



Mattia (Falcone) Kinslow

July 12, 1919 - January 7, 2021

Mattia (Falcone) Kinslow, 101 years “young,” passed away peacefully on 1-7-21 at Syracuse Home, with her devoted sister, Madge, by her side. She was the 7th (of 10) children, and the first daughter, born to Giovanni Falcone and Mary (Andrella) Falcone on 7-12-1919. Self-proclaimed as “the apple of my father’s eye,” she was loved by everyone.

She grew up on the North Side of Syracuse, graduating from St. Vincent De Paul High School in 1937. Her singing voice and acting talent were showcased in high school, culminating in a starring role in her Senior Class play, “A Crazy Mix-up,” and she performed as a school vocalist at numerous local events. Her outgoing personality and sense of humor made her very popular with her classmates, many of whom became dear friends for life. Her reflections of high school were captured in “Memories,” a poem which was published in The Vinconian yearbook. In it, she asks, “Shall we meet again, yes, but where?”

Mattia continued her education at Powelson Business Institute, followed by a 10+year career as Secretary to the Office Manager of Prudential Insurance. In 1943, she met her husband, James. He worked 3rd shift, and frequented a downtown Syracuse coffee shop each morning after work. He spotted her walking by the coffee shop one day, on her way to work. One morning, Jim worked up the courage to talk to Mattia. Soon after, they started dating, and were planning to be married; however World War II had other ideas for Jim. He proudly served in the U.S. Navy, postponing their wedding until 6-1-1946. Before their marriage, Mattia was diagnosed with a blood condition, was often bed-ridden as a result, and was no longer able to work outside of the home. She “retired” from Prudential in 1952. Mattia and Jim were married at St. Peter’s Church, Syracuse, honeymooned in the Adirondacks, and resided with Mattia’s parents until the “cozy, little nest” that Jim built for his “Sweetheart” was completed. Their “castle” was located in Baldwinsville, where they resided together for 59 years.

When her brother, Anthony (Ned) died suddenly in 1961, she and Jim stepped-in and raised Ned’s daughter, Karen. Mattia was unable to have children, but she and Jim were

the BEST Aunt and Uncle to so many nieces and nephews. Their door was always open to family and friends, where Mattia kept a spotless home, always ready for entertaining. She was a gracious hostess and a fabulous cook. She perfected the art of preparing game meat, fish, and fowl like a gourmet chef, as Jim was a skillful hunter and fisherman, who looked forward to changing seasons in the great outdoors. In the summertime, Mattia enjoyed memorable times with the entire Kinslow Clan at the family cottage of Jim's brother, Joe Kinslow, in Henderson Harbor; Mattia also treasured times with the entire Falcone Clan at the family cottage of her brother, Rosario Falcone, on Otisco Lake.

She was a loving, compassionate caregiver to friends and family in times of need, some of whom spent lengthy periods of illness, recuperating in her home.

In her spare time, Mattia was an avid bowler and card player. In the early 1980's, Mattia met two sisters (Peggy Rochon and Cathy Kissel) at a bowling league sign-up in Liverpool. They teamed up, and became fast friends for life. She was their "Mother Tia" and they were her "adopted daughters." She excelled at pinochle, and looked forward to regularly scheduled "card nights" with her dear friends for many years. Mattia was a devout Catholic, and lifelong communicant of St. Peter's Church, where her younger sister, Mary, worked in the Rectory for many years. Her faith was ever present in her thoughts, words, and actions. She was a volunteer at St. Joseph's Hospital for 30 years, and at Loretto for many years. At the age of 86 years young, Mattia "downsized" to an apartment at The Hearth on James, where she resided for 10 years. She welcomed new residents and familiarized them with resident activities, such as outings to the casinos, weekly bingo, craft shows, live entertainment and "happy hours." Mattia also served as President of the Resident Association, and won several WII Bowling championship trophies at the Hearth. Mattia aged gracefully, tall and stately, with an impeccable flair for fashion, perfectly coiffed hair, and matching accessories from head to toe. Lipstick was the "finishing touch" to complete her beautiful look on any given day.

Mattia, and her sister, Madge, joined the Syracuse Home community at McHarrie Place in 2016. They were roommates, social butterflies, and participated in all activities on a daily basis. They thrived in this setting, and found comfort in living together, Mattia still acting like the big sister, looking after her younger sister. They were a dynamic duo, recognized by all, and affectionately referred to as "the sisters." They competed, and won First Place honors, three successive years for their Resident Halloween costumes. They were very close throughout their lives. At 101, Mattia was proud to be the longest living Falcone

Family member ever.

She was predeceased by her husband, James F. Kinslow; her parents, Giovanni and Mary; sister, Mary Angela Falcone; brothers, Joe (Evelyn), Larry (Grace), Sam (Irene), Dom (Tess), Rosario (Marie), Anthony (Ned), and John (Alice) Falcone; brother-in-law, Ernest Maffei; nephews, Gerald and Mark Falcone.

She is survived by her sister, Magdalene Maffei and Magdalene's children, Ernie (Nancy) Maffei, Donna (Frank) D'Eredita, Darla and Debra Maffei; niece, Karen (Sam) Tassone; nephew, Neil Falcone; Godchild, Robin (Ed) Kinslow-Evans; and many beloved nieces, nephews, friends and extended family.

Mattia and her family are eternally grateful to the staff and volunteers at Syracuse Home for the excellent, compassionate care and kindness that they exemplify.

Due to COVID restrictions, there will be no calling hours. Funeral services will be private. Donations in Mattia's memory may be made to Syracuse Home Association (Resident Activities Program), 7740 Meigs Road, Baldwinsville, N.Y. 13027.

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Farone & Son Funeral Home - January 10 at 02:28 PM



“ I was inpatient at the Syracuse Home twice for rehab. I met Mattia and Blanch. I enjoyed talking with Mattia as we attended Bingo, music events and nail polish day. Later, when I was a volunteer I always went to visit Mattia as she was so charming and interesting, and she reminded me of my mother with all of her matching clothing and jewelry. Before the COVID problems, I took the Christmas photos for the last two years, and the “Sisters” were so delightful and happily telling me about the events. Always with a smile, and kindness, I will definitely miss her!!



Joe-Anna Taylor - January 24 at 08:46 PM



“ I would like to offer my sincere condolences I looked forward to seeing Tia at the many activities I help with at Syracuse home as a volunteer. Rest in Peace Mattia I'm going to miss you.

Robert Tyrrell

Robert Tyrrell - January 16 at 06:00 PM



“ Dear Family of Mattia and Madge. We are very sorry for the loss of Mattia!!! My wife's 86 year old father fell last January 1st and broke his upper ankle. He was placed at the Syracuse Home for about 2 months. While there, we all got to know Mattia and Madge while in the dining area, playing games or working on a puzzle! They had beautiful smiles and were always pleasant to be around!!! Sincerely, P!per Jack Heins

Jack Heins - January 12 at 08:10 PM



“ I saw Tia every Friday for her hair appointment for the last 4 years. She and Madge treated everyone like family. Tia you will be greatly missed. Sending my love and hugs to all the family

Nicole Pullen - January 11 at 08:56 PM



“ I am so happy that in your last hours I was able to spend time with you. I was coming back but you didn't wait, a more powerful being was calling. I love you and I will always be eternally grateful for the love and affection that you and Hawk gave to me as if I were your OWN DAUGHTER. My Daddy had the foresight to plan for my future, which also meant arranging years in advance of his death that I would stay living with you in his absence. I was with you three years before his passing which was hard for all of us but we managed and got through it as a family.
Until we meet again
All My Love,
Karen



Karen Falcone Tassone - January 11 at 05:12 PM



“ 37 files added to the album LifeTributes



Farone & Son Funeral Home - January 11 at 04:02 PM



“ I have such fond memories of Mattia and the Friday Volunteers as they were affectionally known as. This group of women would get together on Friday's and put admission packets together for all the patients that were being admitted into the hospital. I am so glad that our paths have crossed and for that I am grateful!

Mary Hagen, Volunteer Coordinator at St Joseph's Hospital

Mary Hagen/Volunteer Coordinator - January 11 at 10:05 AM



“ 68 files added to the album LifeTributes



Farone & Son Funeral Home - January 10 at 02:16 PM



“ I am so very sorry to learn of the passing of cousin Mattia, but was blessed with a long life. I know how much cousin Madge will miss her but she joins so many family that will be ther to welcome her. RIP Cousin Mattia!

Sue Webb - January 10 at 09:05 AM



“ I knew Mattia as a volunteer at McHarrie Place. What a special person. She always had a positive attitude and would attend any and all activities taking place. She will be missed.

God bless you,
Mary McCabe

Mary McCabe - January 10 at 08:19 AM