



Thaddeus J. Orzel

February 9, 2026

Ted (Thaddeus) Orzel, 99 years, 8 months and 9 days, of North Syracuse died on Monday, February 9, 2026. He grew up on Syracuse's East side and attended Transfiguration Church and School. After graduating from Eastwood High School, he entered the US Army, serving during WWII in the low countries and France. Due to an injury, he was transferred from the Army Infantry to Food Service. Following an honorable discharge, he returned home and married Irene Podolak; a union of 60 years.

Initially employed as a glazier with Syracuse Glass, he moved to North Syracuse and began working at Sweetheart Market, eventually becoming the manager of the produce and beverage departments. In addition, for many years he was a patrolman with the North Syracuse Police Department. His work was his pride.

Ted was a volunteer with the North Syracuse Fire Department and a faithful member of St. Rose of Lima Church, North Syracuse.

A man of simple tastes and pleasures, his family, faith, job, and being a provider were the foundations of his life. He enjoyed cooking. His table was never empty, and he welcomed anyone with his potato salad (secret recipe), chili, and Polish staples (from stuffed cabbage to chicken soup). He was "creative" with any recipe.

Predeceased by his parents, John and Clara; his sisters, Theresa, Rita, and Virginia; and his wife, Irene, he is survived by his son, Rev. David J. Orzel, a niece, Mary Ann Begay, and a nephew, Paul Edward Kolokowski, who lovingly

looked after him in his later, homebound years.

A sincere thanks to the physicians, nurses, aids, and rehab staff at St. Joseph's Hospital and at Loretto.

The wake will be on Wednesday, February 11, 2026, from 4 to 6 pm at Fergerson Funeral Home, 215 South Main Street, North Syracuse. A prayer will be offered at the funeral home Thursday at 9:45 am, followed by Mass of Christian Burial celebrated by the Rev. David J. Orzel at 10:30 am at St. Rose of Lima Church, 407 South Main Street, North Syracuse. Interment will be in St. Mary's Cemetery, DeWitt.

Instead of flowers, Mass cards or a donation, in Ted's memory, to a favorite charity of your choice will be appreciated.

Cemetery Details

St Mary's Cemetery

421 North Main Street
Minoa, NY 13116

Previous Events

Calling Hours

FEB 11. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Ferguson Funeral Home, Inc.
215 South Main Street
North Syracuse, NY 13212
(315) 458-1970
<http://fergersonfuneralhome.com/>

Prayer

FEB 12. 9:45 AM.

Funeral Home Thursday

Mass of Christian Burial

FEB 12. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Rose of Lima Church
407 S Main St
Syracuse, NY 13212

Tribute Wall

JL

“ Our mother worked with Ted at the Sweetheart back in the 60's, she often took us to work with her and we loved being around Ted as he stocked the produce. He was always so kind to us, always smiling, and acted as though his job was the most fun in the world. I always will remember the fabulous birthday party for David that the family put on. It was over the top with games and fun. He was a great man my sister and I will always remember as we grew up on Palmer Drive not far from the Orzel family. God Bless him, he will be missed.

Joanne Stowell Leach

Kathy Stowell

Joanne Leach - February 10 at 08:38 AM

GF

“ I worked with Ted in the produce department at Sweetheart Market for a few years. He also worked with my grandfather at Syracuse Glass.

May his soul rest in peace and perpetual light shine upon him.

Jerry Freitag

Gerald Freitag - February 09 at 10:00 PM

MD

“ Thank you TED for being such a good neighbor and Serving our country and our community. may you rest in peace and soon meet up with irene

Mick dellavalle

Mick Dellavalle - February 09 at 08:49 PM

MB

“ 1 file added to the album *Sto Lat*



MaryAnn Begay - February 09 at 07:39 PM

MB

“ *MaryAnn Begay lit a candle in memory of Thaddeus J. Orzel*



MaryAnn Begay - February 09 at 07:10 PM

MB

We will miss you Uncle Ted! A simple, kind hearted, grateful, religious man with a heart of gold. Thank you for your service and all the memories! RIP with Aunt Irene, your sisters, and Dziadzia and Grandma! Sto Lat!

MaryAnn Begay - February 09 at 07:26 PM