



James J. Sportelli

March 17, 1916 - March 6, 2012

Our beloved father, James J. Sportelli, 95, of Syracuse, passed away on Tuesday surrounded by his loving family. He was born on March 17, 1916 in Alberobello, Italy to Vito and Maria Sportelli. His family immigrated to the United States in 1927. James graduated from North High School. He served as a Master Sergeant in the US Army during WWII. He was a radio communication specialist serving in France, Italy and North Africa. James was a decorated veteran being awarded the French Croix de Guerre. Upon his return from the service, James was employed by the US Postal Service. He retired in 1977 and devoted his time to working at the Unity Kitchen for his church as a lector and Eucharistic Minister. James was an avid and accomplished tennis player. He participated in and won many gold medals over the years at the New York State Senior Olympic Games in both singles and doubles. He was predeceased by the love of his life, Ann (Regitano) Sportelli in 1976 and a sister and three brothers. James is survived by four daughters, Marilyn (Ralph) Vitiello, Kathleen (Richard) Jones, Ann Marie (Sheldon) Lukin and Therese (Michael) Clancy; a son, Dr. Vincent (Kathy) Sportelli; eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Family and friends are welcome to attend calling hours on Friday from 9:00 to 10:30 am with a funeral mass immediately following at Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter Church. Burial will follow in Assumption Cemetery. THOMAS J. PIRRO JR. FUNERAL HOME is handling local arrangements. Contributions may be made to Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter Church, 301 Ash St., Syracuse, NY 13208 or the Holy Cross Educate a Kid Fund at Holy Cross Church, 4112 E. Genesee St., Dewitt, NY 13214. Special thanks to the professional and caring staff of James Square, 4 South and to Nicole and Diane.

Cemetery

Assumption Cemetery

2401 Court Street

Syracuse, NY, 13208

Events

MAR **Visitation** 09:00AM - 10:30AM

9

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

MAR **Funeral Mass** 10:30AM

9

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

Comments



“ Vince,

My sincerest condolences to you and your family on the loss of your father. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Bernard Ment

Bernard Ment - March 20, 2012 at 09:14 AM



“ Marilyn , Ralph and Family

Our thoughts and Prayers are with you and your Family on the loss of your father.

Jeff and Donna Randall

Jeff Randall - March 12, 2012 at 08:12 AM



“ Linda Bennett lit a candle in memory of James J. Sportelli



Linda Bennett - March 10, 2012 at 08:44 AM



“ Marilyn and family,

Sorry for your loss.

Marie Sarno

Marie Sarno - March 09, 2012 at 08:46 PM



“ Vince anf Kathe,
So sorry for the loss of you father. He was a very special man and will be missed.
The service this morning was just beautiful and I hope it brought you all peace.
Michael, Debbi and Kyle

Debbi Reuter - March 09, 2012 at 01:25 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with the Sportelli family. Mr. Sportelli was a wonderful
father and grandfather to his family. May God bless you all. Phyllis Brundige

Phyllis Brundige - March 09, 2012 at 10:41 AM



“ Vince and family,
We are very sorry for your loss. Your dad was a wonderful man.

Mike and Merelee Libertone

Michael Libertone - March 09, 2012 at 08:30 AM



“ vince and family,
i am very sorry to hear that your father passed away.my deepest condolences.
bob fiumano

bob fiumano - March 09, 2012 at 07:25 AM



“ To the Sportelli Family,
Our love and support goes out to each of you as you process this great loss. Your dad,
father-in-law and grandfather was a very special man. We have known him for many (too
many to count!) years and have witnessed his loving and nurturing demeanor not only for
his family but his family's friends. HIs positive outlook and cheerful nature will always be
admired and remembered. Love, Dawn, Morry and Ryan Pysarchik

Dawn Pysarchik - March 11, 2012 at 07:20 PM



“ Dear Marilyn & family,
Our sincere condolences and prayers go out to all of you .
Frank & Jennifer Squadrito

Frank Squadrito - March 09, 2012 at 07:13 AM



“ Dear Marilyn and Sportelli Family,

Sorry, on the passing of your father. We will truly miss him.

Love Joanne Cardone (macaroni), Lisa Cutler

Joanne Cardone - March 08, 2012 at 06:24 PM



“ Dear Vince and Kathy,
We are so sorry for your loss. We have visited your Dad's home town in italy and I am sure the loss is felt there too. May your memories help heal your hearts..Our thought and prayers are with you..

Terry and Nancy Quigg

Nancy L. Quigg - March 09, 2012 at 04:27 PM



“ Dear Vinnie, Kathy & Sportelli Family:

Please accept our sympathy for the passing of your Dad. We will remember your Dad in our thoughts and prayers.

David, Elizabeth, & Jack Quilter

J. David Quilter, Baldwinsville, NY - March 08, 2012 at 04:40 PM



“ Dear Vinnie & Family,

We are so terribly sorry to hear about the loss of your father. What a wonderful man he was and a true spiritual leader. I will never forget how he removed the angel from his lapel and gave it to Albert when he was receiving his communion. I was so very touched and have that little angel which shall always be cherished.

Since the services are in the morning I will be unable to attend and I am so sorry about that but I cannot leave work especially because I was out sick two days this week. You have our deepest sympathy and prayers during this difficult time and know that he will certainly never be forgotten by our family.

Love,
Al, Mary Anne & Albert Cutri

Mary Anne Cutri - March 08, 2012 at 01:17 PM



“ Dear Marilyn, Ralph and Sportelli Family

We are saddened to learn of your Dad's passing. He was an exceptional gentleman who always had a beautiful smile whenever or wherever you met him. A nicer man would be difficult to find. May he be at peace and in the presence of God who he served for a lifetime. Our thoughts and prayers are with you --

Love, John and Marietta Blasi
(in San Antonio, Texas)

Marietta Blasi - March 08, 2012 at 10:00 AM



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We are saddened to learn of your Dad's passing. He was an exceptional gentleman who always had a beautiful smile whenever or wherever you met him. A nicer man would be difficult to find. May he be at peace and in the presence of God who he served for a lifetime. Our thoughts and prayers are with you --

Love, John and Marietta Blasi
(in San Antonio, Texas)

Marietta Blasi - March 08, 2012 at 10:00 AM



“ To the Sportelli family from your former neighbors on Wheaton Road. We are so sorry at the passing of your beloved father. He certainly lived a beautiful life and was such an outgoing person. We remember his kindness when we ourselves were a young married couple in our first house. He always had a wonderful smile and engaging personality.

You were blessed to have such a wonderful Dad. May he rest in peace.

With deepest sympathy,
Marlene and Dominic Mercurio (wintering in Florida)

Dominic M. Mercurio - March 08, 2012 at 09:49 AM



“ Please accept the sympathy of Le Moyne College on the occasion of the death of your father. Be assured of our prayers for him, for you and for your family.

Le Moyne College, Office of Alumni - March 08, 2012 at 09:32 AM



“ On behalf of the Pizzari family please accept our deepest sympathy at the passing of your dad.

I have very fond memories of Mr. Sportelli's smile, hugs and kisses that he would always share with me as a child. He had a way of bringing sunshine to your day. May that sunshine always shine within each of you. You were all very lucky to have such a wonderful father.

My thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this difficult time.

With deepest sympathy and fond memories,
Cathy Pizzari Sabert

Cathy Sabert - March 08, 2012 at 12:43 PM