



Mr. Theodore J. "Ted" Petrillo, Jr.

September 10, 1942 - November 18, 2016

WHITESBORO - Mr. Theodore J. "Ted" Petrillo, Jr., age 74, went to Heaven peacefully when he passed away on Friday, November 18, 2016 in the comfort of his home with his loving family at his side.

Born in Utica on September 10, 1942, he was the son of Theodore J., Sr. and Sally (Graziano) Petrillo. He attended St. Mary of Mt. Carmel Grammar School and was a graduate of Utica Catholic Academy/Class of 1959. He went on to Utica College of Syracuse University where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mathematics. He then pursued his post-graduate studies at Clarkson University where he was awarded a Masters degree in Mathematics. These accomplishments were proof of his determination and his quest for knowledge. On June 25, 1966 he married the former Phyllis Schram with whom he shared 50 years and millions of memories. Every year on their wedding anniversary Ted sent her a bouquet of red roses, one for each year, and a different color rose added in as each of their four children were born. Just like the roses, Ted's love for her never faded.

Ted started his work career in 1965 at Notre Dame High School as a Math teacher and subsequently became department chair. He was also appointed as the Athletic Director. He worked with all the coaches to increase a sense of accomplishment and an awareness of each student's strengths and potential while providing the best environment for the students to grow and shine in their chosen sport. In 1978, he had to leave his beloved teaching in order to earn enough money to support his growing family. He ventured into hospital

finances, first at St. Elizabeth Hospital and later with Brim National Health Care. Then, in 1992, at the Thursday weekly Utica Roadrunners event, Ted's friend Bob Ingalls asked to run with him and informed him about the position of Budget Director at Oneida County. They were looking for someone with knowledge of budgets and one with great integrity, and Ted fit the bill. During his time in this role, he was nicknamed "tight pockets" by several of the legislators and department chairmen. In 2002, he was able to return to his cherished teaching at the then Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School where he was assigned five classes of 8th graders, and he proceeded to disprove the theory that "you can't go back", realizing that educating students then was the same as in 1965. He had realistic expectations that one could infuse in children the ability to obtain the level of pride they were entitled to. It was very satisfying watching young men and women experience life. He followed these students through high school and even checked on some in college.

Throughout his life, Ted received many honors and awards, too numerous to mention, but two that he cherished were the 1996 Road Runners Club of America Outstanding Club Volunteer and the accomplishment of completing the Save Our Switchbacks Project (SOS) at the Utica Parkway. Being that running was such a big part of his life, he extended his time to the Heart Run, the Boilermaker, and the Parkway Developmental Runs. Others could depend on the Petrillos to be either participants, spectators, or volunteers for these organizations. Ted took great pride in his children and all that they accomplished. He wanted to be known as a man of integrity, just like his father. He enjoyed running and had completed 27 Boilermakers. One of his favorites was when he ran with his nine-year-old son and viewed it through his eyes. He also ran 7 marathons with his "run buds". You could always find Ted and Phyllis at Notre Dame as scorekeepers, clock operators, or stat keepers. He took over the Cross Country program at Notre Dame and built it up to 59 runners. He believed in team spirit and unity and started Sunday morning runs from his home; at the end of the runs the kids were fed pancakes, and on the last week, French toast.

Ted also had a passion for meteorology and weather watching, and was affectionately known as “Ted Doppler”. His “run buds” would call him and request the latest radar and weather forecasts for a certain date, at a certain place, and even at a certain time... and Ted would advise them as to the conditions to be expected! Ted and Phyllis were devoted to their Catholic faith and were daily Mass attendees, lecturers, and Eucharistic ministers, formerly at St. Anne’s Church in Whitesboro and currently at Our Lady of the Rosary Church in New Hartford.

Besides his wife, Phyllis, Ted is survived by his children, Sue and Scott McCandless of Orchard Park, Debi and Mark Babowicz of Oneida, Dave and Judy Petrillo of Niskayuna, and Steve and Andrea Petrillo of Lagrangeville; his nine grandchildren, Sarah, Erin, and Bryce McCandless; Gabi and Max Babowicz; Zach, Danielle, Nicole, and Alison Petrillo; his sister and brother-in-law, Maryellen and Al Miller of Canastota; and his brother, Bob Petrillo of Utica. He also leaves his in-laws, Patty and Herm Fruchtenicht of Fairfax CA, Rich and Donna Schram of Utica; his favorite aunt and uncle, Patty and Banny Campbell of Maine; numerous cousins with whom he loved spending time; several nieces and nephews; and his best friends, Bob and Nancy McQueen. He was predeceased by his parents, his mother-in-law and father-in-law, Peg and Herm Schram; and his sister-in-law, Mary Jean German. The family extends their gratitude to Ted’s oncologist, Dr. Najam Din, Kari Moorhead/PA, Dr. Gilbert Lawrence, the entire staff of the Visiting Nurse Association, and the personnel of Hospice & Palliative Care, for their medical expertise and compassionate care.

Visitation will be held Tuesday from 4:00-8:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Expressions of sympathy in the form of donations may be considered to the Ted Petrillo, Sr. Scholarship Fund established in 2002 at Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School; envelopes will be available at the funeral home. Ted’s funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Wednesday morning at 9:00 from the funeral home and at

10:00 at Our Lady of the Rosary Church where his Mass of Christian Burial will be offered. Entombment will take place in Resurrection Chapel Mausoleum, Courtyard of the Pieta at Holy Trinity Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Resurrection Chapel Mausoleum

Champlin Ave.
Utica, NY 13501

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **22**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.
932 South Street
corner of Hammond Ave.
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 724-6714
eannacefh@roadrunner.com
<https://www.eannacefuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

NOV **23**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Our Lady of the Rosary Church
1736 Burrstone Road
New Hartford, NY

Tribute Wall

RM

“ *Math was my demon. Mr. Petrillo had a gift of clearly explaining any math concept. He was patient and understanding. I was always appreciative of his skills as a teacher. I tried to emulate his organized and logical lessons during my years as a Social Studies teacher. So indirectly, my students benefitted from Mr. Petrillo's abilities . His legacy lives on.*

I also was impressed for his passionate support of Notre Dame. He was a role model of what it meant to be a "Juggler."

Thank you Mr. Petrillo.

Rocco Montesano '70

Rocco Montesano - December 08, 2016 at 10:07 AM

PB

“ *Dear Phyllis,
I just heard. I'm so very sorry for your loss.
Palma*

Palma M. Brigano - December 02, 2016 at 08:28 AM

RK

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Robert & Judy Knapp - November 23, 2016 at 08:15 AM

RK

“ We have so many wonderful memories of sun-drenched times on Marco Island, FL with Ted and Phyllis and the other "Seabury Squatters". Playing games under the Tiki Hut, sharing many communal meals (Ted would bring his much appreciated Italian specialties) and sharing a night out at a local eatery. Ted was ever the teacher, making sure we understood the subtleties of driving directions, weather, sports, politics, Central New York history, education policy, and the importance of friends and family. We will miss his smile and open acceptance of those he met. Rest in Peace now, good and faithful Servant.

Robert & Judy Knapp - November 23, 2016 at 07:41 AM

CD

“ We remember multi Christmas Eves with Alfred, Maryellen, and the whole Petrillo Family when we lived in Oneida. I (Al) especially enjoyed swapping teaching stories with Ted Junior, and wish we'd been able to see more of him after our move south. The name Petrillo translates roughly to "Little Rock," and Teddy was nothing if not rock-solid. God rest him and let His light shine upon him forever!
--Carol & Al DeNeve

Carol & Al DeNeve - November 21, 2016 at 07:45 PM

ED

Rest in peace, Ted, you're in our prayers. Auntie M. and Petrillo family you are as well. - Eddie, Angele, kids.

Edward Deneve - November 22, 2016 at 01:38 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Theodore J. "Ted" Petrillo, Jr..



November 21, 2016 at 06:15 PM



“ Mr. Petrillo was my math teacher at Notre Dame way back in the 70s and a saying he had, "follow it" echoed through the halls as well as making it into a cheer from the wolf pack at the ND basketball games. They were great days at Notre Dame made even better with teachers like Mr. Petrillo.

Sharing his passion for running at the Utica Boilermaker was an annual event where it amazed me that either I was getting slower or he was getting faster didn't much matter, it was just always nice to see him. This last year on the hill to Utica College.

Small world notice...running into him on a beach in Maine while on vacation and sharing Utica memories and family stories was always on my radar for my vacation.

You will be missed Mr. Petrillo

*Peter Dunn
ND Class of 74*

Peter Dunn - November 21, 2016 at 02:27 PM



“ Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Mr. Theodore J. "Ted" Petrillo, Jr..



November 21, 2016 at 12:41 PM



“ Don Marino lit a candle in memory of Mr. Theodore J. "Ted" Petrillo, Jr.



Don Marino - November 21, 2016 at 11:33 AM



“ I saw Mr. Petrillo at the 40th reunion weekend Football game. He looked the same and actually remembered me. The consummate gentleman with the biggest heart. Notre Dame and the community as a whole is so much less with his passing. I will always remember his support of the basketball team and the players. Prayers for the family.
Bob Hill '72/varsity basketball player 71-72.

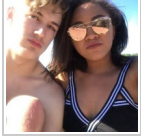
Robert Hill - November 21, 2016 at 09:46 AM



“ Dana Zito lit a candle in memory of Mr. Theodore J. "Ted" Petrillo, Jr.



Dana Zito - November 21, 2016 at 07:59 AM



“ *R.I.P Coach P*

Michael Golden - November 21, 2016 at 06:30 AM



“ *Phyllis and family "Mr. Petrillo" was my favorite teacher. I was in his first class at Notre Dame where he definitely earned his stripes. He was very fair and concerned about me and all his students. I'm sorry he died so young. I'll remember you two coming into Piggy Pat's. I'm sure they will welcome him into heaven even if he wears a Madras jacket.*
Pat McCann

Patrick McCann - November 21, 2016 at 04:56 AM



“ *Debi and family....Thinking of you all during this difficult time and praying for comfort and peace in the upcoming days. God bless heaven's newest angel. -Colleen Vernold*

Colleen Vernold - November 20, 2016 at 08:38 PM



“ *Phyllis and family I am truly sorry for your loss. Take pride, and I know you do, in the wonderful man, husband, father, grandpa, and friend he was to everyone. God bless.*



Tina Tice - November 20, 2016 at 04:16 PM

TC

“ Because Mr. Petrillo was a man who served our community in so many ways, this loss will be greatly felt and he will be greatly missed.

Tom Coyne, ND '73

Tom Coyne - November 20, 2016 at 03:24 PM

P(

“ So sad to learn...he was just a good person and a dedicated educator. Our condolences and prayers...
Peter Mannella class of 1970

Peter Mannella (1970) - November 20, 2016 at 02:40 PM

DN

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to Ted's family on his passing. I was very fortunate to have Ted as a math teacher at ND. He was a great educator whose attention to detail and professionalism were second to none. He was fun to be around as he always had smile on his face. He will be missed.

Dan Nichols (ND'72)

Dan Nichols - November 20, 2016 at 11:55 AM

RM

“ Ted was a good, kind man and will be missed by many. I loved listening to his stories of his many travels and adventures with Phyllis. He really loved his family, and I was so fortunate to know him. My heart and prayers go out to you Phyllis and your family.

Rose McCandless

Rose McCandless - November 20, 2016 at 11:35 AM

DP

“ I had Ted as a Math teacher for two classes at Notre Dam in 1971-72. He was a great teacher with a good sense of humor and incredible patience especially with teen boys.
RIP Ted.

Dan Powers (ND'72)

Dan Powers - November 20, 2016 at 10:52 AM

MD

“ Phyllis-

We are so sorry to hear of Ted's passing. We go a long way back to UCA, St. Anne's and OLR. He was certainly very devoted to his family, church and friends. He will be sorely missed by all. You both will be in our prayers nightly.

Deb and Mike Dyer

Mike Dyer - November 20, 2016 at 09:17 AM

PF

“ We will be traveling on Tuesday to Florida, we both are saddened by the passing of Ted.
When we return we will be in touch with you. We will pray for Ted and you.

Peter and Barbara Falzarine - November 20, 2016 at 09:10 AM

KA

“ Annandk I are so very sorry to hear about Ted passing! We feel very fortunate to have had the opportunity to know him as a friend.
Thinking of his family in our prayers!

Ken and Ann Abramczyk - November 19, 2016 at 07:01 PM

FD

Patty and I are heartbroken. He was a truly good man and a good friend who will be remembered by his family, friends and the countless people, students and many others in the community who were fortunate to know him during his 74 years. We were so grateful to attend and spend time with Ted and Phyllis at their 50th Anniversary Celebration this past June.

Francis and Patricia DiOrio

Francis A. & Patricia B. DiOrio - November 19, 2016 at 09:47 PM

MC

I have a lot of memories of Ted and Phyllis from the many Road Runners Club conventions that we attended. My friends and I from the Alton Road Runners Club were embraced by Ted and the rest of the Utica Road Runners. We had a lot of fun times at those conventions, but my fondest memory is when Ted and Phyllis welcomed me and my wife Bonnie and our friend Linda Dietrich into their home several years back when we decided to travel to Utica and take in the Boilermaker festivities.

Mike & Bonnie Cleary - November 20, 2016 at 04:03 PM

JP

Their are teachers in all students life that leave memories and help build a students life. I was privileged to have such a teacher in Ted at Notre Dame HS in 1968. Ted was class in everyway. The Utica Community was fortunate to have him, and he will be greatly missed. God blessed the Petrillo family with a wonderful man, may the Lord now comfort you with the many memories of a life that made a difference.

Joe Peplinski - November 20, 2016 at 07:16 PM

JS

Ted was a distant cousin of mine on the Graziano side of the family. I had the fortune of being taught by him in the early 1970's at Notre Dame High School. I will remember him as a brilliant and inspirational man. I am so saddened to hear that he passed away. Blessings to Phyllis and the rest of the family. May he move on now to his eternal reward.

John Siriani - Notre Dame High School - Class of 1972

John Siriani - November 21, 2016 at 10:16 AM