



Mrs. Sheila (Graham) Mineo

November 7, 1947 - June 15, 2018

WHITESBORO - Mrs. Sheila (Graham) Mineo, age 70, went to heaven on Friday, June 15, 2018 when she passed away at Upstate Medical University after complications from surgery. Her family was by her side at the time of her unexpected passing.

Born in Utica on November 7, 1947, Sheila was the daughter of Walter J. Graham and the late Mary Lou (Colwell) Graham. She attended St. Francis De Sales Grammar School and was a graduate of De Sales High School/Class of 1965. She continued her education at the St. Elizabeth Hospital School of Nursing where she passed her Boards and earned her License as a Registered Nurse in 1968. In 2018, she celebrated 50 years in her nursing career. On May 16, 1970 she married Jack A. Mineo with whom she shared 48 wonderful years. Their relationship was based on a union of their hearts and minds and their ambition of being the best parents to their three sons.

Sheila's service to the healthcare field began at St. Elizabeth Hospital as a Post-Operative Medical/Surgical Nurse. She subsequently held nursing positions at St. Luke's Hospital, substitute school nurse for several districts, and lastly and most prominent the Oneida County Health Department/Infectious Communicable Diseases. During these working years, Sheila paused to raise her family which was always her greatest priority. Her goodness and generosity touched all her loved ones, and her compassion and empathy extended to her patients in her profession. She was knowledgeable

and competent in her medical duties. Her Catholic creed was strong and steadfast, and it created the foundation for how she lived her life. When her children were in school she was their advocate.

Sheila's greatest achievement was the blessing of her three boys who she adored. She was the driving force behind their accomplishments, and she had a sensitivity of heart that could soothe away their worries or problems. She wanted to protect them every day and often cautioned them to "be safe out there". She told them that since "a mother never stops being a mom", she always worried about their wellbeing. Her kids coined an assortment of nicknames for her, all of which were inspired by love, and "Shoops" was a favorite one. When her grandchildren came into her life, she was affectionately known as "Momoo and Nana". Her warm and welcoming hospitality towards her children's friends is memorable to this day. The family always supported the American Heart Run & Walk honoring her son's heart condition from birth.

Sheila celebrated every holiday with a family gathering complete with festive food and treats. She felt that "Life is tough" and everyone faces tribulations from time to time, and when you are with loved ones, they can listen, lend advice, and lift your spirits. Sheila also found time to be a prolific reader. She enjoyed traveling, attending festivals, and embarking on new adventures. She was a member of the St. Elizabeth School of Nursing Alumni Association and the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians. Sheila's Irish heritage was very important to her and she celebrated it with pride on St. Patrick's Day, but the rest of the year she was an "honorary Sicilian". She participated in the Swim Club at the YWCA where many friendships were made. She also took pleasure in a monthly card club with her husband and friends. She was a faithful communicant of the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes.

Sheila is survived by her husband, Jack; her father Walter; her sons and their loved ones, Jimm and Carrie Mineo, Christopher Mineo and Jenny DeRocco, and Bobby Mineo; her grandchildren, Kristopher Jones, and Jack Mineo; Isaiah, Autumn, and Benny Boo and their mother. She also leaves her sister,

Marilyn Graham; brothers and sisters-in-law, Stephen and Beth Graham, and Michael and Maryann Graham; nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, in-laws Mary and Joseph Corapi, Roseann and John Franco, and Laura Hamelin; and the many wonderful friends who graced her life. She was predeceased by her father-in-law and mother-in-law, James and Congetta M. "Connie" Mineo.

The family is grateful to the staff of the Faxon-St. Luke's Healthcare Center/Intensive Care Unit for their vigilant care; Upstate Medical Center/ICU staff, especially Dr. Mashaal Dhir for his outstanding care and compassion; Dr. Kevin McCormick, the best General Practitioner, friend, and advocate; Fr. Joe Salerno who was a part of their family and a sincere source of solace; and Sister Lois, the dearest of friends who provided Sheila with spiritual inspiration.

Visitation will be held Monday from 4:00-7:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Sheila's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Tuesday morning at 10:00 from the funeral home and at 11:00 at the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes where her Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. Joseph Salerno. Interment will follow graveside at Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

Memorial donations in Sheila's honor may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital online at <https://www.stjude.org>; envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

Tribute Wall

GR

“ Upon first meeting Sheila; two things were evident. She was a faithful woman and she was inarguably devoted to her family. Most of the stories we shared were always centered around being women and motherhood. I can honestly say that Sheila will forever remain one of the few women I have met or known whose greatest and proudest accomplishment was that of being a mother. It remained the primary focus and drive to everything she did since knowing her.

Sheila was present for each and every one of my children's birth; not unlike every occasion, milestone, necessity and memory thereafter. Without her, I would not have had the privilege of sharing in a role we both undoubtedly felt proud and humbled by. I will forever remember her by the empathy she showed beneath the seemingly silent spaces; the devotion she modeled in her marriage; the unconditional love she gave to her 3 children and the adoration she selflessly poured out to her grandchildren.

This week has been a selfishly sad one filled with a lot of turmoil and indescribably sad moments despite knowing Sheila is where she spent many years admirably devoting herself to be welcomed into. A place where she is without pain but will be sorely missed. Many would laugh and become agitated at how many pictures I notoriously captured, but this I know. While we all mourn your role and the love you gave, those pictures will serve as one of the many ways in which your legacy will be honored, remembered and celebrated in my home. May peace be with you always.

Grace, Isaiah, Autumn and Benjamin



Grace - June 19, 2018 at 12:49 PM

RP

“ Mike, and Maryann.....our deepest condolences for the loss of your beloved sister.....she is in Heaven with Jesus, her eternal home. May God hold you all in the palm of His hand in this time of sorrow-----
Ralph and Rosemarie Paladino

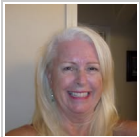


ralph paladino - June 19, 2018 at 10:32 AM

J.

“ Chris and Jim my deepest condolences. So sorry to hear of your loss.
I lost my Mom when she was only 60 she lives on in my teachings she instilled in me and memories as your Mom will too.
jc.centralnewyork.com
"I as always am here when you need me."
R.I.P. Sheila

J.C.Pantola - June 19, 2018 at 10:04 AM



“ Sheila was my 1st cousin, as her mom and my mom were sisters, both of whom are deceased. Sheila was 2 years ahead of me at DeSales High and we had a relationship at that time. She was instrumental in getting me a office job after school each day. She held that position for her years at DeSales. I married before her and had my 1st child before her and since I was a Navy wife for the 1st 10 years of my marriage and never lived in the Utica area ever again. WE did not have a relationship after that. I am sorry for your loss. I can empathize with you, as I lost my dad at age 51 almost 42 yrs ago. I had one of my granddaughters die on April 3rd of this year and I carry a broken heart.

Nancy Landers - June 18, 2018 at 07:37 PM

FF

“ We want to convey our heartfelt sympathy to Jack & his Family.

Cousins Francis, Bonnie, and Michael Fragola

Francis Fragola - June 18, 2018 at 02:41 PM



“ *Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Sheila (Graham) Mineo.*



June 18, 2018 at 02:10 PM



“ *Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Sheila (Graham) Mineo.*



June 18, 2018 at 01:10 PM

RM

“ *Our sympathy and our prayers are with the Mineo and Graham families.
God Bless.*



Rose and Karen Moylan - June 18, 2018 at 10:39 AM



“ *White Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Sheila (Graham) Mineo.*



June 18, 2018 at 10:17 AM



“ *Bob and Chris and family*

My sincere sympathies on the passing of your beloved mother. May the memories you all shared together always be a source of comfort to you and yours

Judy Oster

Judy Oster - June 17, 2018 at 05:56 PM



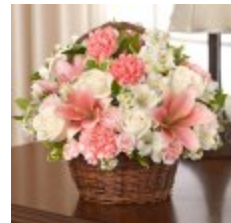
“ *Pat Sterling lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Sheila (Graham) Mineo*



Pat Sterling - June 17, 2018 at 04:05 PM



“ *Cornie & Frank, Marlene & Carmel, Elaine & Loren purchased the Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Pink and White for the family of Mrs. Sheila (Graham) Mineo.*



Cornie & Frank, Marlene & Carmel, Elaine & Loren - June 17, 2018 at 02:14 PM

MR

“ *Marilyn Dooley Richards lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Sheila (Graham) Mineo*



Marilyn Dooley Richards - June 17, 2018 at 01:57 PM

KR

“ *Jack and family,
Saying goodbye to someone we love is heartbreaking. I pray that in the midst of your sorrow you find comfort in all the joyful memories you shared.
I will always remember all the fun we had at our monthly card get-togethers..
Thinking of you and wishing you peace and comfort in the loss of your loving wife, mother, grandmother and my dear friend..
Karen Ritz*

Karen Ritz - June 17, 2018 at 11:34 AM

SW

“ *So sorry to learn of Sheila's passing! You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.*

Sharon and Dennis Wittern

Sharon Wittern - June 17, 2018 at 10:40 AM

RS

“ Randy And Jean Smith lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Sheila (Graham) Mineo



Randy and Jean Smith - June 17, 2018 at 09:49 AM

SR

“ So very sorry for this horrific loss of Sheila. May you know I send my prayers to you and to your sons. May she rest in peace. Heaven now has another angel to watch over you. May God help you through this most difficult time. Sincerely Sharon



Sharon Riesel-Oldfield - June 17, 2018 at 05:24 AM

MD

“ Dear Jack and family, you are all in our prayers. We all had fun playing cards and our get togethers for many years, something that can never be taken from us. She went through much pain these previous months and we all thought she was on her way to more good years. Cannot believe such a simple surgery took her from her family. Sheila may you Rest In Peace now and look down on your family with pride. Love always, Fred and Marilyn

marilyn and Fred Demma - June 16, 2018 at 05:47 PM