



Mr. Vito E. Nicotera

November 13, 1920 - December 12, 2016

Mr. Vito E. Nicotera, age 96, passed away unexpectedly on Monday, December 12, 2016 at the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center with his family at his side.

Born in Utica on November 13, 1920, Vito was the son of the late Salvatore and Agnes (Perin) Nicotera. He was a graduate of Utica Free Academy/Class of 1938 and in more recent years he was involved with the UFA Alumni Association. A proud veteran of the United States Navy, Vito honorably served his country during World War II stationed in England where he repaired naval craft. While in England his corps resided at the Britannia Royal Naval College at Dartmouth. On November 29, 1941 he married the former Bernice A. Beratta with whom he shared 62 years in a marriage of their era. Bernice passed away on September 24, 2004, Vito held her memory close to his heart.

Vito worked for numerous companies in his areas of expertise as a welder, sheet metal worker, steamfitter, and licensed plumber. He later pursued his second calling as the Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds for the Utica City School District, a position that brought him the respect and endearment of many peers over the many years he served the school system. Vito valued the virtues of hard work and was the very essence of a gentleman. He was the epitome of generosity and kindness, and in turn, many were motivated to do their very best so Vito would not be disappointed. He was fair-minded and very facile at conversation. He was also impeccable in his attire yet he loved

the comfort of his cardigan sweaters. Most memorable were summer get-togethers at his camp at Alexandria Bay and relaxing in his “favorite” lounge chair on the front porch, especially when neighbor kids Lizzie and Eddie would stop in for hugs. He adored his grandchildren and when they were growing up he couldn’t do enough for them. He was so proud of them, and their children, and looked forward to their visits and sharing common activities. He was also fond of fishing on the St. Lawrence, hunting at the Nicotera camp; which was always well stocked with Nicotera’s fresh baked bread and brew, and friendly card games with his uncles and cousins. Those were legendary times that held the greatest moments of laughter and camaraderie. In his retirement years, Vito and Bernice found themselves frequenting the fairways engaged in the game of golf. He also enjoyed many trips, hobbies, and lots of love. For Vito, it really was a wonderful life.

Vito was a member of the New York States Association for Superintendents of School Buildings & Grounds where he served in numerous offices and attended the annual benevolent conventions. He held a longtime membership with the Local Plumbers Union, and was a faithful member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles. He practiced his Catholic faith as a communicant of St. Mary of Mt. Carmel//Blessed Sacrament Parish.

Vito is survived by his sons and daughter-in-law, Richard J. Nicotera of Thendara NY, and Robert V. and Lynne Nicotera of Massachusetts; his grandchildren, Richard J. Jr. and Tracy Nicotera, Thomas R. Nicotera, William J. and Anna Nicotera; Mark S. and Jennifer Nicotera, Aimee L. Nicotera, Andrew R. and Sandra Nicotera, and Molly and Robert Sorbello; and his great-grandchildren, Alex Vito Nicotera, Sophia, and Liam Nicotera, Chloe, and Ruby Nicotera, and Luke Nicotera. Being the eldest of four children, Vito will be missed by his surviving siblings, Carmella Dee, Katherine “Kathy” Aubain, and John and Ruth Nicotera; his nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins. A special note of appreciation is offered to Emina and Mehmed Sabic and their son Dino for the friendship and neighborly concern. He was predeceased by his in-laws, Congetta “Connie” and Martin

Forte, Frank and Katherine Beratta, and Carmen and Mary Beratta.

The family extends a genuine thank you to Dr. Christopher Clark, an incredibly kind physician and friend, and to his nurse Jean Bombace for her concern; and the physicians and staff of the ER and ICU at the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center for their compassion and expertise.

Visitation will be held Thursday from 4:00-7:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Expressions of sympathy in the form of donations may be made to the Central Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 507 Kent Street, Utica, NY 13501, or online at: www.cabvi.org; envelopes will be available at the funeral home. Vito's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Friday morning at 10:00 from the funeral home and at 11:00 at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish where his Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. James Cesta. Committal services and Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

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

Tribute Wall

DG

“ Sorry to hear of Vito's Passing, Our Condolences to the Nicotera Family.

Dennis & Carolyn Grimaldi



Dennis Grimaldi - December 18, 2016 at 10:35 PM

SJ

“ Jim and I are so terribly sorry to hear of Vito,s passing.He was such a kind and gentle man who we enjoyed seeing at the Eagles Club.He certainly will be missed..Our condolences to your family.. always Sandy and Jim St.John

ST. John - December 16, 2016 at 11:51 AM

MD

“ Rick,
So sorry to hear of your father's passing. I know you will miss him.
Our deepest sympathies to you and your family.

Peter & Marj Donzello

Marjorie Donzello - December 16, 2016 at 10:44 AM

AN

“ A trip home to Utica always includes dinner at Ventura's, and I don't think I ever once had dinner at Ventura's without Uncle Vito at the table. And always the most powerful bear hug! And the kiss on the lips. Even during flu season when my germophobic ways made me turn my face, he always managed to outmaneuver me every time to plant a kiss right on the lips! What I wouldn't give for just one more of those sloppy smooches! And the birthday cards. He never forgot my birthday. Not even once. Much love, much sadness, but much joy that he is with Aunt Bernice again. I imagine she has something garlicky in the oven and he has a scotch in his hand. What a blessing to have grown up with such a loving uncle.
~Annie

Anne Nicotera - December 15, 2016 at 04:30 PM

J(

“ Jamie and Robin Ellam (Davis) purchased the Love's Embrace Roses – Purple for the family of Mr. Vito E. Nicotera.



Jamie and Robin Ellam (Davis) - December 15, 2016 at 01:20 PM



“ Multicolor Bright Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Vito E. Nicotera.



December 15, 2016 at 12:31 PM

HW

“ Missing you already Vito...hugs and prayers my friend...give my love to Bernice...😭😭😭😭😭😭 I will always love you Grumps...xoxoxo...Heather



Heather Marie Wallace-Wood - December 15, 2016 at 10:30 AM

TF

“ The Pirger and Shaw Families purchased the Red & White Sympathy Floor Basket for the family of Mr. Vito E. Nicotera.



The Pirger and Shaw Families - December 15, 2016 at 06:41 AM

TF

“ The Matyevich, Galloway and Leberman Families. purchased the Red, White & Blue Sympathy Basket for the family of Mr. Vito E. Nicotera.



The Matyevich, Galloway and Leberman Families. -
December 14, 2016 at 08:23 PM

BC

“ Burns Bros Contractors purchased the Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket for the family of Mr. Vito E. Nicotera.



Burns Bros Contractors - December 14, 2016 at 11:31 AM

PZ

“ Bob and Rick, you would have no way of knowing what a fine example your Dad set of how to be a Father and a friend to his children. On the many occasions I'd stop by your house with you Bob, or when your Dad attended a sporting event at school he always took the time to include me in the conversation, and actually listened to what folks had to say. Between your Mom (Rip) and Dad, you 2 had a great start in life.....you were truly blessed.....Peter S. Zogby

Peter S. Zogby - December 14, 2016 at 09:30 AM

Kevin
Kocher

“ I'll never be able to put into words what it meant to me and my family to have the honor of meeting Vito. He opened up his home in Alex Bay, and treated us like family from the very first year we met him when Bill was in town to visit. The years of memories we have from those times are priceless, and we're grateful to have them. He let us enjoy what he had to the fullest, shared amazing stories (and scotch!), and taught us something new every day we had the pleasure of being around him.

One of my favorite stories was from a couple years ago when I was involved in trying to help one of his neighbors with a golf cart that wasn't running right. Four or five guys standing around having deep mechanical discussions about the nuances of what could be wrong. "Try this", "no try that", "why is nothing working?". After 10 or 15 minutes of this, here comes Vito wandering from inside the house onto the porch. He takes one listen and says, "Sounds like the choke is on"

Fixed.

Four of 5 guys silent with nothing to say, except "Grump, ya still got it."

And I know he always will.

Cheers, Grandpa Vito. The Kocher family loves you, and will miss you terribly.



Kevin Kocher - December 13, 2016 at 07:16 PM

TF

“ It was a cold winter morning and Lizzie was in a skating competition at the ice rink near Vito's home. She was skating very early...something like 7:30. Rick has his doubts that Vito would be there soo very early in the morning. Just before Lizzie skated, a familiar profile appeared. Vito made it!! He wouldn't have missed Lizzie's performance. She won a silver medal and was delighted to sit on Vito's lap enjoying as always his special attention. One of many special memories with our dear Vito. There was only one Vito and we are richer for having known him.

Ann Marie, Pete, Lizzie and Eddie Furcinito

The Furcinito's - December 13, 2016 at 07:12 PM

TF

“ The Woodworth Family purchased the Sympathy fireside Basket in Christmas Colors for the family of Mr. Vito E. Nicotera.



The Woodworth Family - December 13, 2016 at 06:25 PM

MH

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Mary (Nicotera) Hallstead - December 13, 2016 at 04:48 PM

AN

ok, now, that one made me cry. ~Annie

Anne Nicotera - December 15, 2016 at 04:23 PM

DN

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



Denise Nicotera - December 12, 2016 at 09:35 PM

MH

“ *Thoughts and prayers to Rick and Rob (and Lynn) and the grands and great grands.*

I will always treasure this time with him...

In 1981, I had moved to Ithaca NY to take a job. Uncle Vito had a conference there. He invited me as a guest to the cocktail hour, the dinner and the presentation. It was a lifetime ago, so while I am not sure I can remember too much about the speaker or anyone Uncle Vito introduced me to, I do remember how happy he was that he had me by his side. He did have a way of making you feel pretty special and loved. In recent years I was able to share meals with him at Dave's and at Ventura's. I would be fibbing if I said I didn't witness any crabby moments, like when there was no spumoni or if the portions were too large. But gee whiz to be as active and spunky as he was at 96...

Uncle Vito will surely be missed by one and all.

Love, Mary Theresa

Mary T. (Nicotera) Hallstead - December 12, 2016 at 02:18 PM