



Michael A. Telesca

March 6, 2020

March 5, 2020 at age 90. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Ethel (Hibbard daughter, Michele Telesca; son, Stephen Telesca; grandchildren, Andrea Telesca and Maria (Andrew) Loss; sister, Mary (Telesca) Schmitt; two very dear family friends, Tony Zaragoza and Terri Medina; and several nieces and nephews.

Michael was a graduate of the University of Rochester and University of Buffalo Law School. He was a veteran having served in the US Marine Corps as First Lieutenant during the Korean Conflict. He was a partner in the law firm of Lamb, Webster, Walz, Telesca, and Donovan for 16 years. He was elected Surrogate Court Judge, Monroe County, and served from 1973 to 1982; was appointed as a US District Judge by President Ronald Reagan in 1982, serving as Senior Judge from 1996 to present. Special expression of gratitude to his long-time faithful secretary, Joan Countryman.

No prior calling. A celebration of Michael's life will be held Friday, April 3, 2020 at 2:00pm at the Federal Court House, 100 State St. Rochester, NY 14614. Contributions in his memory may be made to HUGS Foundation, 973 East Ave., Rochester, NY 14607; Northridge Church Building Fund, 2052 St. Paul St. Rochester, NY 14621; or Coldwater Women and Children Residential Home, c/o Open Door Mission, 156 N. Plymouth Ave. Rochester, NY 14608.

(PLEASE BE AWARE THE CELEBRATION OF MICHAEL'S ON APRIL 3rd
HAS BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO THE DEVELOPING ISSUE REGARDING
COVID-19)

Tribute Wall

KR

“ Judge Telesca was truly a special friend to our Mom, Nancy Russell Bromley and our Dad, Bill Bromley. We remember his kindness and the good times on Pixley Rd. "Who are these that fly along the clouds like doves to their nests?"

Isaiah. 60.8

Rest In Peace.

Kathy (Bromley) Bouman,, Susan (Bromley) Roscoe, - March 11, 2020 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ We all knew him as " Grandpa Judgie" He has been such a blessing in my family's life. We would see him once a month for our monthly bible study with Grandma Ethel and the kids always wanted to go. Not because of us, but because they wanted to hang out in the back room with Grandpa Judgie. Generosity, compassion, and sternness were magnificent qualities of his. I strive to emulate his life qualities. Absolutely amazing man. I love you Grandpa Judgie!!! I miss you so much too. I'll see you one day again. Rest In Peace with Jesus. ❤️

Kelli Malone - March 09, 2020 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ To a family friend and a great neighbor to my parents. I was proud to have you officiate at my wedding. Thank you for all you did for the Russell family and serving our country for so many years.

David W Russell - March 07, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ One of our fondest memories of Mike is when he and my Dad, Everett Russell, were Gates town officials in 1966. They often solved the world's problems over an Abbott's Frozen Custard Chocolate cone.

Clark and Jean Russell - March 07, 2020 at 12:00 AM

FV

“ Ethel and the Judge *THE BEST FRIENDS IN THE WORLD TO HAVE....*

Fran Vetere - March 07, 2020 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ Mike Telesca was a magnificent person. His morals, ethics, razor-sharp mind, combined with a genuine empathy and compassion for people was a most unusual combination. My father, Bill Cucci, thought so highly of him, and I shared that admiration. Once I ran into Mike at a Carvel's and he told me about a case he was working on and a sentence he would hand down the next day. It involved a woman who had small children and he said, "I'm not going to give her jail time - how would that help her children? She doesn't know it yet, but that's what I'm going to do." That has stayed with me for many years. His life was a tribute to his family, friends, co-workers, and the Italian and legal communities.

Sister Donna Cucci - March 07, 2020 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Truly approachable by all, offering advice and guidance. 'Judge T' was respected by everyone, regardless the reason you encountered him. His common-sense approach to potentially difficult decisions earned the appreciation of many. We have lost a great man, a superb jurist, and a remarkable leader. May his family find some comfort knowing he positively affected more lives than anyone can count. Rest well with God Judge.

Marty Hughes - March 06, 2020 at 12:00 AM