



Joseph P. Sgambati Sr.

MAR 17, 1925 - APR 21, 2020



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Events	Page 5
Tribute Wall	Page 6
Media	Page 11



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On Tuesday April 21, 2020 we lost our Dad, Joe Sgambati Sr., the patriarch of our family. As he would tell you, he” lived a great life” and God blessed him with 10 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren, and he was able to share and revel in every experience in their lives.

Joe married Mary Seneca in 1946 and they raised their 4 children in Eastwood where they were very active in Blessed Sacrament Church, and Joe remained an usher for over 64 years. They were married for over 54 years until Mary’s death in 2001.

Joe was born on St. Patrick’s Day 1925, the son of Concetta and Giuseppe Sgambati. He began his employment career as an original “Newsie” on the corner of University Ave & Genesee St. At 16 he worked in maintenance at Onondaga Country Club and advanced to “Caddy in Residence” for many prominent members. At 17 he graduated from St. Vincent DePaul High School, where he excelled in sports and was named an all-city athlete in soccer and basketball. He then enlisted in the US Marine Corps training on Paris Island and serving in the Pacific Theatre. He landed in Pearl Harbor weeks after the bombing and was in the 1st landing forces in Nagasaki, Japan after the atomic bombing. He served in battles on Saipan, Tinian, Okinawa, and on the decoy ship in the destruction of the Yamato. Throughout his life he was an excellent bowler and golfer participating in numerous tournaments and organizing the annual GMR Golf Tournament. He was in the Blessed Sacrament Players as a writer and performer and in the 1st Dad’s Club at Bishop Grimes High School.

Joe worked until retirement for Bravo/Gioia Macaroni Co. and was widely known in the grocery business. After his retirement he became a mentor to many in the food service/sales industry and developed dear and wonderful friendships which continued until his death and we wish to extend our love and appreciation to all of those wonderful friends who truly are “family”. He also worked as F& B manager at the original 3 Rivers Inn and Bruno’s Beach House. He was an avid NY Yankees fan and enjoyed many trips with his son, son-in-law, friends and brother- in-law to see the games live.



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To us, his children, he was a father, friend, raconteur and example of what a “family” man meant teaching us compassion, respect and honor. Until his death he remembered and inquired of all of our extended families, friends and just about everyone he knew recalling the sports they played, the jobs they held, the joys and sorrows in their lives. Thank you, Dad, we will all miss you.

Surviving Joe are his children Donna (Andy) Marshall, Vicky (Tony) Regulbuto, Mary (Mike) Vecellio and Joe Jr (Joanne Lousgnitski); his grandchildren Chris (Kim) Marshall, Andrea Marshall, Paul Kekevian, Drew Marshall, Tia (EJ) Burns, Stephen Vecellio, Karen (Mike) Fallon, AJ Regulbuto (fiancé Carissa Gilbert), Christina (Sam) Catanzaro and Joe Sgambati III; his great grandchildren: Josh and Lauren Marshall, Bella Kekevian, Ava Marshall, Paul and Dominic Kekevian, Aydan, Layla and Avianna Burns and Adriana Catanzaro; sister-in-law and brother-in-law Gen and Nick Grillo, many nieces, nephews and cousins. He was pre-deceased by brothers Tom and Paul Sgambati and sister Lena Porcello, sisters/ brothers in law Virginia and Richard Simiele and Rocco and Mary Seneca.

Our family would like to extend deepest gratitude for their tremendous care and concern to Drs. Battaglia, Ondocin, Aiello, Erik Daley, Jeffrey Roth, Sundhi and Audiology Dept of the VA in Syracuse. We especially thank Drs Gullo, DiFino, Scalzo and Cherney of HOA of CNY for their expertise and care over these many years. For his end of life, we thank the Syracuse VA Hospital, Dr. C Moussallem, Team 3 Docs, and all of the phenomenal staff on 7B that provided our father with such professional expertise, love, tender care, respect and honor.

The family of Joseph P. Sgambati, Sr., invites all who would like to attend, to a memorial mass and celebration of life at Blessed Sacrament Church, 3127 James St Syracuse, NY on September 11, 2021 at 10:30 am with military honors. We respectfully ask that attendees please wear masks in view of Covid restrictions.

In lieu of flowers, please donate in Joe’s memory to: Honor Flight Syracuse, PO Box 591, Syracuse 13209 or online at: honorflightsyracuse.org OR to the Food Bank of CNY, 7066 Interstate Island Rd, Syracuse 13209 or online to: foodbankcny.org




Events

Joseph P. Sgambati Sr.

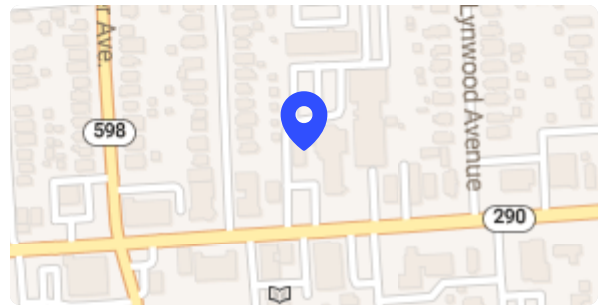
MAR 17, 1925 - APR 21, 2020

Memorial Mass

 **Saturday**, September 11, 2021

 10:30 AM ET

 **Blessed Sacrament Church**
3127 James Street, Syracuse NY 13206





Tribute Wall

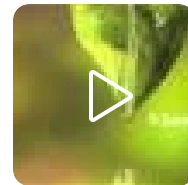
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Thomas J. Pirro Jr. Funeral Home shared a **Tribute Video**.

April 23 at 10:22 AM



Robbie Wells/Lasvegas lit a candle in honor of Joseph.

Donna and family, My sincere condolences go out to you all in the passing of your Dad. Knowing him and your Mom from the days of Elmwood cleaners on Court street my family got to know them pretty well and what great people they were. We all head quite a few laughs with your Dad and will never forget him. Rest in Peace Joe and may God Bless you & Mary and the Family too.

April 28 at 9:53 AM



Mary O'shaughnessy posted:

So sorry to hear of your sad news. My prayers are with you and yours Mary V. Thinking of you Mary O'

April 26 at 12:37 PM



Mike Cartini posted:

To the Sgambati family On behalf of the Cartini family we would like to express our condolences on the passing of Joseph. I personally was honored to spend time with him when I would visit my mother at St. Joseph's Manor. He was a delight and made my mom happy because of how fun he was to be around. What a great legacy of family he left! I hope the many wonderful memories you all have can comfort you now and in the future.

April 26 at 12:12 PM



Tribute Wall

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Pat & Dennis Leogue posted:

My husband Dennis and I send our deepest condolences to Mr. Sgambati's family. Mary Vecellio, we connected with you one day in the parking lot after Mass at Blessed Sacrament and made all the connections to how everyone is related. Dennis used to sit with Joe many afternoons, so many years ago, on one of the benches outside the school - Dennis waiting for our son, Tim Leogue - and Joe waiting for his grandchildren. Dennis always enjoyed his visits with Joe. Our other connection is with Joe's granddaughter, Karen Vecellio Fallon, who was one of our son Tim's physical therapists at Enable. Karen, we will never forget your kindness and caring for Tim and we send our deepest sympathy to you and again all of your family. Now Tim has another familiar face to connect with in Heaven and that is comforting. Pat & Dennis Leogue

April 26 at 8:05 AM



Gina Palladino posted:

Dear Andrea and Ava:I send my condolences to you. It was so interesting to read your grandfather's obituary. He certainly had a full and fun life. Again I am so sorry.Gina Palladino

April 24 at 10:37 AM



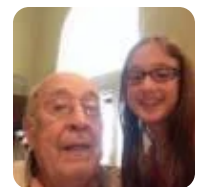
Mike Campese posted:

To the Sgambati familyMy thoughts and prayers are with all of youMike Campese

April 24 at 7:33 AM



T shared an album called **Tributes**.



April 24 at 5:02 AM



Vicky Regulbuto April 24 at 5:01 PM

Beautiful Poppa and Bella. He lived that lil lady.



Tribute Wall

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Mike O'donnell posted:

My sincere thoughts and prayers to Mr.Sgambati's family. I will miss him. Since 1973 he was my second father after my Dad died when I was 17 years old. He was always there when I needed to talk.Peace

April 23 at 9:55 AM



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CE

Carmen D'eredita posted:

Dear Victoria, Mary and members of the Sgambati family! It is with great sorrow that we learned of your father's passing. He was a good man and a good friend. We enjoyed his company at our breakfast gatherings and know he did as well. Both of you, and your husbands were real troopers, making sure your father got there when driving became difficult for him. You gave him the opportunity to continue meeting, enjoy his time with his friends and allowed him the space he needed. Usually, among the first to arrive and the last to leave is testimony to the value he placed on time and time spent in good company. The Friday Menu may have been about bacon, eggs and toast, but the Specials were the most significant items; conversation, verbal jousting, current events, bocce or sports stories, and tales of our youth, and the old North Side. Although he'd cast a critical eye when Carl brought in his trumpet to play Happy Birthday and when someone brought in the celebratory birthday cake, he would un-mask and swell up with pleasure. Happy moments for him and for all of us. His stories will be with us for a long time. How can we forget; meeting his wife while working as a door to door salesman (love at first sight), macaroni sales throughout the upstate area, Marine bootcamp and service stories about WWII in the Pacific theater, and viewing Nagasaki shortly after the Atomic Bomb devastation, the Three River Inn (f&b mgr.) stories and the friendships forged with entertainer icons of the era, the after the show stop at Poodles and Jim's Restaurant, and his last highlight event, travel to Washington on the Hero's Flight. Stories embedded in the mosaic of the Greatest Generation, measures of a good man, respected and not easily forgotten. Most of our group have been friends since early school years, Joe was a newcomer, and senior to all of us; a title we often reminded him of. His later years were challenging, physically and health wise and we learned a great deal more about what he was made of. When he didn't show and we heard news that he was in a bad position, might not make it, we all shared in the family's concern. But remarkably, Joe as weak as he might be, made it back to the Friday morning table, time and again. He was one determined, tenacious individual. He was our comeback (senior) kid! No need to ask again, "Anyone hear how Joe's doing". We know; he's earned his wings, rests in a good place and has located another table; as always, seated early and eagerly waiting to hear the SPECIALS. Farewell good friend. We miss you already. May the gentle hand of the Lord lead him to eternal peace. You did good Joe! Semper Fi!

The Friday Breakfast Guys
Carmen D'Erdita, Jim Killius, Ernie Palma, Joe Silvaggio, John Sgroi Al Petraghani, Bob Killius, Tony Palone, Jack Kimmerele, Carl Spagnola Jim Epolito, John Rotondo

April 23 at 6:59 AM

CC

Christina Catanzaro April 24 at 11:27 AM

I agree, Tia. This was beautiful... One of the things he looked forward to over the past few years was his Friday breakfasts. I could ask him about anything else and he would answer normally but the second I asked him how breakfast was "Ohhh Yea, it was so good! we had a GREAT time! You know we shoot the shit & enjoy ourselves talking and telling stories" with a HUGE smile on his face! Thank you all for your friendship, Love & support over the years with him. - Christina (Vicky's other daughter)

TB

Tia Burns April 24 at 9:34 AM



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This was so beautifully written and I cannot tell you enough how much my grandfather loved his breakfasts with all of you and need I tell you how early he got up to get ready lol! I heard lots of stories from these infamous breakfasts. Thank you again for writing this and may he enjoy his new table as much as he enjoyed the one seated with all of you. Tia Burns (Vicky's daughter)



From Bnymellon Coworkers Of Stephen Vecellio sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Sgambati family.

April 23 at 6:59 AM





Media

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

April 23 at 10:22 AM



Stephen Hurn March 1 at 12:41 AM
Nice job AJ.



Conrad Schneider April 26 at 7:20 AM
My sincere condolences to you and your family Joe. Conrad Schneider



Ann - Jim Foster April 24 at 8:06 AM
Beautiful tribute ❤️



Media

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T shared a photo to the **Tributes** album.

April 24 at 5:02 AM



Vicky Regulbuto April 24 at 5:01 PM

Beautiful Poppa and Bella. He lived that lil lady.



Memories only last if you share them

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



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