



Victor Villani

April 6, 1933 - December 17, 2020

Victor Villani, 87, of Jamesville, NY, passed away peacefully on Thursday December 17, 2020 at Iroquois Nursing Home. He was born in Campobasso, Italy, son of the late John and Paolina (DiCristofaro) Villani. Victor immigrated to the United States at the age of 16 in 1949. He was a 1951 graduate of North High School, where he met the love of his life, Sarah Morina. They were married in 1955.

Victor was a veteran of the United States Army, serving in France during the Korean War. He first worked at Carrier Corporation, but then found his true calling as a barber. He perfected his professional barbering skills for over 60 years at Eastwood Barber Shop and then at Vic's Men's Hair Styling, and he returned to Eastwood Barber Shop until his retirement in 2019. Countless customers in Syracuse and beyond from all walks of life (political and business leaders, television personalities, blue-collar workers, white-collar workers, and family members) sat in Vic's chair while he worked his magic with his scissors, clippers, straight razors, and combs. His customers became lifelong friends, often including multiple generations in the same family. He would regale his customers with tales of his childhood in Italy and his family, and he would also candidly share his opinions on many topics including politics, sports, and food. Victor received awards in several national barber shows early in his career. He also sold and fitted hairpieces for Medi-Hair (later known as Head-o-Hair) and New Man.

Victor worked hard to support and raise his family, but he also knew the importance of enjoying life to the fullest and sharing that enjoyment with his family and friends. His early athletic pastimes included soccer and bowling, and he was an avid golfer for almost all his adult life. He and his family went on vacation to the Thousand Islands every year for 30 years. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, gardening, winemaking, woodworking, and cooking, and he joyfully shared the results of these endeavors with others. He had an engineer's mind, and it was apparent in his various home projects. He was an enthusiastic sports fan, especially of professional golf and Syracuse University basketball and football. Victor was very generous in referring family members and friends for job openings and interviews that were offered by his customers.

Victor was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather who was always willing to help his family when needed. He frequently stressed that family was the most important thing in life, and his favorite occasions were when his family was together around the table, enjoying great meals, lively conversation, and his homemade wine of course! Victor was a communicant first at Our Lady of Pompei Church and later at Holy Cross Church. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Victor was predeceased by his beloved wife, Sarah, in 2018. He is survived by his five children, Paula (Mark) Leeds, Marisa (Paul) Marron, Antoinette Villani (Frederick McCandless), John Villani, and Joseph (Fallon) Villani; eight grandchildren, Theresa Safe, Paul Anthony Martini, Renee (Nicholas) Nigro, Tara Leeds, Sarah Marron, Max Leeds, Jonas Villani, and Mary Villani; three great-grandchildren Gianna, Roman and Louis Nigro; his loving sister, Louisa Marzocchi; his sister-in-law Mary Morina; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic, a private funeral service will be held for immediate family. For those wishing to attend remotely, please use the link on Victor's tribute page at 1:00 pm on Monday, December 21, 2020. Victor will be laid to rest next to his wife, Sarah, in St. Mary's Cemetery Mausoleum, Dewitt, NY.

The Villani family plans to hold a memorial Mass and a celebration gathering of Victor's life in the summer of 2021.

Victor's family would like to extend thanks to Peregrine Senior Living and Iroquois Nursing Home for the compassionate care that he received while residing at both places during the past year.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Victor's memory to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital 501 St. Jude Place Memphis, TN 38105 (<http://www.stjude.org>) or the National Wildlife Federation PO Box 1583 Merrifield, VA 22116 (<http://www.nwf.org>).

Cemetery

St. Mary's Mausoleum

4100 East Genesee Street

DeWitt, NY, 13214

Comments



“ Antoinette lit a candle in memory of Victor Villani



Antoinette - February 20 at 09:48 AM



“ Villani Family: We're so sorry to hear about the passing of your father. Please accept our sincere condolences. Your parents were great friends of my parents and myself and we are saddened at his passing. I also would like to extend the sympathy of my mother, Giovanna Isgro, from Italy.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Love, Nick and Pam Isgro and family

Nicholas Isgro - December 29, 2020 at 08:27 PM



“ I was saddened to read that my friend Victor had passed away. As my barber and friend, I am a better person for knowing Victor. As we aged together I learned much about his family and clients. I always could tell the ones he liked and the ones he did not think much of. I would get "the look" and I would know if this was a good guy or not, but kidding aside he loved his customers and he loved what he did. Above all, he loved his family greatly and was so proud of his children and grandchildren. Victor started cutting my hair when I was in high school, that would be 55 years ago! During his last year I saw Victor slowing and I wanted to somehow throw him a big surprise party but unfortunately I was unable to coordinate it so I did the next best thing for Victor to get the recognition he so well deserved. I contacted a newspaper reporter and told them I had a story for them of a man who had more contacts in Central New York than the mayor and all the politicians combined in the county. My friend Victor was the real mayor of Syracuse! I wanted to contact Victor and take him out for a Xmas lunch but Victor taught me a lesson, do it sooner than later. I hope the family is doing well and the hole left in your hearts will soon close but the father, grandfather and friend will never leave our hearts and will leave us with wonderful memories. See you down the road Victor. P.S I haven't found a barber that can hold a candle to your talents. You will be greatly missed my friend...Roger Trombley



Roger Trombley - December 29, 2020 at 07:12 PM



“ Our deepest condolences to all of you, he was e wonderful man. God bless you and give you comfort. R.I.P. Vittorio.
Nicola e Fiorina Colosi

Nicola e Fiorina Colosi - December 28, 2020 at 01:26 PM



“ Villani Family-
So sorry for your loss. Victor was an amazing gentleman and someone that all of us loved spending time with. I know how proud he was of all of you.
God Bless his soul and Peace and prayers to your entire family.
Joseph Pietrafesa

Joseph J Pietrafesa - December 28, 2020 at 10:32 AM



“ Antoinette Villani lit a candle in memory of Victor Villani



Antoinette Villani - December 25, 2020 at 10:08 AM



“ To the Villani family

Vic was both a great barber and execeptional person. Always talked about his family and asked about my family. A truly remarkable man. My condolences.

Chuck Borell

Chuck Borell - December 23, 2020 at 06:37 AM



“ Paula, Marisa, Antoinette, John and Joseph

I am so sorry for your loss. I have fond memories of your parents from childhood. May your loved ones comfort you during this difficult time.

Patti Prince

Patti Prince - December 22, 2020 at 09:42 PM



“ Dear Paula, Marisa, Antoinette, John and Joseph ~

We are profoundly sorry for your loss and the death of our dear Uncle Victor. Your father has been such an important part of our lives. I think of him as having been the last patriarch in our family. We have loved him deeply and he will be sorely missed. Your honoring of your father was beautiful—his obituary, your words, the music, his joy for life, family and the love of his life, Aunt Sarah. You captured his spirit so well. Our thoughts are with you, the grandchildren, the great-grands and Uncle Victor's dear sister Louise. Please know you are in our hearts and prayers.

With Much Love,
Gilda and Stu

Gilda Morina Syverson - December 22, 2020 at 11:15 AM



“ My deepest condolences to the Villani Family. Victor was a true professional ! He practiced his trade with style and grace. I don't know anyone I grew up with who didn't get their hair styled by Vic. R.I.P.

John Julian - December 22, 2020 at 11:13 AM



“ Dear Villani family:

I have just learned of Vic's passing. Please accept my deepest condolences on the passing of a truly good man who I deeply admired. He talked about you, his family, with me every month with a sense of love, pride, joy, and humor. I have not the slightest doubt that, by his example and his values and his incredibly hard work he helped with Sarah to produce an amazing family, and a legacy that will continue through many generations.

You are all in my thoughts and prayers in this hard time. Ruth and I want to attend the memorial service when it is scheduled in 2021.

Sincerely,
Kent Syverud
Syracuse University

Kent Syverud - December 22, 2020 at 09:26 AM



“ Paula, Marisa and families

I am sorry for your loss. May the many wonderful memories you have comfort you now and in the future. My condolences to you all.

Mike Cartini - December 22, 2020 at 07:18 AM



“ I feel really fortunate to have met Victor late in his life. His enthusiasm for his family was always evident. Rest in peace.

Ken Pomeroy - December 21, 2020 at 09:59 PM



“ Villani Family,
Many memories of your dad over our growing years. Woodruff Ave, holidays, Events. Always a kind, loving and generous man.. I am saddened by his loss but know he is reunited with his love Sarah. Love to you all

Marie Leone Pampinella - December 21, 2020 at 06:09 PM



“ Deepest condolences. Victor was a great person.



Patrick Donnelly - December 21, 2020 at 05:53 PM



“ A man for all seasons: talented barber; neighborhood philosopher and counselor; terrific wit; kind; sometimes outrageous; sly; always helpful; comic; step-father; and friend. Sail on Vic. Thanks for the memories in your shop.

Tom Alibrandi - December 21, 2020 at 03:29 PM



“ Paula, Marisa, Antoinette, John and Joseph-
What a lovely ceremony. Everything was beautiful and I was glad to have the chance to pray with you all and say our final goodbyes. It was a fitting honor for my wonderful brother. Though it is heavy, my heart is with all of you and I am sending you a big hug.
Love,
Zia Louisa

Louise Marzocchi - December 21, 2020 at 02:36 PM



“ Paula, Marisa, Antoinette, John and Joseph and Families-
Thinking of all of you and sending our love and prayers. Uncle Victor was such a tremendous part of our lives....so many wonderful memories growing up and into our adulthood as well. He will be greatly missed by all. Comforting to know he is reunited with Aunt Sarah, Nonna and Nonno.
What a beautiful service. Sending you love,
Graziella, Gary and Family

Graziella Shimer - December 21, 2020 at 01:58 PM



“ Paula, Marisa, Antoinette, John, and Joseph.
Thinking of all you. Your dad was always so kind and always greeted me warmly whenever I saw him. He loved to see us pop into the shop whenever we were home. He is now with Aunt Sarah and I am sure she was so happy to see greet him.
Love to all of you!
JoAnne, Tim, Ian, Erin, and Nicholas.

Jo Anne Doran - December 21, 2020 at 01:38 PM



“ To my dear Villani Cousins,

I just watched the beautiful ceremony for Uncle Victor. Though we are apart, I have you each in my heart at this time. I remember how Uncle Victor sent an anniversary bouquet of roses to Aunt Sarah each year, one per every year of marriage. They are in heaven now, surrounded by all those beautiful roses and together for all eternity. May you find comfort and peace in knowing this.

Mirella, Phil, and Family

Mirella Marzocchi - December 21, 2020 at 01:32 PM



“ We want to send our love and support to our cousins on the loss of their dear father, a wonderful man and a wonderful uncle. He was a loving, smart, funny, charismatic, giving individual. He had a long and beautiful marriage, loving and devoted children and grandchildren, a successful business, many friends, many hobbies, and a strong faith. He had a beautiful life, and we are all better because of him. We shall miss him, but our sorrow will not bring us despair, because we know he is in heaven with Aunt Sarah, Nonno and Nonna. Our memories of him will live in a special place in our hearts.

Our love,
Tony, Gisella and family

Gisella Mortelliti - December 21, 2020 at 01:30 PM



“ Paula, Marisa, Antoinette, John, Joe and Families:

Our deepest condolences to all of you.
Uncle Victor was a special person in our lives.
He will be missed greatly.
May he rest in peace with his beloved Sarah, and with Nonna and Nonno.

Love, Zita, Brian and Brian

Zita Macdonald and Family - December 21, 2020 at 01:00 PM



“ To all the Villani's, I'm so sorry for your loss. Your dad was a wonderful human being. A gentle and kind person. God blessed you all to have him as your father. He is now resting in peace because he is now rejoined with your mom. Love, Ann Marie

Ann Marie Trinca - December 21, 2020 at 03:34 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Zita Macdonald and Family - December 21, 2020 at 12:57 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Victor Villani.



December 21, 2020 at 12:15 PM



“ Dear Villani family, We are sorry to hear of Victor's passing. I have so many memories of your wonderful Father and Woodruff Avenue. May you all find comfort in knowing he is with you Mom. Your Mother and Father will always remain in your hearts. Love, Ann Cesta Lepkowski, Mark and family

ann lepkowski - December 21, 2020 at 11:18 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Victor & Sarah



Antoinette T Villani - December 21, 2020 at 09:58 AM



“ 11 files added to the album Memories Album



Antoinette T Villani - December 21, 2020 at 09:23 AM



“ To Victor's family, We are so sad to hear of the passing of your father/grandfather. May you be comforted that he is now home with the Lord and his beloved wife. Over the past 24 years, your parents became our extended family, more like a beloved Zio than a next door neighbor. They were a little piece of home for me, reminding me so much of my own parents. Your parents were generous and thoughtful, always sharing from the garden or the oven. My father looked forward to visiting me so that he could shoot the breeze with your dad over a glass of wine. We were blessed to have known them. And we will miss them greatly. Our sincerest condolences to you. May the memories you share bring you strength. Cristina, Charlie, Dante and Marina Hatem

Cristina Hatem - December 21, 2020 at 08:31 AM



“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Paula Leeds - December 20, 2020 at 09:46 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Paula Leeds - December 20, 2020 at 09:40 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Paula Leeds - December 20, 2020 at 09:37 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Paula Leeds - December 20, 2020 at 09:31 PM



“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Paula Leeds - December 20, 2020 at 07:45 PM



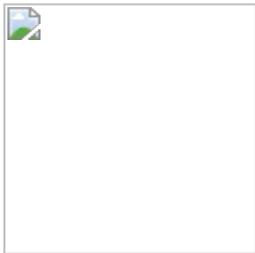
“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Paula Leeds - December 20, 2020 at 07:42 PM



“ 7 files added to the album Memories Album



JOSEPH P VILLANI - December 20, 2020 at 09:08 AM



“ To the Villani family, my sympathy goes to all of you on Victor's passing. I know how much he loved his family. He cut my hair for over 40 years and we shared so much during those bi-weekly visits. He is missed. Nick Pirro

nick pirro - December 20, 2020 at 08:49 AM



“ 36 files added to the album Memories Album



JOSEPH P VILLANI - December 19, 2020 at 06:06 PM



“ Paula, Marisa, Antoinette, John and Joe
Our deepest sympathy to you all
Your dad was a big part of our lives for many years and we will always have fond memories of him
We are so glad he was able to attend JP and Kate’s wedding last year
God bless you all

John, Michele, JP, Kate and Matt Marzocchi

John Marzocchi - December 19, 2020 at 03:49 PM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Victor Villani.



December 19, 2020 at 09:59 AM