



## Pasquale S. "Coach Pat" Testa

May 28, 1928 - August 19, 2020

Pasquale S. "Coach Pat" Testa, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on August 19, 2020 at Elderwood Nursing Home, where he was affectionately known as the "Mayor of Elderwood". He was born to the late Frank and Madeline (Mancini) Testa and graduated from Central High School in 1946. Pat served in the U.S. Air Force for four years and later graduated from S.U. in 1957. Between 1958 – 1982 he coached football at Nottingham, Eastwood High, Central Tech, and at Jamesville- DeWitt, where he also helped begin the lacrosse program. Among his accomplishments, Pat also was a founding member and past president of the CNY chapter of the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame. He retired from Jamesville- DeWitt School District as a teacher in Physical Education and Science. Upon his retirement, he coached at CNS High School. Pat was a parishioner of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and a member of the DeWitt Rotary since 1981. He also enjoyed S.U. Football, golf, and traveling with his loving wife, Peggy.

Besides his parents, Pat is predeceased by his wife, Margaret "Peggy" Testa and his brother, Michael Testa.

He is survived by his daughter, Kathleen (Paul) Zory; two granddaughters, Jennifer (Gary) Klemenz and Erin (Paul) Scire; three great-grandchildren, Curtis, Alexander, and Liliana; a sister-in-law, Joan Riley; along with several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to the wonderful staff at Elderwood Nursing Home for their excellent care of "The Mayor".

A funeral mass in celebration of Pat's life will be held at 10 am on Monday, August 24, 2020 in Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Syracuse. Burial will follow in St. Agnes Cemetery. Family and friends may call on Sunday, August 23, 2020 from 2 – 5 pm at the THOMAS J. PIRRO JR. FUNERAL HOME, 3401 Vickery Road (corner of Buckley Road) North Syracuse.

Contributions in Pat's memory may be made to the Father Champlin's Guardian Angel Society, 259 East Onondaga Street, Syracuse, NY 13202.

# Cemetery

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## St. Agnes Cemetery

2315 South Avenue  
Syracuse, NY, 13207

# Events

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**AUG**   **Visitation**                      02:00PM - 05:00PM

**23**

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

**AUG**   **Funeral Mass**    10:00AM

**24**

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Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception  
259 E. Onondaga St., Syracuse, NY, US, 13202

# Comments

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“ A tribute video has been added.



**Thomas J. Pirro Jr. Funeral Home** - August 20, 2020 at 04:23 PM

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“ RIP Coach.

Always full of positive energy and enthusiasm and above all ...a great human!

Class of '78 Lax team will never forget you.



**jeff stratton** - August 26, 2020 at 11:49 AM



“ I can't agree more. Coach Testa made an impression on everyone that knew him. We are all better people for knowing him.

**Brad Short** - August 26, 2020 at 07:17 PM

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“ I can still remember coach “T” taping my ankles before my first game as a new red ram. The locker room smell combined with the smell of coach’s stubby cigar. He was simple but beautiful. I’m privileged to have had him in my life. He coached my dad and then me and my brothers. I’ll always remember one of his favorite phrases, ” turn it up, baby”. A players coach for sure. I’m sure he’s organizing two a days at the pearly gates right now. A class act and a man of pure integrity and decency. My condolences to his Family and many Friends. Coach “T” you will be missed.

**Peter Palumb Jr** - August 24, 2020 at 09:14 AM

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“ Coach Testa, changed my life when he exposed me to lacrosse in 9th grade at Jamesville DeWitt High School. Coach Testa was a great coach and teacher and a even better person.

Tom Diehl JD class of 78

Tom Diehl - August 23, 2020 at 05:31 PM

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“ Dear Testa Family,  
I was so very sorry and deeply saddened to learn of Pat's death. I met Pat at Elderwood during my weekly visits to the 3rd floor. He was always the "highlight" of those visits. Even though I had to stop going to Elderwood, he was always in my daily thoughts and prayers at daily Mass.  
You are in my special thoughts and prayers at this most sad time.  
Please accept my deepest sympathies.  
Sincerely,  
Tom Batovsky

Tom Batovsky - August 22, 2020 at 10:38 PM

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“ To the Testa family: Please accept Our sincere sympathy & condolences for Your loss. Pat was very instrumental in the organization of Our Chapter, 2 decades ago. As a past President, He helped us grow into the Chapter that We are today, and He helped many Student - Athletes in the City of Syracuse develop into what They are today.  
RIP Pat CNY Chapter, National Football Federation/ College Hall of Fame

Ed Ferrante - August 22, 2020 at 10:43 AM

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“ Coach Testa's family should be proud of this very fine, honorable, fun and loving man. He influenced so many and certainly lived the best of lives. Our community was blessed to have him.

Regina Depperman - August 21, 2020 at 10:52 PM

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“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Pasquale S. "Coach Pat" Testa.



August 21, 2020 at 05:21 PM

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“ My condolences go out to the Testa Family at this time of sadness. I was a student in "Coach Pat's" science class and to be able to remember him after 60 years tells you he left an impression on me. He was one of the best teachers Eastwood ever had. He was kind and had a way to explain what a lot of us did not comprehend at first. He was a great coach and loved his team. I never heard a bad word about this true "Hero". He helped a lot of us with the way we were living our lives -- including me. He was never too busy to talk or to help if we needed it. I am sure he is in Heaven putting a team together right now. My prayers are with the Testa Family.

Mary Lou Strom - August 21, 2020 at 04:51 PM

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“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Pasquale S. "Coach Pat" Testa.



August 21, 2020 at 12:06 PM

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“ Coach was one of the most influential mentors I had the honor of playing under. He taught me lessons in life that I utilize everyday as a physician . He was a man of grace and integrity and showed all of us that played under him the importance of character. I will miss him greatly but never forget his importance.  
Gary M Lourie MD

Gary M Lourie - August 21, 2020 at 07:29 AM

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“ I met Pat and Peg.....and Joan.....when I became a parishioner at the Cathedral in the early 90's. A group of us would go to breakfast after Mass on Sunday - usually to Brick Alley - a short walk from the church. Our breakfast group loved them - and they loved us. My heart is full of good memories as I know yours must be. My sincere thoughts for peace at this time. Many Blessings

Judy Carr

Judy Carr - August 20, 2020 at 08:50 PM

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“ Pat was a great friend. We bowled and golfed together many times over the years. More importantly, Pat introduced me to my wife Sally. We celebrate our 50th anniversary on Sat. Sorrowfully, Alex Donadoni

alex donadoni - August 20, 2020 at 04:33 PM

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“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Pasquale S. "Coach Pat" Testa.



August 20, 2020 at 10:21 AM

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“ On behalf of the entire Mancini and Parks Families, we send our sincere condolences to Kathy and family on the passing of "Patty." Patty was such a wonderful man and we will miss him deeply but find solace in that fact that he is now with his beloved Peggy. Patty's stamp on this earth will never be forgotten... a caring and loving husband and father, dedicated coach, friend and just an all-around great guy. We miss you Patty now and forever - they don't make them like you anymore!

JoAnn Parks - August 20, 2020 at 10:15 AM

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“ Coach was the toughest most considerate coach of any sport at Eastwood High, he always remembered a face of a player well after he stopped coaching. He never got upset or berated a player, he helped players become a better person and I know he will be missed and in minds of older player every time a game is on.

Rich DeSocio

Rich DeSocio - August 20, 2020 at 06:02 AM



“ Coach was one of the most influential mentors in my life. The honor of playing football and lacrosse under his guidance taught me lessons in life that I utilize everyday as a physician. He was one of the Best and there is not a day that goes by that I do not think of him and pass on something that he taught me. We will miss him but never forget his integrity and grace. Gary M Lourie MD

Gary M Lourie - August 21, 2020 at 06:59 AM



“ Coach Testa was a mentor and role model for many young men. I coached football myself for 32 years and often found myself saying and doing the exact things that he did at practices and games. He nurtured, in me a love for the sport but more importantly, molded me as a man. May he rest eternally with our loving God. And I hope the Cigar collection in Heaven is to his liking!

Bob Renaud - August 19, 2020 at 11:27 PM



“ My condolences go out to the test a family in the passing of Pat. My parents are good friends of his from way back in the day. Rest in peace coach as you were a great guy to know and may God bless you and your family.



RobbieWells?lasVegas - August 19, 2020 at 11:25 PM



“ To Kathy ,

We were so sorry to learn that your Dad has passed away. We celebrate the life that he had lived while with us but we rejoice at his going home to be with the Lord. Please know that you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. May the Lord comfort and keep you today and in the days to come.

With Love ,  
Peter and Jeanne DeGrazia Curinga

**Jeanne Curinga** - August 19, 2020 at 10:58 PM

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“ He was a coaches coach! There are not enough pages to fill all the stories . A true legend in many ways. One great memory was when he did summer drive ed and had a bunch of the football guys for students. So you can imagine that car full. We would head out of the JD High School to Cazenovia and change drivers along the way. The last change was always at Lipe's Dairy in Manlius to get ice cream and change "Cigars". I thing by the end of Driver's ed we all knew the play book for next season. I hope others share their stories as he was one of those JD teachers who shaped many a student.  
My greatest respect and admiration.  
Chuck Frank

**CHARLES FRANK** - August 19, 2020 at 08:00 PM

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“ I am shocked and heartbroken. Pat was a brother to me and we went through all the ups and downs together. I flat out love Pat Testa. My prayers our for us all and I am sure he is coaching if not playing in heaven right now. We just had had a super talk a few weeks ago. Tom Muench

**Tom Muench** - August 19, 2020 at 07:39 PM

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“ Pat Testa coached at Eastwood during my time there. He brought the best out me and the rest of our team, and we had a strong football team in 1958. He was a good man and an excellent coach. I am sorry for his family; they've lost a wonderful, caring, and engaging human being.

**Tom Alibrandi** - August 19, 2020 at 07:18 PM



“ Great coach...Even greater man. Said one day in a moment of pride..."boys...you will never remember who sat next to you in math class but you will ALWAYS remember who lined up next to you!"

Rest In Peace Coach.

**Scott Soffen** - August 19, 2020 at 09:55 PM



“ I have read and enjoyed all of the memories written here about "Coach Pat" I do know and remember his sister Kathleen as we went to school together at Lyncourt. My thoughts and prayers are with Kathleen and her supportive family.

**George** - August 20, 2020 at 09:25 AM



“ I attended CBA 1961- 1965 and played against his football teams in 1963 and 1964. He was a very good coach. Also, I reconnected with Pat many years later as a member of DeWitt Rotary. A real gentleman and a class act. Mark Strodel

**Mark Strodel** - August 20, 2020 at 10:54 AM



“ We spent several wonderful days with Pop and Mom Testa when they came out to Oregon for a visit to the West Coast. Such a kind, compassionate man! He will be missed but lives on in our hearts and minds. Condolences to Kathy, Paul and your family.

With love,

Dorothy Courtox

**Dorothy Courtox** - August 20, 2020 at 05:49 PM



“ Thoughts and Prayers to Mr Testa's family. I wasn't fortunate enough to play under Coach Testa during my days at JD High. But I remember him as being a caring, compassionate and enthusiastic person. A Class Act

Andy Bright

**Andy Bright** - August 20, 2020 at 08:25 PM



“ Kathy, Paul and Family,  
My sympathy to you and the family. Papa was a nice man and will be missed.  
You're in my prayers.

Mary Ann Cartner

**Mary Ann Cartner** - August 21, 2020 at 11:28 AM



“ I was very sorry to hear about Coach Testa's passing. He was an inspiration to me and my teammates in 1967 at Jamesville Dewitt high school and helped us win a county championship. It was an honor to have known him and have him as my coach. He will always be a good memory to me and I wish his family comfort during this very sad time.

Philip C. Miller, Attorney at law and former Town Judge of the Town of Onondaga

**Philip Charles Miller** - August 22, 2020 at 08:52 AM



“ Mr. Testa was my favorite coach (Nottingham 1955-57) when we won two city championships. I did my best because of his encouragement and made All City (RE). -- Jim Jacobs

**Jim Jacobs** - April 25 at 07:06 PM