Buster and Uncle Steve. Those days are gone now but the memories will last a life time. Please know he is in our daily prayers and resting in peace. God Bless you all.
Love Ray and Terry Zangrilli

Ray and Terry Zangrilli - March 23, 2014 at 05:20 PM

JW

“ To all of Buster's family.... It breaks my heart to think of Buster's passing. Buster used to golf with my dad every week (John Saponari, gone 13 years now). I'm sure that he and my dad are now golfing, trying to outdo one another again!
JoAnn & Jim Whitaker



JoAnn Whitaker - March 23, 2014 at 10:52 AM

MH

“ How fondly I remember all the amazing times we had as children with all our aunts and uncles in Utica!! Uncle Buster was always such a funny, loving man and we will all miss him! It's hard to believe that those days are over and all of our special aunts and uncles have one by one been leaving us. It breaks my heart to think that most of them are gone now - although I know we will all be together again someday in a much better place. Dear family, please know our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. We love you all dearly and hold on to the fact that no one will ever be able to take away all of those wonderful memories!! May God comfort all of you during the days ahead.

Cousin Mary Beth, "Always" Bob, and our boys

Mary E. Hughes - March 22, 2014 at 10:44 AM

MS

“ annie and family , what can i say, "my boyfriend". he was a wonderful man and the little time i did know him i can truly say i loved him. he will me missed , but always keep him in your heart and he will get you through the times ahead.

love mary beth and jerry smith.

mary beth smith - March 21, 2014 at 07:33 PM



MH

Annette, Joanne and family. I have just now learned about Buster's passing . I was just thinking about him the other day telling myself that I must go visit him. It was a pleasure to care for your father the time that I did while at the PRC. It was my honor! He was truly like a dad to me and I will miss him, but mostly I will never forget him! My most heartfelt deepest sympathy to all of you.

Mary Hunnicutt

Mary Hunnicutt - March 22, 2014 at 10:45 AM

MM

“ *Annette and Family - I'm so sorry to hear about your dad. I remember being at the hospital with my dad and the one person I could always count on to come and shave my father, was Buster. He did so with such love and respect. We laughed so much because Old Spice lingered in the room, down the hall, and on my dad for hours! Till this day, when I smell Old Spice, I remember your dad faithfully coming to show his respect to my dad....he also lifted my spirits when I was overwhelmed.*
With love and prayers and a sadness in my heart,
Michele

Michele (DeCesare) McDermott - March 21, 2014 at 07:00 PM