



Mr. Vincent J. Looney

October 10, 1935 - December 17, 2020

UTICA - Mr. Vincent J. Looney, age 85, passed away peacefully on Thursday, December 17, 2020 with his wife by his side at Valley Health Services in Herkimer.

Born in Dorchester, Massachusetts on October 10, 1935, Vincent was the son of the late Vincent and Mary Frances (Burke) Looney. He was proud of his education at the Boston Latin School which was established in 1635 and is renowned as the oldest public school in America! He then went on to graduate from the highly selective Boston College. Vin's next venture was to be commissioned an Ensign in the US Navy in 1957 after graduating from Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island. He served two years on active duty on board the USS Hood (DD-655).

Upon completion of his military service, Vincent worked at Utica National Insurance until 1996 serving as Senior Vice President. On January 9, 1998 he married the former Mary Ann Mazzola with whom he shared 22 years as a blended family celebrating holidays, graduations, birthdays, weddings, and traveling together.

Although he was quiet by nature, Vin was firm, loving, and just. Working around his property was his greatest delight, and the neighborhood will miss his raking, cutting and manicuring the grass and hedges to perfection. He welcomed the conversations and compliments of all the passersby. He was Irish with an Italian stomach and he enjoyed the Sunday pasta dinners and meals with Jean and Jack Endryck. His preferred pastimes including reading,

golfing at the Yahnundasis and Skenandoa Golf Clubs, and watching and rooting for Tom Brady, the New England Patriots, and of course, the Boston Red Sox. Family was a cherished part of his life. Upon his marriage to Mary Ann he became a brother-in-law and uncle to the Mazzola family, and the Caroli, Endryck, Polak, Bizzari, and Johnson families who loved him with their whole hearts. He made many friends at work, in school, and in the navy. Vin loved Dorchester, Massachusetts where he was born and frequently visited his cousins, specifically Ursala and the late Larry Tafe of Cape Cod.

He was blessed with four children from his former wife Carol; Vincent and Patricia (Muldowney) Looney, Kara and Eliot Putnam, Douglas and Lisa (Patten) Looney, and John and Megan (Mondi) Looney; he was proud of each and every one of them. He adored his grandchildren, Shaun and Michele (Smith) Looney and his only great-grandchild Emilia, Brian and Samantha (Bova) Looney, Kevin Looney, Finn Putnam, Caroline Putnam, Katherine Putnam, Adian Looney, Nora Looney, Maeve Looney, Jack Looney, Andrew Looney, and Joseph Looney. He also leaves his nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and his brother, Bill Looney. He was predeceased by his sister and brother-in-law, Marian and John "Brendan" Cahalane.

Many thanks to Vincent's caregivers, Joanne Monescalscki, the staff at MVHS at St. Elizabeth Medical Center, especially Dr. Andrea Johnson, and the staff at Valley Health Services particularly Peter Bizzari Jr. and Nicole Conkling for their special care in his last days. Vincent's family is so grateful to all who tended to him.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Vincent's Memorial Mass of Christian Burial which will commence on Tuesday, December 29th at 2:00 p.m. at the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes. Those planning to attend Mass are asked to arrive earlier to accommodate social distancing and registration for contact tracing. Also, a mask covering your nose and mouth will be required. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Vin's name may be directed to Valley Health Services, Inc., 690 W. German St., Herkimer, NY

13350 or online at www.bassett.org. Inurnment will take place in Christ Our Savior Mausoleum at Calvary Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

During this time of social distancing that we are all experiencing, please take a moment to connect with Vincent's family through the "Memories" section of his obituary. Our prayers go out to all as a sign of our continued support

Cemetery Details

Christ Our Savior Mausoleum at Calvary Cemetery

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

Tribute Wall

KC

“ *Dear Kara and Looney family,
My deepest condolences for your loss. May your loving memories
give you comfort in this difficult time.*

*With sympathy,
Kathleen Casey*

Kathleen Casey - January 10, 2021 at 07:07 PM

RS

“ Looney Family,

Veronica and I were very sorry to hear about the loss of your beloved husband, father, brother, father-in-law, grandfather and uncle, Vincent.

We have added you and your family to our daily prayer list. And, when we attend mass on Sunday, we will add you and your family to our parish book of prayers.

May our Good Lord watch over, bless, protect, comfort and console you and your family as you endure this difficult, trying and sad time in your lives.

I will always cherish my fond memories working with Vin at Utica National. He was the consummate gentleman and a wonderful boss. He was a very kind, caring and compassionate person. I also enjoyed my time with Vin at our monthly retiree luncheons. Vin was one of the nicest guys I've ever had the pleasure of being associated with.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to you and your family in your time of loss and sorrow.

Rob & Veronica Sherman

Robert Sherman - December 30, 2020 at 11:54 AM

JG

“ Dear Mary Ann, Looney and Mazzola families,
Heartfelt sympathy goes out to you all in the loss of Vin. It is actually
all of our loss who knew and enjoyed his company over the years.
He was a friendly and good neighbor who put up with all my garden
questions and comments about his constant labor.
It was our pleasure to have had him as a neighbor. May his memory
be eternal!!
Janet and David George

JAN GEORGE - December 29, 2020 at 09:37 PM

CP

“ One of my favorite activities my immediate family and I would do
growing up was visit Papa. He was a loving, calm, and peaceful
presence with a sense of humor that always lit up the room. One of
my favorite memories was when he would play a guessing game
with my siblings, Katherine and Finn Putnam, and me. He would
hold out his hands with a quarter in one of them, and if we guessed
correctly, we would be able to keep the change. As small of a game
it was, I still think of his smile and those moments fondly. I loved him
deeply, and I wish I could be at the service today. He, Mary Ann, my
mother Kara, and the rest of the family will be in my thoughts and
prayers. I love you, Papa; you will be missed.

Caroline Putnam

Caroline Putnam - December 29, 2020 at 02:49 PM

EP

“ *Vin Looney was a gentle soul. I will always remember his spirit and genuine interest in knowing all he could about his extended family and friends. He really cared for everyone. His humor was a great treasure to our children as well. Of course I will also be eternally grateful he brought his daughter Kara into this world. He was a very good father to all his children.
He will be missed. He was one of the good ones.
Eliot Putnam*

Eliot Putnam - December 29, 2020 at 12:22 PM

KP

“ *Papa was a quiet but humorous man. I recognize his humor in his sons and daughter, my mother, a trait of theirs that will continue to remind me of him long after his passing. He also taught me to appreciate the little things in life, even if it was the simple joy of a slice of pie at the end of each day. Although I cannot be at the service today, I'll be saying a prayer for Papa at 2pm and cheering his life with an early cocktail hour, as he always enjoyed. Love you, Papa.*

Katherine Putnam - December 29, 2020 at 11:32 AM



“ *Sending love to my extended family today as they gather for Papa's service, which I could not make sadly due to COVID-19. I miss the man whose sweet tooth rivaled even mine, and wish I could sit down for another meal (and of course dessert) with him.*

Finn Putnam - December 29, 2020 at 09:38 AM

MT

“ My deepest sympathy to the entire Looney family for your loss. I have fond memories of Mr. Looney during high school years. We loved Kara's impression of his Boston accent - "Podus" lamenting about the cost of wedding stationary payyyypa. He was a kind, warm man with a great sense of humor. Michelle T.

Michelle T. - December 28, 2020 at 10:47 PM

JG

“ Connie and I send our condolences to Mary Ann and the Looney family. The remarks below so accurately and eloquently describe what a quality individual Vin was throughout the years that I have known him. He was one of my earliest mentors at Utica National and I benefited so much from his leadership, passion and friendship. Everything Vin did he did with class and with compassion for others. I have been fortunate to have remained a friend of Vins the years after his retirement and he will remain in my prayers forever.

John Griffin

John Griffin - December 28, 2020 at 04:36 PM

ML

“ Remembering a man who asked for very little, but gave so very much.

It was a joy and a blessing to be Vin's daughter in law and he will be sorely missed. The biggest treasure I have received from Vin was the example he set for his children and grandchildren. His unconditional love, his steadfast faith, his loyalty and unwavering strength of character, and his dry sense of humor lives on in each of his children, and for that we are all blessed.

Vin was a quiet and humble man, who took pleasure in the simple things, like mowing his lawn, washing his car, reading a book, or talking with his children about his beloved Boston sports teams.

Vin brought joy, happiness and laughter to all who knew and loved him and he will be forever in our hearts.

Megan Looney - December 28, 2020 at 11:47 AM

KP

“ It is the holy people who pass away in the holiest season of the year. My father was a faithful, dependable, supporting, loving man. He was a fabulous role model. He had a quiet presence but could be very entertaining.

I will forever remember his smile and his voice, particularly when saying my name with his Boston accent.

My brothers and I are at peace with his graceful passing. We are blessed to have his wife MaryAnn saying prayers by his side.

As we said to each other the last time we spoke, "Good Night, and I Love You."

Kara

Kara Putnam - December 27, 2020 at 01:34 PM

WF

“ I consider it a privilege to have known "Vin" for more than 25 years as Gentleman and a wonderful colleague. May it comfort all who mourn him that he celebrated Christmas in heaven. With my deepest sympathy to his family and friends.

Werner Franz

Werner Franz - December 27, 2020 at 11:39 AM

DL

“ Joy to the World...for the gift of Vin Looney!
In gratitude for your loyalty, dependability, wit, and unassuming presence.
In gratitude for your unwavering support throughout the years.
In gratitude for your example.
In gratitude for a long and full life.
In gratitude for emancipation from maladies.
In gratitude for taking the bait and chuckling each time I told you I never washed my cars and allowed Mother Nature to wash them for me!
In gratitude for the moments I was able to squeeze in some brief-but meaningful- visits during this time of pandemic even when my vocation in a prison and your growing frailty belied such contact.
In gratitude for seeing you and sharing a meal outside your house on a stunning October weekend for your birthday, a hasty visit to the hospital in November sensing it might be our last, and the final time I heard your voice a mere week before your passing.
And in gratitude for the intervening time since your departure, allowing me the luxury to reflect on your spirit and life.
Your memory lives for eternity, Dad.
I remain grateful. And I love you.

-Doug

Doug Looney - December 26, 2020 at 02:43 PM

JP

“ We always enjoyed getting to spend time with Vin at family events and found him to be so generous with his time and spirit. Our hearts go out to you all and hope your memories will help comfort you. This was a life well lived with wonderful family that I am so happy brought Kara to ours. Bless you all.

Jennifer E Putnam - December 22, 2020 at 09:51 AM

SC

“ So sorry Mary Ann - Vin was a wonderful guy.

Sandra Cotrupe - December 22, 2020 at 09:18 AM

LL

“ Vin Looney was one of the nicest people that I have ever known. I will always remember Vin with a smile on his face, surrounded by family, and loving his grandkids. He was a man of faith, completely loyal to those that he loved.

I see so many of Vin's best qualities in his four children. And those same qualities have been handed down to his grandkids as well. Vin has been an incredible role model. And for this I am grateful.

Words cannot express the appreciation our family has for Mary Ann. Knowing that Vin has been loved unconditionally each moment of their lives together has brought us great peace throughout the years.

Papa Vin, your smile and your love will remain forever in our hearts.

Lisa Looney - December 21, 2020 at 07:55 PM

BR

“ My grandfather, better known as Papa Vin, was a great man. Papa Vin loved to hang out, crack jokes, and watch his favorite sports teams. He gave me my first Bruins jersey which I wore proudly as often as I could. I shared many great times with Papa Vin and I, along with many others, will miss him very much. I will continue to keep him in my memory and honor him in the way I choose to live my life. Until we meet again, Papa Vin!

Brian - December 21, 2020 at 02:05 PM

PM

I'm Vinny's Mother in law and through the years got to know Vin Looney, a great Boston Irishman. My husband and I had many fun times with him and his Wife, MaryAnn at various Family Events. Vin had a dry sense of humor that we loved. He was a fine man and will be missed.

Pat Muldowney - December 21, 2020 at 04:43 PM

PL

“ My father-in-law, Vin was a great father and grandfather. I loved to listen to my husband talk to his dad on the phone, there was sports scores and predictions traded and then some good natured ribbing, and always laughter. Our three boys loved Papa Vin's Boston heritage and loved to mimic his accent! They still love two of teams that he introduced to them; the Celtics and the Red Sox. But he couldn't convince them to be Bruins or Patriots fans. Papa Vin will be greatly missed, but he will live on through his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Patti Looney - December 21, 2020 at 11:36 AM

DL

We met Vin about 50 years ago when we moved to Utica. We actually met at a newcomers dinner and when Pat saw Vin across the room he had a Harris'tweed sports jacket, a white Oxford cloth shirt and a maroon and gold tie and she said "there is someone who graduated from BC"—and that began a fifty year friendship. Being originally from the Boston area ourselves Don was especially happy to find a friend who was a Red Sox and Patriots fan. —Vin was a wonderful person, had a great sense of humor, and was a wonderful father who was very proud of his children and their accomplishments. He will be missed.

Don and Pat LoGuidice

Don and Pat LoGuidice - December 22, 2020 at 08:49 PM

KD

*Dear Mary Ann and Looney family,
I was so sorry to hear of Vin's passing. I was his Executive Assistant at
Utica National Insurance and will always remember him as such a kind,
gentle man. I sincerely enjoyed working for him.*

Karen DelMedico - January 02, 2021 at 10:08 PM