



# Joseph M. "Sonny" Vassallo Sr.

APR 7, 1934 - OCT 25, 2013



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## **Joseph M. "Sonny" Vassallo Sr.**

APR 7, 1934 - OCT 25, 2013

Joseph M. "Sonny" Vassallo, Sr., 79, of Cicero, passed away Friday, October 25, 2013 after a brief illness, surrounded by his loving family and friends. He was born in Syracuse, the son of the late Joseph and Rose (Nuzzo) Vassallo. Joseph worked in the food industry for 50 years between Land O' Lakes and Deli Boy Provisions. He was a member of the IAAC and served for a time as the President of the Le Moyne/Lyncourt Dolphins Junior Football Organization. He was a skilled self taught craftsman who was always willing to take on any project large or small. Joseph was very proud of his Italian heritage and conveyed this throughout his life to his family. Joseph's true passion was spending time with his family, especially Sunday dinners prepared by Anita.

Joseph is survived by his devoted wife of 57 years, Anita M. (DiBello) Vassallo; three sons, Leo R. (MaryBeth) Vassallo of Onondaga Hill; Ronald J. (Jacklyn) Vassallo of Liverpool and Joseph M. (Lauren) Vassallo, Jr. of Liverpool; seven grandchildren, Leigh, Jason, Tori, Juliana, Mia, Gianna and Joseph III.; his brother, Donald (Theresa) Vassallo of Lyncourt; his sister, Shirley (Joseph) Scripa of Syracuse along with several nieces, nephews and many cousins.

Funeral services will be conducted on Wednesday at 9:00 AM in the THOMAS J. PIRRO JR. FUNERAL HOME and 10:00 AM in St. John the Baptist Church, where a funeral mass will be celebrated. Entombment will follow in Woodlawn Cemetery Mausoleum. Family and friends may call at the THOMAS J. PIRRO JR. FUNERAL HOME, 3401 Vickery Rd. (Corner of Buckley Rd.), North Syracuse on Tuesday from 4:00 to 7:00 PM.

Joseph's family would like to express a special thank you to the Oncology Unit at Crouse Hospital and also to Hospice of CNY for their special loving care.

Contributions may be made to Hospice of CNY, 990 Seventh North Street, Liverpool, NY 13088.



# Events

**Joseph M. "Sonny" Vassallo Sr.**

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## Visitation

**Tuesday**, October 29, 2013

4:00 PM - 7:00 PM ET

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



## Service

**Wednesday**, October 30, 2013

9:00 AM ET

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

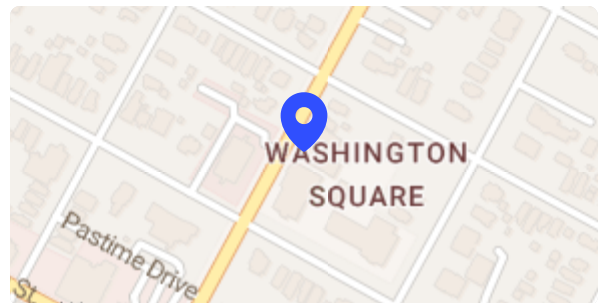


## Funeral Mass

**Wednesday**, October 30, 2013

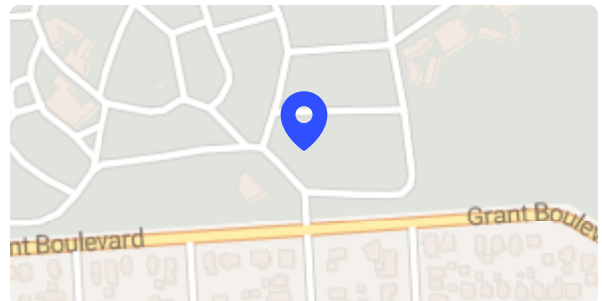
10:00 AM ET

**St. John the Baptist Church**  
406 Court Street, Syracuse NY 13208



## Cemetery Details

**Woodlawn Cemetery & Mausoleum**  
800 Grant Boulevard, Woodlawn Cemetery &  
Mausoleum NY 13203





## Tribute Wall

**Joseph M. "Sonny" Vassallo Sr.**

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



October 24 at 8:00 PM



**Jim King** posted:

Joe and I went to Prescott school together. Many fond memories. Joe was a great guy and was loved by many. And a world class cook.. May God bless you all forever n Christ Jesus. Love in Christ, Jimmie King

November 4 at 3:54 AM



**Mike Toia** posted:

To the Vassallo Family, I am so sorry for your loss. I have very fond memories of Mr. Vassallo during my youth sport years. He was always willing to lend a hand and always with a smile. May he rest in peace. His memory will live on. God Bless. Mike Toia

October 31 at 4:41 AM



**Nancy Bergeson** posted:

Uncle Sonny meant the world to me. Love Him so much. I love you all and hold you in my heart. Love, Nancy Marie

October 30 at 8:25 AM



**Richard Sorbello** posted:

Very sorry for your loss.. Rich Sorbello & Family

October 29 at 11:55 AM



**Dina** posted:

Dear Mrs. Vassallo, Ronnie, Leo and Joey I am so very sorry for your loss. Wishing you peace to bring comfort, courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your hearts. Dina Stinziano

October 29 at 11:17 AM



## Tribute Wall

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JH

**John Hayes** posted:

The Vassallo Family, so, so sorry for your loss. - Warm thoughts and special prayers for you and your families. May it comfort you to know others are thinking of you at this difficult time. Mr. "V" will be missed. John and the entire Hayes Family

October 29 at 8:14 AM

AS

**Adam Shaffer** posted:

To Jackie, Ronnie and family: We send our deepest sympathies on the death of your father and wish we could be with you this week. Please know that you will be in our prayers and thoughts, especially since so many in the family are away from home right now! May all the wonderful memories of your dad sustain you during this difficult time. "Mom & Dad Shaffer" & family.

October 29 at 6:58 AM

KW

**Kevin J. Walsh** posted:

From my family to yours we send our love. May he rest in peace.

October 29 at 6:08 AM

LB

**Livia Blakeslee** posted:

Anita, Leo, Ronnie, Joey and family. Our deepest sympathy. Sonny will be deeply missed. Lynn & Livia Blakeslee

October 29 at 4:07 AM

CA

**Cindy Ackerman** lit a candle in honor of Joseph.

Ron, Leo and family, so sorry to hear about your Dad. My heart goes out to you during your time of sorrow. With caring thoughts. Cindy Ackerman

October 29 at 4:01 AM



JP

**John Pollock** posted:

Mrs. Vassallo, Leo, Ronnie, and Joey and family, please accept our deepest sympathy during this most difficult time. May Mr. Vassallo rest in peace. John & Michelle Pollock

October 29 at 3:03 AM



## Tribute Wall

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DW

**Dave William** posted:

Joe and Family-Sorry to hear of your loss.Dave WilliamSJBA 1981

October 29 at 1:57 AM

EK

**Emmett M. Kelly** posted:

Mrs. Vassallo, Leo & MaryBeth, Ronnie & Jackie, Joey & Lauren and all the beautiful Grandchildren,Our love and prayers are extended for Mr. "V" and all of you. Just thinking of Mr. Vassallo brings a smile to our faces and true admiration for an amazing man that can be seen through every time anyone interacts with the whole Vassallo family. Kind, fair, firm, forgiving and always friendly - a true gentleman. Anytime I think of all the great experiences with the Vassallo's, especially all of the adventures with Joey (and thank God for both Joseph Sr.'s and Mrs. Vassallo's abounding capacity for forgiveness and love), and I think of Mr. Vassallo there are only thoughts of happiness and respect. He and Anita opened their home and hearts up to this Irishman and his family and we are all blessed, enriched and truly grateful for it and for their kindness. Anyone who met Mr. Vassallo was a better person for it. You are a blessed and amazing FAMILY.All of our love,Emmett and the whole Kelly Family

October 28 at 5:08 PM

SB

**Stephen Bodnar** posted:

Ron, Joey, Leo and family, very sorry to hear about your dad please accept my deepest sympathies. My prayers and thoughts go out to you during this difficult time. I have many memories of Mr. V. in our days at SJBA. RIP Mr. V.Stephen Bodnar

October 28 at 3:58 PM

PA

**Peter & Dolly Asterino** lit a candle in honor of Joseph.



October 28 at 3:22 PM

TH

**Tom Huyck** posted:

Leo and Family, very sorry to hear about your Dad. God bless you and your family Tom Huyck

October 28 at 1:16 PM



## Tribute Wall

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CE

**Carole & Joe Emmi** posted:

Dear Anita and Family.....We were shocked and sorry to hear Joe passed away. He always had a smile on his face and I enjoyed working with him at Deli-Boy. May the prayers,love, and support from your family and friends help you through this trying time. You are in our thoughts and prayers.Carole & Joe Emmi

October 28 at 1:05 PM

DB

**Dennis Barry** lit a candle in honor of Joseph.

Leo, Ron & Joe....There is nothing that can be said to eliminate the ache I know you all feel. Our love and support goes out to each of you with the passing of your dad. May you draw strength from the love of Marybeth, Jackie, Lauren and your beautiful children that your Dad loved so much. I wish I could be there, but please know you have been, and will continue to be, in my thoughts and prayers. His path has not ended....It has just begun!Mrs. V.....May you smile each time you think of Mr. V and know that he is forever dedicated to you. My heart goes out to you and I will keep you in my prayers. He is still standing by your side, as he did for 57 years.Dennis & Danielle Barry (Addison & Savannah too!)



October 28 at 12:03 PM

NL

**Norine Lecuyer** posted:

Anita and family,My prayers and thoughts are with your family.. I have only known your family for one year, but how special your family is. Sony will be missed by you, family and neighbors.. Very nice man. Deepest SympathiesNorine, Meagan and lola

October 28 at 11:52 AM

JP

**Jean & Floyd Pallone** posted:

Anita, and Family,Our deepest sympathies to all. Sonny was a very nice person, always with a smile when you would see him. We are sure he will be missed by all who loved him and there will be a large void in the family that can never be filled, but your lifelong memories of him will live with you for the rest of your life's. RIP SonnyJean & Floyd Pallone

October 28 at 10:57 AM



## Tribute Wall

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**Anonymous** sent a Strength & Solace Spray to the Vassallo family.



October 28 at 10:04 AM



**Jean Speach** posted:

To Joey and the Vassallo family, My deepest sympathies, Joe was an extremely nice man. Jean Speach@Deli-boy.

October 28 at 9:18 AM



**Mark Heppeler** posted:

Dear Mrs. Vassallo, Leo, Ron, Joe and your families: Please accept my deepest sympathies on the passing of your husband and father. My thoughts and prayers are with you. To live in the hearts of those we leave behind is not to die. Sincerely yours, Mark "Bubby" Heppeler

October 28 at 7:25 AM



**Dave Grillo** posted:

To the entire Vassallo family, our deepest sympathies for your loss. Both personally and professionally, Joe was one of the nicest guys we ever met. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Sandy and Dave Grillo

October 28 at 7:06 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Blue Caribbean Bouquet to the Vassallo family.



October 28 at 6:06 AM



**Mike Verone** posted:

To the entire Vassallo Family, our thoughts and prayers are with you all. With deepest sympathy, sincerely, Mike Verone and family.

October 28 at 5:13 AM



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RB

**Ro (Sabatino) Bartolo** posted:

Dear Leo and family I was so sorry to read about your Dad. Although these times will be difficult he will always be with you in spirit and in your hearts. In time may your memories comfort you. Sadly  
Ro (Sabatino) Bartolo

October 28 at 5:02 AM

JK

**Jack Kimmerle** posted:

Ron, Leo and family, I express my sincerest condolences to you and your family at this most difficult time. With deepest sympathy, sincerely, Jack Kimmerle

October 28 at 4:32 AM

PD

**Pat Driscoll** posted:

To Mrs. Vassallo, Leo, Ron, Joe and your families...my heartfelt sympathies to you all during this difficult time. Mr. "V" was an incredibly generous and humble man, and all of you are a wonderful tribute to him. May peace be with you in the days ahead. His spirit and memory will carry you forward.  
Pat Driscoll

October 28 at 4:23 AM

DM

**Diane Giarrusso Moro** posted:

Leo, So very sorry to hear of your Father. Since I'm in Florida I'll send my prayers for you and your Family from here.  
Diane Giarrusso Moro

October 28 at 3:04 AM

MC

**Mike And Liz Cartini** posted:

Mrs. Vassallo, Leo, Ron and Joe & families - I am glad to have known Mr. Vassallo and extend my sincere condolences to all of you. Take comfort in the many memories you all share of good times together.

October 28 at 2:41 AM



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AF

**Annette Ferrante** posted:

Anita and all of the Vassallo family...Our thoughts and prayers go out to your at this time. Sonny was a wonderful father and husband and we hope that your memories get you through this very difficult time. love, thoughts and prayers..Annette and Michael Ferrante and family

October 28 at 12:56 AM

SB

**Sam And Dolores Bella** posted:

To Anita and all the Vassallo Family. Please except our Deepest Sympathy for the loss of your Loved one "Sonny", There will always be that empty space in your heart that will be filled with all your life time of memories .Sincerely "The Bella's" Sam and Dolores,

October 27 at 10:59 PM

FC

**Fred & Joan Ciannilli** posted:

Dear Anita and family, We want you to know that our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. May God watch over you. Fred & Joan Ciannilli

October 27 at 12:52 PM

TM

**Ted Macri** posted:

Mrs. Vassallo, Ron, Joe, Leo and family: please accept my deepest sympathy during this difficult time. My heart goes out to you all and i will keep you in my thoughts and prayers.

October 27 at 12:13 PM

RG

**Robert/Tina Galuppi** posted:

Donny, Shirley and Family's, Our Deepest and Sincerest Condolences on yours/our loss of a Good Friend... God is with you... Robert/Tina & Family

October 27 at 12:03 PM



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MB

**Marietta Blasi** posted:

Dear Anita and family Our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this sad time. Sonny was always true to his name -- He was always "sunny" with his beautiful smile. A gem of a man who will truly be missed by so many. May he now be at peace at the place he earned in heaven. Our love to you --  
Marietta & John Blasi Charlotte, NC

October 27 at 10:39 AM

HF

**Hillman Family** posted:

We offer our deepest condolences to you and your family. Our thoughts and prayer are with you during this difficult time. May the memories of your loved one help you find peace. The Hillman Family

October 27 at 10:18 AM

SH

**Shirley Houghland** posted:

Anita and family, Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this very sad time. May all the great memories and God help you and your family get through this very hard time. Barbara (Mirra) Chernob and Shirley (Mirra) Houghland

October 27 at 10:14 AM

MD

**Marybeth Dimico** lit a candle in honor of Joseph.

My sincerest sympathy to the Vassallo family. May God watch over you at this difficult time. Marybeth Dimico (White)

October 27 at 9:47 AM



RV

**Robbiewells/ Las Vegas** lit a candle in honor of Joseph.

Anita & Family, My sincere condolences go out to all of you during this time. As you know I go back a long way with this Family and I cherish all the friendships that I have with all of you. Sonny was a Great guy and when he saw you that Smile would come across his face. When he worked at Deli-Boy I would see him all over the county selling his stuff. Everyone liked and Loved him and will not forget him either. REST IN PEACE SONNY, And may God Bless You and your Family Too.

October 27 at 9:41 AM





## Tribute Wall

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CN

**Carol Ann Nuzzo** posted:

To My cousins Anita, Leo & MaryBeth, Ronnie and Jackie and Joe and Lauren and their beautiful children. My cousins and Sonny's Brother and sister and their spouses, Donny and Terry and Shirley and Joe and their children. I am so deeply sorry. I grew up in Aunt Rosie and uncle Joe's home on Townsend Street and Roxford Road. My very best memories in childhood are with all of them. Aunt Rosie's loving and caring, Uncle Joe's fantastic cooking which now his Grandson Joe has inherited I understand. Hearing Sonny and Donny talk of their girlfriends and playing with Shirley's dolls and paperdolls. Sonny is so loved by all of us and my Daddy, Bucky Nuzzo thought of Sonny more like a son and always depended on Sonny to come and fix any electric problems and there were many. Sonny was always there ready to help Daddy in every way. I love you Sonny and know you are at peace and free of pain. You are missed so much but you will be forever in all our hearts, we will see you in your son's eyes and the smiles of your beautiful Grandchildren. Anita will be loved forever as she is now and when she needs any of us...me..I'm a phone call away. Love you all so much!!

October 27 at 7:57 AM

ML

**Mary Lynn** posted:

Uncle Sonny, he just loved my baking so much :) Always teased me about that. He was and will always be a very special person in my life. The Fornito's Vassallo's and Scuderi's will always have our wonderful childhood memories, thanks to our parents friendship. Aunt Anita, Leo, Ron and Joe, I love you all with all my heart. I know you are all very sad, but his journey here was done and what a fine job he did. He will be greatly rewarded as he continues his journey in heaven. Keep a smile on your face and his memory in your heart, and the good Lord will lessen your pain, one day at a time. XXXOOO Mary Lynn and Family

October 27 at 7:40 AM

CN

**Carol Ann Nuzzo** lit a candle in honor of Joseph.



October 27 at 7:38 AM

DS

**Dick Strom** posted:

Ron and family, Please accept our most heartfelt sympathies for your loss...our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time. Will keep your Dad and family in our prayers. Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can steal. The Strom Family

October 27 at 6:06 AM



## Tribute Wall

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TL

**Tony Liccione** posted:

To the Vassallo family....Sonny serviced our family grocery store, Liccione Grocery on Burnet Ave. for many years with both professionalism and a smile. My dad and the family were always happy to see him since he really knew what customer service was all about. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. Tony Liccione Yardley, PA.

October 27 at 5:35 AM

EL

**Elise And John Lavalle** posted:

Ron, Leo, Joe and families...very sorry to learn of the loss of your dad; sorry we can't be with you but please know we are thinking of you during these difficult times.

October 27 at 2:49 AM

JT

**Joe Terzini** posted:

VASSALLO FAMILY, VERY SORRY TO HEAR OF THE PASSING OF SONNY. HE WAS AND ALWAYS WILL BE ONE OF THE BEST. GOD BLESS ALL. JOE TERZINI DAYTONA BEACH

October 27 at 1:38 AM

BS

**Bill & Pat Salomone** lit a candle in honor of Joseph.

I first met Joe in 6th grade at Prescott School. Coming from Clinton School, I had invaded his territory. When the teacher asked me to close the window, Joe jumped to his feet and said, "That's my job, sit down." I reminded him about it a few years ago & we both had a good laugh. A wonderful guy who became my friend and we will never forget him. Our prayers are with you Anita & all the family. Peace, Bill & Patty Salomone



October 26 at 6:12 PM

VC

**Vincent Carelli** posted:

Dear Anita, Leo, Ronnie, Joseph and Families, Please accept our deepest sympathy. I had the utmost respect for Sonny not only as a person but as my cousin too. He will truly be missed by all of us. I am in Florida but my heart is with all of you at this time. Love, Vinny and Carol Carelli

October 26 at 3:56 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Mary Anne Sacco** posted:

To Anita and all of the Vassallo family, our heartfelt sympathies and condolences to all of you. What a nice man, father, grandfather and husband. He had a radiant smile that warmed everyone's heart. Lou and I are so sorry for your loss. Our prayers and thoughts are with you at this sad time. Your friends and family in Arizona. Mary Anne & Lou Sacco

October 26 at 11:34 AM



## Media

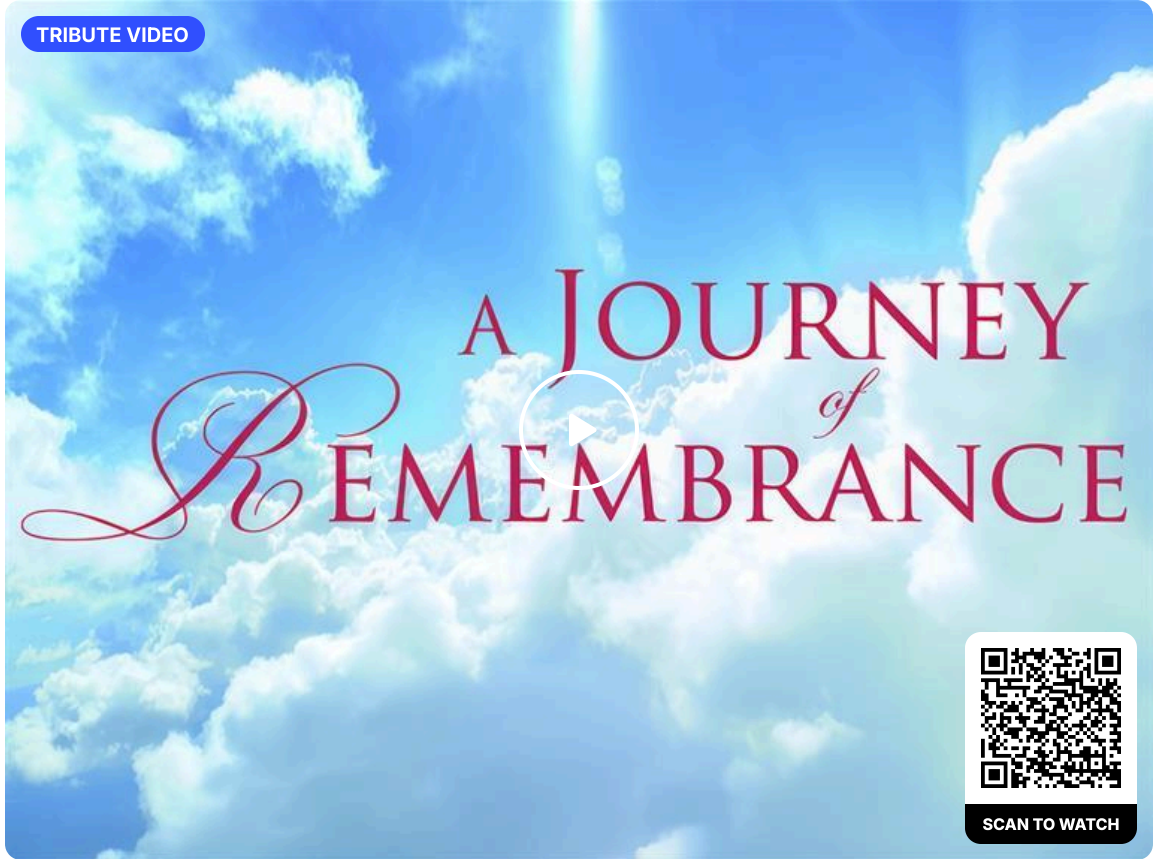
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Thomas J. Pirro Jr. Funeral Home shared a Tribute Video.

October 24 at 8:00 PM





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

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



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