



## Yvonne J. (Lia) LaGuardia

July 31, 1938 - April 22, 2017

UTICA - Yvonne J. (Lia) LaGuardia, age 78, went home to the Lord when she passed away on Saturday, April 22, 2017 at the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center with her loving family by her side.

Born in Utica on July 31, 1938, Yvonne was the daughter of the late Vincent "Jim" and Florence Edith (Cabouch) Lia. She attended Mary Street Elementary School and was a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School/Class of 1958. She continued her education with the distinction of being a member of the first graduating class of the St. Elizabeth School of Radiology where she earned her New York State Board Certification as a Registered and Licensed X-Ray Radiological Technologist, an achievement of which she was so proud. Yvonne worried for the well-being of her children. To provide for them, she held down three jobs including X-Ray Technologist at both St. Elizabeth Hospital and Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center for nearly 40 years. Concurrently, she worked for Dr. David Shaheen/Urologist as an associate in his office. She also managed to generate great success as an Avon Representative, and was the co-proprietor of the Old Basket Mill & Gift Shoppe on Kellogg Road in New Hartford. She went on to receive a Teacher Assistant Certification at M.V.C.C. and worked in the parochial schools in the area, lastly at Our Lady of Lourdes. In 2007, she retired at the age of 69 1/2, proudly stated.

Yvonne had the biggest heart in the universe. Her energy and efforts were infinite in caring for her family, especially her parents. She wanted her children

to have a solid upbringing and be prepared for life's many dimensions — happiness, heartache, days filled with sun, and days of dark skies. She had a great sense of humor and her presence could light up a room with her smile and glowing personality. Making sure everyone was happy and in harmony was paramount to her placid personality, and she proclaimed that she “wanted peace at any price in the family”. She was also proud of her Italian heritage and she worked hard to carry on her ancestral traditions, especially the holidays, a time of family, faith, and festivity. Her human frailty was in her ‘sweet tooth’ which found its way to dessert, favoring coconut cake and cream pie... before the main course! She was an excellent baker and family and friends called upon her expertise. But Yvonne was serious in her belief that if you maintained good health, then happiness was a given. In that sense, she lived from one day to the next with great stamina to succeed. She was also a member of the Red Hat Society, a women’s movement that embraced a renewed outlook on life filled with fun, friendship, and fulfilling lifelong dreams. Yvonne was truly devoted to her children and when her grandsons came into her life they were her “heart”. She was always ‘on-call’ for them and attended many of their sporting and school activities. She taught them love and compassion. She had a great sense of spirituality, and a great reverence for St. Anthony, St. Teresa, the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph, St. Faustina, and St. Raphael. Her devotion brought her faith, great belief in their works, and a sense of comfort.

Yvonne is survived by her daughter, Yvonne M. LaGuardia with whom she shared a home; her son and daughter-in-law, Joseph A. and Lisa (Kloster) LaGuardia of Whitesboro; and her adored grandsons, Vincent E. LaGuardia, and Joseph J. LaGuardia. She will also be remembered by her sister-in-law, Lenore Lia, who she loved like a sister and were best of friends; her nephews and nieces, Vincent T. and Elizabeth Lia, Valarie A. (Lia) and Chris Cable; great-nieces, Elise, and Danielle; cousins with whom she was raised, revered, and considered as siblings, Barbara DeTraglia and her late husband Joe, Gloria and Al Barbato, and their families; and her friend, Sister Teresa Marie

who was an inspiration. She was predeceased by her brother, Vito V. Lia. The family appreciates the physicians and personnel of the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center, especially Les/RN, the ICU staff and nurses, Hope, Brianna, Kate, Zhana, and Judy; they offered extra kindness and compassion that went beyond expectation; and Deacon Paul Lehmann for his prayers. Visitation will be held Saturday afternoon from 12:00-1:30 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. By family request, please omit floral offerings. Yvonne's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Saturday afternoon at 1:30 at the funeral home immediately upon conclusion of visitation with Rev. Abe Esper officiating the ceremony.

Her motto was "Eat dessert first!"

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR **29**. 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.  
932 South Street  
corner of Hammond Ave.  
Utica, NY 13501  
(315) 724-6714  
eannacefh@roadrunner.com

## Funeral Service

APR **29**. 1:30 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.  
932 South Street  
corner of Hammond Ave.  
Utica, NY 13501  
(315) 724-6714  
eannacefh@roadrunner.com

# Tribute Wall

JB

“ Joe and Lisa, My prayers and thoughts are with you at this time of loss. Losing a Mother is a heart-aching event. May God give you strength and memories give you solace. Joyce Burke

-----  
**Joyce Burke** - April 29, 2017 at 10:26 AM

FD

“ I will always remember her beautiful smile and warm loving personality.  
My sincere condolence to her entire family.  
Francis & Patty DiOrio

-----  
**Francis DiOrio** - April 29, 2017 at 07:45 AM



“ White Sympathy Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Yvonne J. (Lia) LaGuardia.



-----  
April 26, 2017 at 08:17 PM

RM

“ Cousin Richard Maggiolino and Gail were saddened to hear that Yvonne past away. It has been many years since we have seen her. We remember what a loving, caring person she was when we used to visit at Aunt Florence and Uncle Jim's house. She was very family orientated and a hard worker. May she rest in peace.

*Richard and Gail Maggiolino*

-----  
**Richard & Gail Maggiolino** - April 26, 2017 at 04:20 PM

DL

“ Yvonne was a beautiful person. I worked with her for 20 years and I learned so much from her, not only professionally, but also about life. She absolutely loved children and they loved her. Her family was her greatest love. Yvonne, I will miss you. We had many years of friendship that I will always treasure. Rest in Peace my friend.

---

**Diane LaPolla** - April 26, 2017 at 07:28 AM



*"A Memorial Prayer To My Dearly Loved Sister-In-Law, Yvonne Jean (Lia) LaGuardia."*

*Written By: Rosemary LaGuardia Clark*

*Dear Heavenly Father, today we celebrate the life of Yvonne LaGuardia. We give thanks for all she has given us and for the countless blessings which will bring a lasting light to all of us.*

*Loving Father and Savior, send Your angels to carry the soul of Your servant, Yvonne from this earth to the heavenly place of eternal and everlasting life.*

*Go forth, Yvonne, from this world in the name of God, our almighty Father, who created you, in the name of Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God. May Yvonne live in peace on this day and may her home be with God, Mary, the Virgin Mother of God, with Joseph and all the angels and saints.*

*Thank You Lord for being there for Yvonne's family and into Your hands I place each one of these dear ones who have such sadness in their hearts.*

*I pray that as each day Your healing touch will comfort them in this time of mourning and may this be one of life's saddening moments which will bring each of them closer to You.*

*May they recognize that You alone can heal and bring joy from their pain. In due time, as their suffering lessens, I pray that You bless their lives with laughter and joy as they take refuge and trust in You.*

*Most heavenly Father, I pray that Yvonne's loving soul be entrusted to You, now and forever.*

---

**Rosemary Clark** - April 28, 2017 at 01:56 PM

*What beautiful words and Celebration of Yvonne's life, your sister, mother, grandmother, aunt, friend and more. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of the family. Susan (Bishara) Santarosa and family, Niagara Falls, NY*

---

**Susan Santarosa** - April 29, 2017 at 08:08 AM