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PHOTO SUBMITTED

All in the family

John and Virginia (Gen) Downes (center of photo) both turn 90 this year so their children decided to honor them with one huge party. All those in the picture represent a combined total of over 90 years of Catholic school education in this diocese! The couple were great friends going back to 1926 when they were neighbors in New York City and again as adults in East Syracuse with separate families later in life. They reconnected after the deaths of their spouses and have now been married for nine years. They are parishioners of St. Michael's Parish in Syracuse. The Downes' are pictured with their family members from left to right: Nancy Downes, Betsy Downes, Dorothy Downes, Mary Seebach, Gary Will, Joanne Downes, Cathy Veltri, Peg Downes-Peck and Eddie Downes. They gathered for a celebration at Bellview Country Club on July 13.