



## Mr. Walter J. "Wally" Szuba

October 5, 1956 - October 5, 2015

Mr. Walter J. "Wally" Szuba crossed over on his birthday, Monday, October 5, 2015 after a courageous battle with cancer. His passing occurred in the comfort of his home with his loving family by his side. He was 59 years old. Born in Utica on October 5, 1956, Walter was the son of Maria F. "Molly" (Curriere) Szuba and the late John S. Szuba. Raised and educated locally, he was a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School/Class of 1975. On April 22, 2003 in Marco Island on the beach at sunset he married his best friend, the former Gina M. Scampone. Wally and Gina were the love of each other's life, and they will remain soul mates ... forever in the hereafter. Kind and gentle by nature, Wally was a good husband and always a source of stability, support, and security for his family.

Early in Wally's working career he held a position at Utica Veal and subsequently worked at the Northern Safety Company. He had the greatest time of his life when he worked as a bartender at Dave Lasek's Bar & Grill. Dave and Wally worked in sync and shared a synergy that was beloved by countless patrons and pals over the years. In 2002, Wally proudly established Szuba's Landscaping & Snowplowing. As owner and operator, he meticulously catered to his clients and went above and beyond in maintaining their properties. Wally worked hard, under the sun and through the snow; he was dependable and trustworthy year round. As a working man and family man, he was kind, generous, thoughtful, and fun-loving. He was a genuinely happy guy who was grounded in his heritage. He became a wiser man when

he became a father to his beloved Gianella. She was daddy's baby girl and he wanted the best for her. He was a cool dad, sharing his time and love of sports with her. He adored her and she loved her daddy. Wally will always be looking down, watching over his little baby as she grows up.

Wally savored every season of life and loved being around people. The smile on his face could light up a room and reflect the sincere, simple, sensitive man he was till the very end of his life. In some ways, he was an old soul, thankful for what he had, in harmony with himself, and respectful by nature. He touched many lives and had so many friends. He went to church on Sunday mornings, and when family and friends gathered at his house, it was a perfect day - to serve his signature sausage-in-the-oil, "sliced thin"! Music soothed his mind and raised his spirits. He was a concert-goer and a huge Jimmy Buffet fan. An avid sportsman, he enjoyed hunting, fishing, and skiing. He was a truly blessed person who lived out his days with humility, dignity, and compassion. He was a man who will never be forgotten. Wally never complained throughout his life and his recent illness was a true test of his fortitude. He did not falter in his final days, and he found his way home with ease.

Walter is survived by his wife, Gina; his adored daughter, Gianella Mari; his mother, Molly; his sister, Maria Lasek of Utica; his brothers and sisters-in-law, John and Margaret "Peggy" Szuba of St. Louis, MO, Richard "Zip" Szuba of Utica, David and Dawn Szuba of Huntsville, AL, and Sue McCraith-Szuba; always in his heart was the memory of his brother-in-law David Lasek who preceded him in death in 2006. He also leaves his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Philip J. "Phibby" and Carol Scampone; sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Carla and Daniel Dumoulin and their daughters Sophia and Mia who Wally babysat and watched over; several nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, aunts, and uncles. Wally had a true companion in his canine Ringo who will miss him dearly. He was favored with many wonderful and lifelong friends who have treasured memories of a good man.

The family extends sincere thanks to Wally's physicians, Dr. Matthew Ulahannan, Dr. Manzurul Sikder, and Dr. Lawrence for their compassionate

care; and the nurses and staff of the Infusion Room at Slocum Dickson Medical Center whose kindness was a positive part of Wally's journey.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Wally's funeral service and Celebration of Life which will commence on Saturday morning at 10:00 at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish where his Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. James Cesta. The family will receive visitors at the conclusion of the Mass.

# Tribute Wall

DD

“ *Very sorry to hear about Mr. Scuba. My deepest sympathy to all.*  
*Dona Dawes*

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**Dona Dawes** - October 10, 2015 at 07:41 PM

SA

“ *Deepest Condolences*  
*Had many good times and laughs good memories sadden's me to*  
*learn of this as I have been out of the area for several years. Lost a*  
*good Man who will definitely be missed! God bless to all of Wally's*  
*Family.*

*Sam Altieri*  
*Las Vegas, NV.*

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**Sam Altieri** - October 10, 2015 at 05:03 AM

JP

“ *To The Szuba Family,*

*We are so sorry to hear about Wally. He was a great guy. We are*  
*sorry that we can not pay our respects in person tomorrow but know*  
*that you are all in our thoughts and prayers.*  
*Our deepest Sympathy,*  
*Joe and Erlene (Daley) Puleo*

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**Joe and Erlene Puleo** - October 09, 2015 at 07:56 PM

RC

“ Rosemaria Conkling lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter J. "Wally" Szuba



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**Rosemaria Conkling** - October 09, 2015 at 04:38 PM

JS

“ Wally, as a fiend and neighbor I want to thankyou for always taking the time to say hello. He never missed the beep of the horn and the wave of the hand . A loving father and devoted husband. A work ethic unmatched. . Jerry Pulice

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**Jerry Pulice Sr.** - October 09, 2015 at 07:12 AM

AB

“ Gina,

*I love meeting my students from years ago, but I was sad to meet you and Walter at the oncologist's office just a few weeks ago. Walter was not only my student, but as he told you, we were neighbors too. He looked fairly good the day we saw you and I was hopeful that God would be able to give him more time with you. Sadly, we don't always get what we pray for. It is with heavy hearts that my husband and I extend our heartfelt sympathy to you and your family. Remember...to live in hearts we leave behind is not to die. He will always be with you.*

*Love,  
Angela and Jim Brooks*

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**Angela Brooks** - October 08, 2015 at 07:05 PM

DB

“ To the Szuba family, My thoughts and prayers are with each and every one of you. May he rest in peace.

Debbie Barbero - October 08, 2015 at 05:11 PM

GI

“ Those baby blue eyes that curly blond hair and that electric smile will always be remembered . Such a gentle soul and kind heart . I will miss you dearly and the countless days of fun working at Laseks .. I love and will miss you . forever in my heart.  
Gina Ionta

Gina Ionta - October 07, 2015 at 10:51 PM



“ Anne Laterza Waters lit a candle in memory of Mr. Walter J. "Wally" Szuba



Anne Laterza Waters - October 07, 2015 at 07:23 PM



Our thoughts are Prayers are with the Family! Wally was a great guy! Please accept our sincere and deepest Sympathy! God Bless!

Anne & Kevin Waters

Anne Laterza Waters - October 07, 2015 at 07:25 PM

JB

“ To the Szuba family we are so sorry for your loss...thoughts and prayers are with you.

*Joe Baldomir and Jeff Royce*

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**JOSEPH BALDOMIR** - October 07, 2015 at 06:32 PM

GP

“ With his shock of blonde curly hair, blue eyes, and effervescent smile, Walt ALWAYS welcomed people to 'his world!' Pleasant, decent, friendly, always a kind word were some of Walt's many redeeming qualities. Do know that your Walter or "Wally" or Walt is merely absent in the physical presence. He shall remain in spirit with each of you forevermore. Blessings aplenty. Peace.

*Girard A. Plante  
Newton, Mass.*

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**Girard A. Plante** - October 07, 2015 at 08:33 AM

AD

“ To the Szuba Family , Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

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**Anthony & Elizabeth DeCarolis** - October 06, 2015 at 10:56 PM

JG

“ To the family,  
We send you our thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. I will never forget Walter who sat behind me all during Albany Street School -Janice Stemmer- He always tried to copy my paper and always made me smile.....Our deepest condolences. Janice and Fred Greer

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**Janice Greer** - October 06, 2015 at 07:42 PM

AL

*To the family,  
Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you especially little Gia, be strong pretty little girl...*

*Mia's Parents*

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**arnela latic** - October 07, 2015 at 09:13 AM

 Gina  
Cianfrocco  
Schillaci

*May memories of Wally surround you and give you strength ahead.  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this very difficult time.  
With our heartfelt love & sympathy,  
Gina, Phil, Alexa, & Dominique Schillaci*

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**Gina Cianfrocco-Schillaci** - October 07, 2015 at 07:09 PM

SB

*to the szuba/ scampono family, so sorry for your loss. to gina and Carla  
my prayers are with you.*

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**sal barbero** - October 07, 2015 at 11:09 PM

DR

*To Wally's family, we are so very sorry to learn of the passing of Wally.  
We have known him since he was a young boy. Always smiling. Since I  
ran into him just a few weeks ago when he was picking up his daughter  
at school and he looked so good, I was so surprised to learn that he  
had taken a turn for the worse. Our very deepest sympathy and  
prayers go out to all of you. We will remember Wally in our prayers but  
know that heaven's door was open wide for him.*

*Joe & Dina Russo*

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**Dina & Joe Russo** - October 08, 2015 at 10:54 AM

JC

*Maria & David,*

*I am so sorry to hear about Walt. Was he ever not smiling? One of East Utica's finest men. Always treated me with respect when I saw him back in Utica. I am deeply saddened. My prayers will include Walt tonight.*

*Joey Capraro  
Denver Co*

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**Joey Capraro** - October 08, 2015 at 05:07 PM

LA

*Although I grew up with David I never had the opportunity to get to know Wally. I have always heard nothing but wonderful things about him. David, my sincere condolences go out to you and your family. With thoughts of the Scampone family, as well.*

*Louise Alteri-Bonacci*

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**Louise Alteri-Bonacci** - October 08, 2015 at 06:53 PM

MS

*It's been three months and it seems like yesterday that we lost our dear son-in-law. He was like a son to us and a most wonderful husband to our daughter and unselfish and remarkable Dad to our granddaughter. We cry our tears in private and our hearts ache for not only our daughter and granddaughter but for him as well. He has show us many signs to let us know he is looking over his family and we take some comfort in knowing he is no longer in any pain. We love you and miss you terribly and I miss those words "Hello, mother-in-law" that were said with such respect and love. You continue to be in our hearts , our thoughts and our prayers, Wally.*

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**Mom & Dad Scampone** - January 07, 2016 at 03:51 PM