



Chief Robert C. Forezzi Sr.

May 25, 1954 - August 30, 2015

Albany- Chief Robert C. Forezzi, Sr. passed away peacefully at home Sunday, August 30, surrounded by his family.

Bob is survived by his wife Daphne, his sons Robert (Lisa) and Nicholas, and his mother, Elizabeth R. (Foley) Forezzi. Bob is survived by grandsons Alec, Anthony and Nicholas; nephews Louis (Molly) and Joseph (Maria) Forezzi, Nate and Ted Buchanan, and John Pray; nieces Jessica Pray Whittemore (Nathaniel) and Alexandra Buchanan; and several great nieces and nephews. Survivors include in-laws, Gordon and Rachel Buchanan; and brothers and sisters-in-law Stuart and Mary Buchanan, and Rhonda and Thomas Pray. Bob is also survived by many beloved cousins and loyal friends. He was predeceased by his father, Louis J. Forezzi, Sr.; his brother Louis J. Forezzi, II; sister-in-law Paula Forezzi; and nephew Michael Forezzi.

Bob was born in the South End of Albany and was raised on Franklin Street on "Foley Row." Growing up across from the firehouse where his grandfather was a Lieutenant at Engine 5, Bob always had a passion for the fire service. Bob dedicated his life to serving the citizens of Albany through his career on the Albany Fire Department, working his way through the ranks and serving as Chief for the last seven years before his retirement in December of 2013. He held the distinction of being the first certified Paramedic Chief of the Department.

During Bob's tenure, his accomplishments were many: establishment of an EMT class at Albany High School, an AFD Explorer Post for Albany youth, a summer Cadet Program for young adults interested in the fire service; expanded fire prevention programs such as the K-5 fire prevention reading program in Albany schools, and a High Rise Community Fire Risk Reduction program, to name just a few. As Chief, Bob focused on increasing the health, education and safety of firefighters through the establishment of the AFD Wellness program, the Fire Medic Academy, and the Officers' Development Program. As a visionary leader, Bob sought to provide firefighters with the most up to date equipment and tools, including the procurement of the City's first Fire/Rescue Boat, to ensure the safety of personnel and citizenry.

Bob's greatest pride was in his sons and grandsons who learned life's lessons from him, and who showed him every day the love and strength of family bonds. Bob instilled in his sons, Bob Jr. and Nick, the pride of public service and, as a result, both chose careers in the police and fire departments respectively. Bob was also very close to his nephew Louie (also a firefighter) and his family, and was known as "Uncle Bob" not only to them, but to many on the Albany Fire Department.

Throughout his younger years, Bob was an avid outdoorsman who spent many hours fishing, camping, and hunting with his sons and participating in their sports activities. Bob enjoyed spending time with his three grandsons and cherished their unique characteristics – Alec's patriotism and determination; Anthony's curiosity and quick wit; and little Nicky's innocence and energy. Bob was a devoted husband, son, father and grandfather who loved his family, had intense passion for his job, and dedicated his life to his community.

Bob's short journey with cancer was eased through the kindness and

compassion of Dr. David Shaffer and the staff and nurses at NYOH. Special thanks go to the staff, nurses and Bob's 'team' in the outpatient Interventional Radiology Unit at Albany Medical Center. Everyone Bob encountered in the unit treated him like a rock star every single week, and Bob's family will always remember their caring and kindness.

The Forezzi family would also like to thank the APPFA, the Albany Fire Department, the Albany Police Department, and the City of Albany as well as the many friends, neighbors and family members who offered support during this time.

All are welcome to visit with Chief Forezzi's family Thursday, September 3, 2015 4:00 to 7:00 pm in the McVeigh Funeral Home, 208 North Allen Street, Albany.

Funeral Services with full fire department honors will be held Friday, September 4, 2015 at 10:00 am in the Historic Church of St. Mary on Capitol Hill, where a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated. Relatives, friends, dignitaries and all those in Fire Service are invited to attend the Chief's funeral Mass.

Interment will immediately follow the Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians Cemetery, Glenmont, NY.

Cemetery Details

Our Lady Help of Christians Cemetery

Jolly Road
Glenmont, NY 12077

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 3. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc.
208 N Allen St
Albany, NY 12206
(518) 489-0188
info@mcveighfuneralhome.com
<http://www.McveighFuneralHome.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Chief Robert C. Forezzi Sr.*



McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc. - September 03, 2015 at 09:34 AM

IB

We will always miss you chief Forezzi such a great chief

Isadore burns - November 01, 2020 at 06:13 AM



“ *Chief Robert C. Forezzi Sr.*

October 08, 2023 at 09:24 PM

MM

“ *So sorry for your loss. RIP Bob!*

Maura Farrell Miller - September 18, 2015 at 01:09 PM

MM

Cardinal McCloskey Class of 1973

Maura Farrell Miller - September 18, 2015 at 01:09 PM

SC

“ My sincere condolence to the Forezzi family. What a privilege to read and hear such wonderful accolades about your husband and father. He was a former second grade pupil of mine from St. Ann's School in the South End of Albany. He lived a life of dedication and service. You are all remembered in prayer. Sister Dolores Stevens (formerly Sister Margaret Philomena).

Sister Dolores Stevens, CSJ - September 03, 2015 at 03:32 PM

JS

“ I met him when I was around 15, I was apart of the Albany fire cadet program and he was always a super nice person, And told me if I ever decided to before a firefighter to give him a call he will be missed very much.....rip and condolences to the family

Jahmier Smith - September 03, 2015 at 03:13 PM

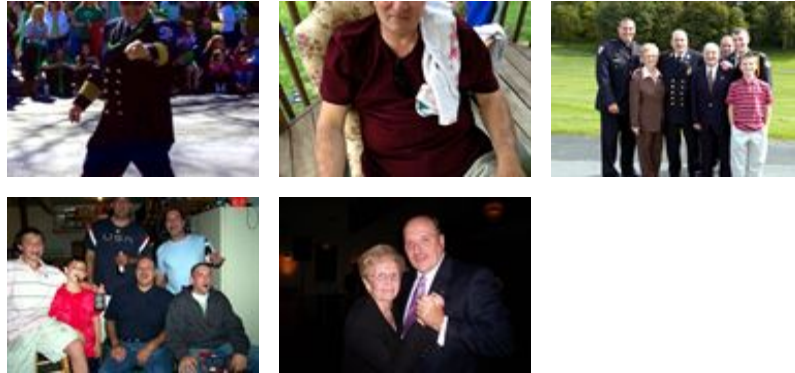
CS

“ Our condolences to the Forezzi family and The city of Albany during your recent loss of Chief Forezzi. You will all be in our thoughts and prayers in the days to come.
Christopher Smith- paramedic @ Mohawk Ambulance Service

Christopher Smith - September 03, 2015 at 12:29 PM



“ 57 files added to the album Life Tributes



McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc. - September 03, 2015 at 09:25 AM



“ April Speed lit a candle in memory of Chief Robert C. Forezzi Sr.



April Speed - September 03, 2015 at 08:42 AM

JF

“ Bobby; We're so very sorry for the loss of your Dad. He was truly a great man and your family is testimony to that.
Best regards as always.
Jeff & Tracey Fraser

Jeff Fraser - September 03, 2015 at 08:11 AM

KN

“ Daphne-

I am so saddened to hear of the loss of your husband. Please know that you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. Kathy Napoli

Kathy Napoli - September 03, 2015 at 07:02 AM

TP

“ To the Forezzi Family,

I am very sorry to hear of Bob's passing. We went to CMHS together and I remember him as a very friendly and nice guy. My prayers go out to all of you.

Teresa Picarazzi (Burg)

Teresa Picarazzi - September 02, 2015 at 07:29 PM

SR

“ *My heart aches. I met Bobby in grammar school, Public School #23. I will never forget when I use to get kicked out of class (yes, I too got kicked out of class for talking too much); Bobby was the only one who protected me. He was a fighter, a boxer, like his father and uncles. His father and my father were great friends and grew up together in the South End. My condolences to his sons, his mom, his wife and to all his family. May God Bless!*

Susan Rizzo - September 02, 2015 at 09:10 AM

LB

“ *Laurie Brisley lit a candle in memory of Chief Robert C. Forezzi Sr.*



Laurie Brisley - September 02, 2015 at 09:07 AM

JP

“ *Jo-Ann Powell lit a candle in memory of Chief Robert C. Forezzi Sr.*



Jo-Ann Powell - September 02, 2015 at 08:32 AM

JP

Our thoughts and prayers are with you Daphne. Jo-Ann, Scott and Eric.

Jo-Ann Powell - September 02, 2015 at 08:33 AM

JB

My heart goes out to the Forezzie Family, Bob was always good to me, Joe Branigan, retired Joes plumbing and Heating.

joe branigan - September 02, 2015 at 05:34 PM

 Marianne Sacket

“ *Marianne Sacket lit a candle in memory of Chief Robert C. Forezzi Sr.*



Marianne Sacket - September 02, 2015 at 08:07 AM

JB

“ *Joanne Brannock lit a candle in memory of Chief Robert C. Forezzi Sr.*



Joanne Brannock - September 02, 2015 at 08:06 AM

KW

“ *Our heartfelt condolences to the Forezzi Family.*

*Kathy & Bill Weir
Leland, NC*

Kathy Weir - September 02, 2015 at 05:10 AM

MA

“ *Condolences and deepest sympathy to the Forezzi family. I didn't know him personally, only of him. He was a good man. May he rest in peace.*

Marian - September 01, 2015 at 11:35 PM



“ *Ed Vulcano lit a candle in memory of Chief Robert C. Forezzi Sr.*



Ed Vulcano - September 01, 2015 at 11:13 PM

DB

“ *Rest my friend, you deserve to rest now. When we were young you had the passion and drive to serve and make a difference, you did.....you served well and made a difference in many lives. My heartfelt sympathy to his beloved family.*

Donna Fisher Breslin - September 01, 2015 at 10:41 PM



“ I have known Bob for years, unfortunately I didn't know his wife and children, but I knew his nephews Joe and Mike and later Lou also their mother, Bob was an awesome person, my deepest sorrow goes out to the entire family. God bless you all.

James Gaul - September 01, 2015 at 09:40 PM



“ James Gaul lit a candle in memory of Chief Robert C. Forezzi Sr.



James Gaul - September 01, 2015 at 09:31 PM



“ My deepest condolences and prayers to his family.

Pattie Mitchell - September 01, 2015 at 08:20 PM



“ Our deepest sympathy to Bobby's family, friends, and Albany firefighters. Bobby was a real gentleman, and an Albanian through and through.

The Trefiletti Families

Regina Trefiletti - September 01, 2015 at 07:36 PM

RS

“ RIP Chief Bob, I grew up at the corner of 4th and Pearl, as a kid in the mid 50's, I would sit in the jumpseat of E5 all day and the FF's would give me cookies and milk, I went on to join the APD, when we saw each other Bob and I would share E5 stories, God bless you and your loved ones

Rich Sleasman

rich Sleasman - September 01, 2015 at 06:11 PM

LA

“ I am reading through the tributes to Bob and I am not at all surprised at all the people he affected within his too short lifetime. I was an ER nurse at AMCH and had many a conversation with Bob over patients that he would bring in to the ER. He was such a pleasant, caring, helpful man. He was always cheerful, always had a kind word.

When I left the ER and ran into Bob (Bobby as we used to call him in the ER) years later at a promotional event at the Palace Theater, we struck up a conversation as if I had seen him only yesterday. He was Chief then, and he gave me his card. If I ever needed anything, left him know. That is the type of person he was. I am sure his family already knows this; he was a change agent and a great man. He will be remembered and missed. Sincerely, Lisa M. Armao, RN, NP

Lisa Armao - September 01, 2015 at 05:26 PM

SF

“ Sandra France lit a candle in memory of Chief Robert C. Forezzi Sr.



Sandra France - September 01, 2015 at 02:04 PM

MP

“ I had the Honor and Privilege of meeting and getting to know Bob over the years. I saddens me that he did not get to enjoy retirement with the Family.

Here are a couple of photos I have of him the day the " Unveiled " Marine 1. He was like a little kid showing off his new toy.

I will keep the entire family in my thoughts and Prayers.

(The second photo is a canvas I had made and he hung it in his office.)



Michael A. Panzarino - September 01, 2015 at 01:36 PM

 Kyla Smith

“ Treasure the people you have, because you never know when one will be gone forever ❤️ In heaven you are looking down on all of your family & friends, keeping them safe and guiding them through life. we will always miss you. R.I.P Bob your were a wonderful man who died to young ❤️

Kyla Smith - September 01, 2015 at 01:10 PM

Kyla
Smith

“ 3 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Kyla Smith - September 01, 2015 at 01:06 PM

DC

“ *I am so sorry to hear of the Chief's passing. I was in the same class at Cardinal McCloskey H.S. with Bob, and we both served Albany as public servants. He was a heck of a guy who lived for his profession and to help others. He will surely be missed by the Albany community.*

Dominick Calsolaro

Dominick Calsolaro - September 01, 2015 at 11:47 AM