



# Frederick Francis Ferrara

JUL 31, 1924 - JAN 13, 2013



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## **Frederick Francis Ferrara**

JUL 31, 1924 - JAN 13, 2013

**F**rederick (Fred) Francis Ferrara, 88, of Syracuse, passed away Sunday at Iroquois Nursing Home. He was born in Syracuse, NY on July 31, 1924, the son of Carmelo and Brigida (Zappala) Ferrara. He was a WWII Army veteran spending his first year at the University of Alabama training for the Air Cadets, but as the war progressed he was reassigned to the European front. Returning after the war, he completed his education at Syracuse University with a Mechanical Engineering degree. He married Jeanette (Lieb) Ferrara on June 16, 1951 and they were married for 61 years. Fred worked for General Electric for almost 40 years as a project manager specializing in radar and sonar and various jobs for the military.

One of his best achievements was the Ralph J. Cordiner Award for outstanding technical achievement, a portable radar he designed and built. Fred also designed and built the family home and bought and reconfigured other properties. He taught his grandsons to ride their bikes, took them fishing, watched their games and filmed every aspect of their lives, he always had his movie camera. Fred golfed, walked and rode bikes along the Erie Canal BikeTrail and played tennis into his 80's. In his later years, he enjoyed having 10 o'clock coffee hour with his wife, Jeanette and friends at Kmart, Tops and Burger King. Fred loved to shop at Real Deals and used his purchases to make people happy, giving his time and money to anyone in need. Frederick was the best son, brother, husband, dad and grandfather.

He was predeceased by his wife, Jeanette on January 11, 2013 and brother, Sam Ferrara and sister, Mary Ferrara Bruce. Frederick is survived by his two children, a daughter, Bonnie Hensel (Daniel Austin) and a son, Frederick (Rick) and wife, Barbara (Drexler) Ferrara; grandsons, Jeffrey, Joseph and Christopher Hensel and granddaughter Carmen Ferrara; brothers, Anthony (Tony) and Gloria Ferrara, Rocco (Rocky) and Eileen Ferrara.

Special thanks to all the wonderful people at Iroquois Nursing Home for all their care and compassion, especially Bill who was in charge of looking in on him when family was not able to



## Obituary

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be there and thanks also to Aiti and Nate. Thanks to his brother Rocky Ferrara for all the time he spent helping care for Jeanette and Fred. Thanks to his niece, Colleen Ferrara Lance for her support. Thanks for the selfless time given by his goddaughter, Nancy Ferrara who spent countless hours at his side at the nursing home to make him comfortable.

Funeral services will be held on Wednesday at 10:30 am in the THOMAS J. PIRRO JR. FUNERAL HOME, 3401 Vickery Rd. (corner of Buckley Rd.) North Syracuse and 12:10 pm at St. Daniel's Church, where a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated. Entombment will follow in Assumption Cemetery Mausoleum.




## Events

**Frederick Francis Ferrara**

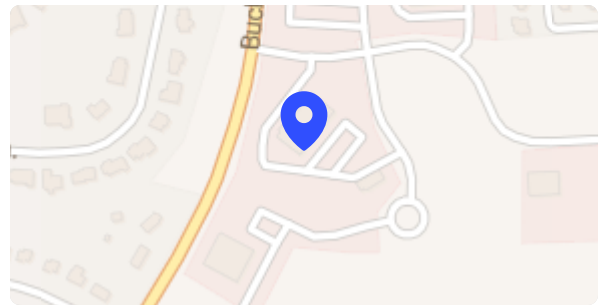
JUL 31, 1924 - JAN 13, 2013

### Service


 **Wednesday**, January 16, 2013


 10:30 AM ET

 **Thomas J. Pirro Jr. Funeral Home**  
3401 Vickery Rd, Syracuse NY 13212

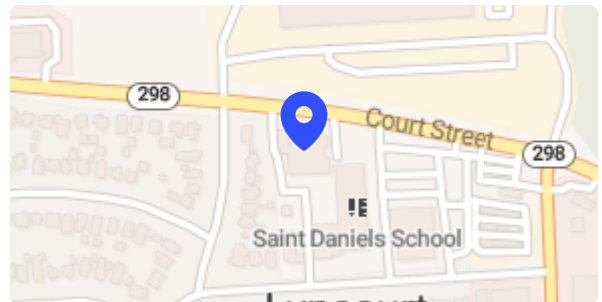


### Funeral Mass


 **Wednesday**, January 16, 2013

 12:10 PM ET

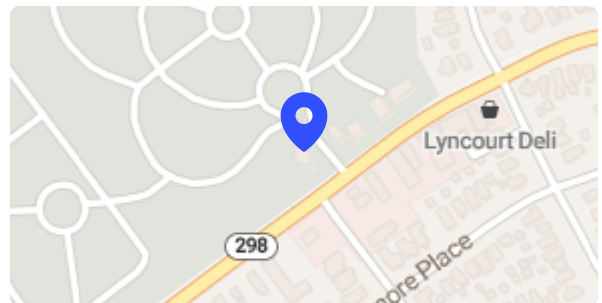
 **St. Daniel's Church**  
3004 Court St., Syracuse NY 13208



### Cemetery Details

 **Assumption Cemetery**  
2401 Court Street, Syracuse NY 13208

 **454-3841**





## Tribute Wall

**Frederick Francis Ferrara**

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**Thomas J. Pirro Jr. Funeral Home** shared a **Tribute Video**.



January 12 at 8:00 PM



**Ron Koelsch** posted:

Fantastic person, great manager . . . such fond memories of the good old days at GE. Cheers to General Electric's greatest era of employment in Syracuse and God's richest blessings to Fred's family. . . he was an amazing individual!! Ron Koelsch

January 30 at 1:19 PM



**Ellie Peavey** posted:

I haven't known Fred and Jeanette long--only began meeting them at the Retreat for lunch a couple of years ago when they would join the motley Monday tennis crew. Heard lots of stories about what great tennis players they were, but have my own stories about what great people they were. Fred always had a twinkle in his eye and a smile that welcomed me as the newcomer. They both were interested in my granddaughters and every lunch Fred would be sure I got two of his surprise gifts so that Bella and Sophie would each have one and not have to share. It was always fun trying to guess what he would give us for Valentine's or St. Patty's Days. Jeanette would humor his antics as he would treat us and take great joy in his joy of giving. Can only imagine how wonderful his children and grandchildren are based on their grace and generosity. I am so glad that I had the opportunity to join their friendship circle.

January 17 at 11:14 AM



**Mike & Liz Cartini** posted:

Joan, Chris, Mary Beth and families - so sorry about your Aunt and Uncle. My sincere condolences to you all.

January 16 at 1:05 PM



## Tribute Wall

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MC

**Mary Frances Comfort** posted:

I was sorry to hear of the deaths of Jealette and Fred last week. I played tennis with Jeanette for many years and even met Fred on the courts. They enjoyed the game and aded a lot to our fun. Fred often brought cute little gifts for all of us. Both were very positive thinkers and enjoyed people How neat that they passed away almost together. As sad as it is for the family, neither was left bereft after being They will be missed.Mary Frances Comfort

January 16 at 10:05 AM

SM

**Sue Moran** posted:

I met your parents 3 years ago while playing tennis at Golds Gym in Liverpool. What a special pair! When they could no longer play we would meet them once a month for lunch. They were both so upbeat and happy. And Fred always brought us surprise gifts - draw a card, win a gift. It was such fun.I have many wonderful memories of the two of them. You have my sincere sympathy on your loss.Sue Moran

January 15 at 12:26 PM



**Elizabeth Goudy** posted:

Bonnie and Rick,So sorry to hear of your parent's passing! I didn't see your mom's recent obit until today. Such wonderful neighbors, so many memories. I know that words alone can bring little solace, but please accept the care and concern behind them.

January 15 at 9:13 AM



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BM

**Bob Murfitt** posted:

I worked with Fred on various projects at GE over the years and he was always full of life, humor and a deep sense of commitment to success. He always came up with an original idea and solution. Bob Murfitt

January 15 at 5:22 AM

JW

**Joan E. White** January 18 at 7:06 AM

Ah, yes. Fred and Jeanette. Jeanette and Fred. Inseparable. A couple who inspired everyone by their love and devotion these many years. Both, so friendly, outgoing, welcoming. Always a cheerful hello and a smile that turned a dark day into a bright and sunny one. I met them both through St. Daniel's Church but my sister goes back to Garfield School when Fred was a classmate of hers in the 3rd grade. We have the pic to prove it. One I had printed several years ago and gave to Fred. She was, as was I, so saddened to learn of their deaths. Bev said "Fred was the nicest little boy. I could tell even back then." I assured her he remained the same down through the years. Yes, we, too, were the recipients of little surprise gifts that always brought a smile to our face. We will miss both of them but think God was most gracious in calling them together. They would have wanted it that way. We salute you both and will hold you to our hearts in prayer always. Joan and Bev White Syracuse, N.Y.

JP

**Jennifer Vecchio Pullano** January 15 at 11:58 AM

Dear Bonnie and Rick, So sorry to hear of your parent's passing. It has been a long time since we were in Syracuse but as a teen your parents were always at the VECCHIO gatherings. My dad Vincent J. Vecchio worked with your dad at GE, for 40 years. I have many fond memories of our families together. Jennifer Vecchio Pullano, Philadelphia Pa.



**Media**

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**Thomas J. Pirro Jr. Funeral Home** shared a **Tribute Video**.

January 12 at 8:00 PM

TRIBUTE VIDEO

A JOURNEY  
*of*  
REMEMBRANCE

SCAN TO WATCH

The image is a video thumbnail for a tribute video. It features a bright blue sky with white, fluffy clouds. The text 'A JOURNEY of REMEMBRANCE' is centered in a red, serif font, with 'of' in a smaller, cursive font. A play button icon is overlaid on the text. In the bottom right corner, there is a QR code and the text 'SCAN TO WATCH'.



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Frederick by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



**Scan to Visit**

