



Virginia A. "Pinky" (Inserra) Alsante

August 13, 1936 - February 11, 2011

Virginia A. (Inserra) Alsante, affectionately known as "Pinky", age 74, of Utica, passed away on Friday, February 11, 2011 at Crouse Hospital in Syracuse. Her dignified and peaceful passing occurred with the comfort and support of her loved ones by her side.

Born in Utica on August 13, 1936, Pinky was the daughter of the late Frank and Cora (Taverne) Inserra. Raised and educated in Utica, she was a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School Class of 1954. She subsequently pursued a course of study to earn her New York State License as an x-ray technician. On October 6, 1962 she married Fred A. Alsante with whom she shared nearly 50 years of marriage.

Pinky began her healthcare career at St. Luke's Hospital where she worked until 1966 when she left her employment as an x-ray technician to raise and care for her family. In 1980 she accepted a position with the Utica City School District in the Special Programs Department, which she thoroughly enjoyed and maintained until her recent illness. Pinky had a wonderful family life, a blessing which enhanced her passion as a mother. The magnitude of her love was of everlasting intent and her vitality as a "Nonnie" was tireless. She was fun-loving and optimistic, and her convictions were certain and true. She could be trusted with a confidence and was wise with her opinions, expectations, and judgment. Pinky knew how to be genuinely kind, gracious, and compassionate. A silent giver, many knew the blessings of her generosity of heart. She was a joy to be around, and often went beyond her own comfort

zone to be of help to others. She was adventuresome, spontaneous, and loyal to her friendships; many of whom were life-long. A snapshot of Pinky's life would include; the sport of swimming which was her favorite past-time, her many summers at Cedar Lake, and her adventurous and numerous travels, domestic and abroad. Pinky was steadfast in her religious faith and Catholic credo. She was devoted to novenas at St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church as well as their activities and her home parish of St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish.

Pinky is survived by her husband, Fred; her daughter and son-in-law, Cora and Joseph Chirco of Jamesville, NY; her son and daughter-in-law, Fred and Denise (Borruso) Alsante of Utica; and her grandchildren, Ben, Max, and Francesca Chirco; Freddy, Anthony, and Santino Alsante. In addition, she leaves her nephews, Frank (Linda) Inserra of CO, and Steven (Cindy) Inserra of Liverpool; great-nieces, a great-nephew, and special cousins who shared her life and were at her side all during her illness. Pinky was one of those blessed people with an abundance of friends who were so dear to her heart. She was predeceased by her brother, Frank L. Inserra of Liverpool.

It is not by chance that Pinky was surrounded by gracious people who stood by her side during difficult moments. It was through the works of her God, the dedication of physicians, healthcare professionals too numerous to mention, and prayers of her family and friends that sustained her. "Special angels" were present with Pinky and her family when they were most needed.

Visitation will be held Monday from 4:00-7:00 at St. Mary of Mt.

Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish, 648 Jay Street, Utica. Expressions of sympathy in the form of donations may be made to the Abraham House of Utica and Francis House of Syracuse; envelopes will be available at the service. Pinky believed that people needed to be cared for, and she held these organizations close to her heart because of their ability to help those in need. Pinky's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Tuesday morning at 11:00 at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish where her Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. Anthony P.

LaFache. Entombment will take place in Calvary Cemetery Mausoleum at the convenience of the family. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Mausoleum

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

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 14. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish
648 Jay Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 735-1482
<https://www.mountcarmelblessedsacrament.com/>

Service

FEB 15. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish
648 Jay Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 735-1482
<https://www.mountcarmelblessedsacrament.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ Eannace Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Virginia A. "Pinky" (Inserra) Alsante



Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. - February 11, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ Cora, I am sorry for your loss. All my best to you and your family in this difficult time.

Kelly Wilson - February 16, 2011 at 10:09 AM

LD

“ Cora - I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Lucinda Draper - February 15, 2011 at 09:29 AM

JM

“ Freddie and family, So sorry to hear of Pinky's passing. Thinking of you during this difficult time
Jeanna Marraffa

Jeanna Marraffa - February 14, 2011 at 03:57 PM

RB

“ Dear Cora and family,
We haven't spoken in quite a while, but my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. I lost my mom in May 2010, I know how difficult it can be. God Bless,
Renee Rowlands Basile

Renee Basile - February 14, 2011 at 03:21 PM

AP

“ Cora and the Entire Alsante and Inserra Families:

Our deepest sympathies to you. You are in our thoughts and prayers. God is with you and your Mom is with him.

Love, Alan and Kathryn

Alan Pierce - February 14, 2011 at 02:40 PM



PL

“ Dear Cora,
My sincerest sympathy to you and all of your family.

Paul H. Leise

Paul Leise - February 14, 2011 at 02:05 PM

LS

“ Fred, Denise and family: We are so sorry for the loss of your mom. She was a wonderful person who will be missed by all who knew her. Please take care during this difficult time.

Leslie Gaetano Spina - February 14, 2011 at 01:59 PM

JD

“ Including Pinky in family gatherings was always the best way of ensuring fun and laughter. In her genuine but outrageous manner she enlightened us on human nature and enabled us to laugh at ourselves and at the folly of others. We need more people like Pinky in the world to reach into our hearts and pull out what is real. She will be missed.

Joe Robin Donovan - February 14, 2011 at 10:39 AM

JN

“ Cora, our deepest sympathies on the loss of your Mom. Kate and John Nicoletta



John Nicoletta - February 14, 2011 at 09:49 AM

JO

“ Cora, sorry to hear of your loss. Although extremely difficult to lose a parent, it helps to observe their influence in the lives of their grandchildren which reassures us that in a way, they live on forever.

Jim Oneida - February 14, 2011 at 09:01 AM

JA

“ Cora We are so sorry to hear about your mom. You are in our prayers and May God Bless You and your family.If I can do any thing let us know.
Love Joanne & Carlton Auer

Joanne Auer - February 14, 2011 at 06:37 AM

RE

“ *Cora I know how it is to lose a parent my prayers are with you and your family My deepest sympathy I remember your mom as kind and with a good sense of humor*

Rick Edwards - February 14, 2011 at 12:17 AM

EF

“ *Rest in peace Pinky. May God be with your family at this trying time. You will truly be missed. Such a sad loss. God bless you & yours always.*



Elaine Furgol - February 13, 2011 at 11:30 PM

ST

“ *What a wonderful person and friend. We had so many talks, laughs, and funny stories that Pinky shared with us. She calmed us down when we were upset and always said the right words to make you come out of a bad mood or when you were worried about something. "Just leave it in God's hands." Each one of us who worked with her had a favorite story that we loved to hear over and over. Truly a unique person who we all miss. With much love, Sandy Trevisani*

Sandy Trevisani - February 13, 2011 at 08:27 PM

JO

“ It has been my honor and my privilege to have known "Pinky". She was an amazing individual who was loved by all. She had a kind and generous heart, as well as the ability to make people smile. The Utica CSD has truly lost a great individual. May her soul be bound up in eternal rest. Thanks for all you did for all of us whose lives were touched by yours.



Judy Oster - February 13, 2011 at 08:12 AM

KV

“ Pinky always had an entourage of friends and family around her and was always accompanied with good food. Her smile and laugh were contagious. I'm glad I had the opportunity to know her.

Kelly VanAuken-Mason - February 13, 2011 at 07:31 AM

LC

“ We were blessed to have Pinky as a friend and neighbor. Pinky always seemed to uplift you whenever she was around. We'll always remember how we would wake up early in the morning and hear someone in our backyard pool, of course it was Pinky getting in her morning laps before going off to work. We will miss you our good friend and will be listening for you in the pool doing your laps before going off to do your work for our Lord. Love and Kisses , Larry and Christy

Larry Calenzo - February 12, 2011 at 03:33 PM



“ *Pinky was the kindest most wonderful "Lady". i never forgot how wonderful she was to my sister Philomena when she was so sick and dying. . She crocheted her pink slippers. with silver threads. Phil loved them and insisted on wearing them. That was 50 years ago this month. May she always rest in peace. Once you met her, you never forgot her.*

My deepest condolences to Freddy and his children.

Love

Donna

donna Merhib - February 12, 2011 at 03:23 PM



“ *Donna Merhib lit a candle in memory of Virginia A. "Pinky" (Inserra) Alsante*



donna Merhib - February 12, 2011 at 03:17 PM

AN

“ *Anonymous lit a candle in memory of Virginia A. "Pinky" (Inserra) Alsante*



anonymous - February 12, 2011 at 01:40 PM

BM

“ There are so many! When I would complain about having to go to work my daughter would tell me I loved work. All I would do is laugh all day with Pinky and Charlie and come home with "Pinky" stories. My favorite is when she was complaining about Fred accusing her of taking the home phone to work. She said "What, does he think I'm stupid or something". Two minutes later she called me and was holding up the house phone she just pulled out of her bag!!! She was a source of amusement and also great inspiration. It was an honor and a privilege to have been a small part of her life. She was a very big part of mine. With Love...Bertie

Bertie Martorella - February 12, 2011 at 11:17 AM