



Anthony "Tony" Buffa

MAY 2, 1942 - JUN 13, 2025



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Anthony "Tony" Buffa

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Anthony "Tony" Buffa, 83, of Bridgeport, passed away of pancreatic cancer at the Francis House on Friday, June 13th 2025. He will be forever remembered as a generous and loving friend, husband, and father.

Born and raised a Catholic in Syracuse, he remained an active member of the Church and used his faith to guide him to a life of integrity and virtue. Tony married the love of his life, Carolyn, in 1975 and celebrated 50 years with her until his passing. They made a happy family with the addition of their beloved son, Teddie, born in 1984.

Tony had a great love for chess and mathematics. He taught Calculus at Onondaga Community College for 43 years, finally retiring professor Emeritus in 2015. He played chess nearly every day of his life, studying both the technique and history of the game, and playing in various chess clubs throughout the years.

However, his greatest passion was fishing. As a licensed captain and avid sports fisherman, Tony ran a successful Charter Service, "Tony Buffa's Fishing Charters" on both Ontario and Oneida Lakes. Through his charter business and dedication to the lakes, he became a fixture of the local community, spreading his love of fishing to anyone he encountered. As a member of the board of directors of the Oneida Lake Association, he was a powerful advocate of conservationism.

Tony was predeceased by his mother, Susie Merluzzi, whom he loved with all his heart. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn; his son, Teddie; and several relatives.

Visitation will be held on Monday, June 23, 2025 from 4:00 – 7:00 P.M. at the THOMAS J. PIRRO JR. FUNERAL HOME, 3401 Vickery Rd. (corner of Buckley Rd.) North Syracuse. A funeral mass in celebration of Tony's life will take place at 11:30 A.M. on Tuesday, June 24, 2025 in Our Lady of Pompei/ St. Peter Church, 301 Ash St. Syracuse. Burial will follow in Assumption Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Oneida Lake Association.



Events

Anthony "Tony" Buffa

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Visitation

Monday, June 23, 2025

4:00 PM - 7:00 PM ET

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

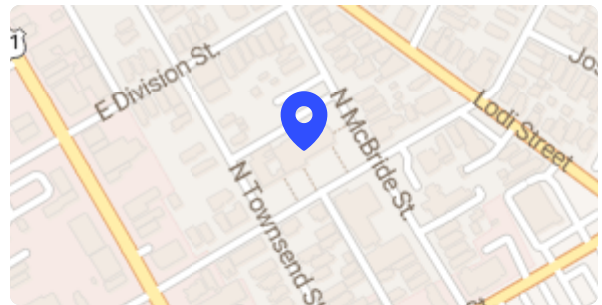


Funeral Mass

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

11:30 AM ET

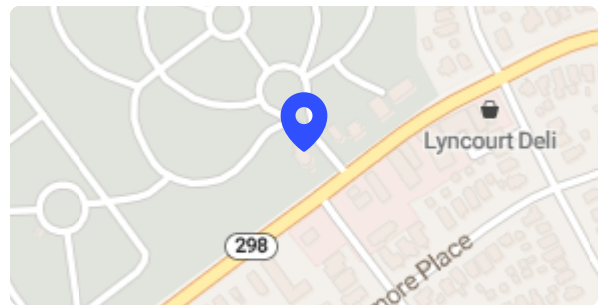
Our Lady of Pompei - St. Peter Church
301 Ash St., Syracuse NY 13208



Cemetery Details

Assumption Cemetery
2401 Court Street, Syracuse NY 13208

454-3841





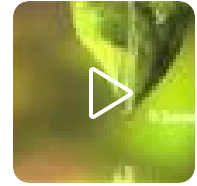
Tribute Wall

Anthony "Tony" Buffa

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



June 23 at 4:44 AM

RI

Ralph Immediate posted:

What a great person my son & I hooked up with Anthony before covid & experienced great memories. More than just a charter capt with us but a dear companion. I would call him frequently to check up on him after his diagnosis. He told me he was going for his next visit to see what's what, wished him luck & said I'd call him soon. But when i called & no answer, texted him no answer I feared for the worst. His faith in God I felt never faltered May God receive him with open arms My sincerest sympathy to his wife & son. We enjoyed him on every trip we took on Lake Ontario Ralph & Anthony

July 8 at 4:31 PM

MS

Mike Schmid posted:

Just heard about Tony... I will always regret not reaching out to him to say "Thank You" for the time I had with him as my senior-year Math teacher at Grimes. I became a Math teacher, also, largely because of him...

June 30 at 9:21 AM

ME

Melissa posted:

I had the honor of having Tony as my math teacher at OCC. It was my freshman year and I had to take 2 non credit courses of Algebra. The extent of my knowledge of Algebra was how to spell and pronounce it. That was it! I was, to say the least, terrified. I couldn't imagine how I would be able to pass the course. Math was not a subject that I was comfortable with. Tony came into the room and I could just tell from the way he walked and talked, he loved what he did. He was so nice, kind and caring. He really cared about all of us succeeding. There wasn't anything you couldn't ask, that he wouldn't help you with. I never had a Math teacher that could teach Math in a way that I could understand it and do well. I became comfortable and confident enough to answer questions I was called on for. After I finished the course I went on to the second non credit Algebra course. I fortunately had Tony again. Every time I would see an article written about Tony and his charter, I would show it to my family and say, I know him! Then I would tell them what a wonderful person he was. To this day and especially in the past couple of weeks when something comes up about fishing or Math, I have to tell a story about Tony. To his family, I wish that all of your memories of Tony will ease some of your loss. God bless all of you.

June 29 at 3:50 PM



Tribute Wall

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AR

Angela Rawlins posted:

I had the pleasure of seeing Tony at the different banking offices I worked at over the years. A great guy and a true gentleman. May he rest in peace and may God bless his family. Sincerely, Angela Testa Rawlins

June 25 at 3:33 AM

PC

Paul J Campanella Jr posted:

I met Anthony in grammar school at Our lady of Pompei as we were both in the same class. We became friends, I lived on the corner of Prospect and Laurel and he lived down the hill on Salina right above Merluzzi's meat market. Many times after school we'd go back to his house usually because he had to practice Lady of Spain on his accordion. I remember his grandma making pasta on the dining room table and his beautiful mother who would pop in occasionally. Over the years we went in different directions and I would frequently see articles of Capt. Tony Buffa here and there and I always wondered, is this the same Anthony that I knew? Now and then I'd meet someone who knew him well and I'd say, next time you see him ask him if he still plays the accordion cause then I'd know for sure. Sadly, we never did get to meet up again to remember old times and share a laugh, and now he is gone to heaven. Rest in peace my friend.

June 23 at 1:03 PM

TL

Tom Larochelle posted:

Tony followed me as a math teacher and football coach at Bishop Grimes, then years later I followed him as a math instructor at OCC. A nicer guy I never met. My condolences to his family. Tom LaRochelle

June 23 at 9:19 AM

OE

Orry Egnoto posted:

I met Tony way back in the 70's when he was teaching fishing courses at Fredons Store. He kept a room full of rookies at full alert with his walleye and salmon fishing technics. He was a friend for over 50 years. God Bless him and his family; Orry Egnoto "Barca"

June 19 at 3:05 PM



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JO

Joey posted:

I'm sorry for you loss to everyone I love you. Keeping you in my thoughts and prayers. Always. He was a nice man to me.

June 19 at 5:04 AM

TF

Todd Finney posted:

In middle school Tony gave me a lot of information on deer for my science fair project without hesitation. In junior high school my father Ray called his friend Tony again to get my successful hunting trip in The Post-Standard. He made me feel famous! A few years later as a professor he attempted to teach me Math at OCC. He did fine...me not so much! For the first half of my life he helped with some great milestone's and was always outgoing and willing to help. That's huge for any kid especially making them feel important. Being a great fisherman is a pretty awesome skill too! God bless Tony and thank you. God bless your family ~ Todd Finney

June 18 at 5:53 PM

JH

John Halleron posted:

My favorite memory was having Tony as my math teacher for 3 of my 4 years at MAI in Plattsburgh. I am a graduate of the class of 1970. When I moved to Baldwinsville, yet another MAI grad and I went to a sport show at the Fairgrounds. As fate would have it, Tony had his guide business on display. After 11 years., we recognized each other immediately. My sincerest condolences and prayers to all of you

June 18 at 4:17 PM

WP

Willie Palluti posted:

Tony was one of the greatest gentleman I ever met. I had the pleasure of fishing with him on Lake Ontario and Oneida lake. Always ready to share his knowledge of fishing and would not hesitate to answer any questions I had. God bless you Captain. I'll never forget you

June 18 at 2:29 PM

JC

John "Kid" Corbett posted:

An outstanding gentleman, a superior fisherman, a teacher, a mentor and friend to so many people over such a long time. You never heard a bad word about Capt. Tony Buffa. Nor will you ever. Rest In Peace, Tony!

June 18 at 2:13 PM



Tribute Wall

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RL

Randy Lattin posted:

Boy that news hit hard we had just been talking about treatment ,and sharing fishing stories and then heaven gained another fish god...gonna miss our stories and tales...our friendship goes back to the late 80s erlie 90s from the big water....rip capt tony...shine on and godspeed my friend

June 18 at 10:31 AM

AP

Antoinette Pallotta lit a candle in honor of Anthony.

Tony, Was always a Wonderful Guy, His Mom Susie was a Wonderful Woman & Mom,now they are Together in Heaven & God Bless them both & his Family ❤️🙏

June 18 at 9:58 AM



JT

John Toothaker posted:

Voice and soul of the evening reflection that will forever reverberate across the shimmering sea, you will be remembered and sorely missed.

June 18 at 9:06 AM

PN

Patricia Nappi sent a virtual gift in honor of Anthony.

So very sorry for your great loss of your husband and Dad ,Tony was Susie love ❤️ of her life she was proud of her Son she raised a real gentleman,my Mother And Family ho way back with his family Kate Tripodi Nappi best friends of his mom ,I remember coming to your sons graduation with my mom I Know Susie was their in heaven taken Tony back in her arms god bless him may he rest in eternal peace and his family find comfort he is not in pain anymore from Patricia A Nappi /Dery and Thomas and Thomas Dery Jr 🙏🙏❤️❤️❤️🙏

June 18 at 2:55 AM



AK

Anton Kreuzer posted:

Remembering a wonderfully fine person/gentleman who served our Oneida Lake and Association so, so well.Please know of my genuine sentiments during difficult days.Shall always remember your Tony in a very special way.Most sincerely,Anton F. "Tony" Kreuzer

June 18 at 2:21 AM



Media

Anthony "Tony" Buffa

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

June 23 at 4:44 AM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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