



Joseph R. Grasso

June 27, 1950 - September 25, 2016

Albany-Joseph R. Grasso, 66, a favorite son of Albany and a legendary football coach, entered Eternal Life Sunday, September 25, 2016 at home.

Born in Albany, he was the son of the late Anthony and Ann Andreola Grasso. He was a 1968 graduate of Cardinal McCloskey High School and a 1972 graduate of Siena College. Joe obtained his Masters Degree from The College of Saint Rose.

Joe was a teacher and football coach at the former Vincentian Institute. He went on to a longtime affiliation with Bishop Maginn High School, where he served as Principal, and had a legendary career as the Head Football Coach. Coach Grasso's career included 204 Section II victories, 7 Section II Superbowls, with 2 of those as Class A Championships. But along with the victories and rewards of teaching and coaching, Joe's greatest pleasure was his children, grandchildren and family. Joe followed in life the words of Coach Vincent Lombardi, that 'the quality of a person's life is in direct proportion to their commitment to excellence, regardless of their chosen field or profession.'

Coach Grasso was a member of the Siena College Hall of Fame, Bishop Maginn Hall of Fame, Capital Region Football Hall of Fame, and member of the Section II Football Committee. He most recently served on the coaching staff at Christian Brothers Academy.

He was the husband of Kristen Coyne Grasso; stepfather of Courtney Lane; former husband of Carol Grasso; dear father of Lynn Kelly (Michael), Ann Little (Donald), Kerry Grasso, Michael Grasso (Stephanie), Kathy Pavone (Jason) and his beloved late son, Joseph R. Grasso Jr; cherished grandfather of Ella and Joseph Kelly; Mason, Jackson, and Carson Little; Cameron, Trey and Michael Jr Grasso; Sophia and Mia Pavone; brother of Blanche Hoffman (late Robert) and the late Joanne Burke; brother in law of Richard Burke; Coach was predeceased by his dear friend Father Cabell Marbury; many nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and members of both the Capital District football community, and Bishop Maginn community survive Coach Joe Grasso.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Joe's family Wednesday, September 28, 2016 4:00 to 7:00 pm in the McVeigh Funeral Home, 208 North Allen Street, Albany, NY.

Funeral services Thursday, September 29, 2016 at 11:00 am at. St. Pius X Church, Loudonville where a Funeral Mass will be Celebrated by Bishop Emeritus Howard J. Hubbard, D.D.

The Rite of Committal will be held immediately following the Funeral Mass at Greenbush Cemetery, East Greenbush, NY.

Those wishing to remember Joseph R. Grasso in a special way may send a contribution to the Capital District Chapter of the National Football Foundation, 1445 Valencia Road, Schenectady, NY 12309.

To leave a message for the family, light a candle, obtain directions, or view other helpful services please visit www.McveighFuneralHome.com

Cemetery Details

Greenbush Cemetery

Rensselaer, NY

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **28**. 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>

Service

SEP **29**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Pius X Church
23 Crumitie Road
Loudonville, NY

Tribute Wall



“ *McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Joseph R. Grasso*



McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc. - September 27, 2016 at 04:08 PM



So beautiful my dear ones: Carol, Lynn, Ann, Carrie, Michael, Kristen and Courtney... Oh what a dear man he was, how he loved you all, yes all of you and what a great great spirit he had and the compassion and love for thousands... it was my great good fortune to be blessed to call him my friend.

Ellen Secci - September 28, 2016 at 11:21 PM



What a beautiful video of memories. He was a great guy who will be remembered fondly by so many. He will live on in the hearts of all his family & friends & of all those people who's lives he touched in some way. Fly high Mr. Grasso <3

Jenn Schultz (Geier) - September 29, 2016 at 08:02 AM



Coach Grasso was a inspiration in all I have done and will do in my life. I think about all the lessons he taught myself and others and think the world is a better place because of him. I send my love and sympathy to everyone who he has touched in his blessed life. Coach thank you and say hi to Joey for me!

Chuck Snow - September 29, 2016 at 05:41 PM



“ *Joseph R. Grasso*

October 08, 2023 at 09:24 PM



“ *Mr Grasso, a great and wonderful man, coach, administrator and mentor. You will be truly missed, but never forgotten. My deepest sympathy to the Grasso family.*

Christopher Yanulavich - October 21, 2016 at 08:18 PM



“ *With deepest sadness and condolences, a great man and coach he will be missed.*
Dave and Danelle Robilotto Van Hattum

Dave and Danelle Robilotto Van Hattum - October 02, 2016 at 04:59 PM

JC

“ As a young coach I was introduced to Joe Grasso thru the Albany State Football Clinic conducted on Thursday nights during the off-season by the legendary Bob Ford {retired Football Coach @ SUNY Albany}. Coach Grasso was already a legend in the coaching business, a smooth transition from his days as one of the great football players in the history of the Capital District.

He was gracious to all of the young coaches who would seek not only his knowledge but affirmation that we were doing things professionally as he modeled.

The thrill of being at the table with Coach Grasso, Alex Sokaris, Frank Derrico , Bob Ford, Brent Steuerwald, Ken Baker, Blaise Juliano and many unmentioned legends in the business of high school football are memories I will forever cherish.

These men were incredible role models as educators, coaches and leaders in their respective communities.

I wanted to be just like them.

They preached family and school and caring about each other as teammates. They made you proud to be called "Coach".

Joe Grasso changed many young people`s lives. Not just on the football field but as a lifelong educator and leader.

His greatest impact was on his children. To know his children is to know his soul.

It was just a month ago I saw Joe at CBA on the sideline, as our team was playing the Freshman CBA team on a early September Saturday. I had not seen Coach since his induction in the Capital District Football Hall of Fame. I wanted to personally thank him for everything he had done for me as a young coach. I proudly told him of my retirement from the teaching and coaching business after 38 years coming this June.

I personally thanked him for the way he treated me as a young coach and thanked him for being the classy role model all these years. We shared a few funny stories and then it was time for the game to begin. As I walked across the field, I had wonderful flashbacks to those Albany State Clinics, to the multiple trips to Bleecker Stadium on Saturdays in the fall to scout Maginn or their

opponent, and the great conversations with the small band of warriors known as Section Two Football Coaches.

It was a great feeling.

So amidst my shock and sorrow of Coach`s passing, I am overjoyed that I was given the privilege of saying what was a very personal

Thank you to man I have had held in great esteem for 38 years.

Thank you Coach.

Thank you.

James E. Carrese

Shenendehowa Football and Baseball

James E. Carrese - September 30, 2016 at 10:42 AM

CS

“ *I have nothing to say that will change anything but I do know that Coach Grasso has changed who I am and how I act! the love his family has given all is beyond anything people expect. I have a feeling that the Joe Grasso influence x2 doesn't stop here! Coach Burke and Coach Mike Grasso the torch is on you! please give to others like Coach has to me! it means more than you know to have had the bless man in my life!*

Chuck Snow - September 29, 2016 at 09:15 PM

MO

“ *My sincere condolences to you and your family during this difficult time, may the words at Isaiah 25:8 bring you comfort "He will swallow up death forever,And the Sovereign Lord Jehovah will wipe away the tears from all faces"*

Montana - September 29, 2016 at 08:31 PM

GL

“ I've know Joe Grasso and the *WHOLE* family since the mid 1980's when my children attened (& Graduated) from Bishop Maginn HS - Gene, Jr. (1988) & Denise (1992). Seeing them grow with a Catholic education and Joe, as Principal; made me feel that it was the right decision. Gene played football & Denise, tennis (undefeated team, Sr. year). Now, for the Grasso Loving Family; we live across the street and watched the kids grow into the Parents they've become. I'm happy to report that the grandkids, always got a "surprise" visit on Christmas Eve, from Santa. God Bless ALL the families. Gene & Linda Loparco, Colonie, NY



GENE LOPARCO - September 29, 2016 at 03:45 PM

CH

“ I was terribly saddened to learn of Mr. Grasso's untimely passing. He will always be permanent fixture in my wonderful memories of BMHS and his legacy will live on in the lives of all the young people he so positively influenced.

My deepest condolences,
Carrie A. Hedderman

carrie hederman - September 29, 2016 at 12:52 PM

HF

“ Mr Grasso, What A Great Man, Coach, Principal and Mentor. He made Bishop Maginn the Best. May our deep Love and Prayers be with the Grasso and Burke family.
the Robert Sr. and Richard Hughes family

Hughes Family - September 29, 2016 at 12:00 PM

RH

“ *One solid rock of the community... Lots of Strength!!! God Bless!!!!*

R.W. Hughes, Jr. and Family

Robert Hughes - September 29, 2016 at 11:50 AM

CN

“ *Lynn,
So sorry to hear of your loss. May your memories, family, and the
vast amount of love that surrounds you help you through now and
always.*

*Keeping you in my prayers,
Carmen Robinson*

Carmen Robinson (formerly Nelson-Parker) - September 29, 2016 at 10:10 AM

NE

“ *So sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers go out to your
family.*

Nicole Endres - September 29, 2016 at 08:54 AM

KA

“ Carol and dear children I am so sorry for your loss. We have so many fond memories from way back to Mike and my John's Colonie Little League days of our families building strong foundations for our children to grow on. Joe lives on in so many hearts of lives he touched. We are all blessed to have shared time with Joe and his family. While at dinner tonite we met a young man who shared where he had been earlier and broke down into tears telling us what Papa G had meant to him with his class of 95. We were happy to share stories of such a strong role model to so many and wonder at what a small world that connected two strangers. Knowing the close loving family you have always been I know you will get through this sad time together. Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers and take comfort in knowing that many, many people share your loss and are better people for having known your Dad.
Fondly and with great sympathy to you all, Kathy Burnetter(Young)

Kathy - September 28, 2016 at 11:27 PM

LW

“ LaTonya Womack And Mylan Womack-Wylie lit a candle in memory of Joseph R. Grasso



LaTonya Womack and Mylan Womack-Wylie - September 28, 2016 at 11:22 PM

LW

“ LaTonya Womack And Mylan Womack-Wylie lit a candle in memory of Joseph R. Grasso



LaTonya Womack and Mylan Womack-Wylie - September 28, 2016 at 11:16 PM

PR

“ *Grasso Family*

It is with a heavy heart I send you my deepest sympathy in the passing of Coach Grasso. For 10 years I had the opportunity to work with Coach Grasso as a member of the Big 10. There are not too many people you will meet who took such pride in their school as Coach did with with Maginn. He had a great passion and love for Maginn and never wavered his principals when it came to what he felt was right for his school or the Big 10 Conference. When I first got started, it was people like him who offered me advice or an encouraging word, which helped lead me in the right direction. I have great respect for Joe Grasso. He will forever be remembered as a good man, the heartbeat of Bishop Maginn High School, and a cornerstone of Section 2 athletics.

Paul REINISCH

Paul Reinisch - September 28, 2016 at 08:08 PM

CB

“ *Catherine & Bernard Bohl lit a candle in memory of Joseph R. Grasso*



catherine & bernard bohl - September 28, 2016 at 06:36 PM

LW

“ *Mr. Grasso will be truly missed he was a wonderful man. Your family is in our thoughts and prayers. Former Bishop Maginn students. From the Womack family*

LaTonya Womack - September 28, 2016 at 05:19 PM

JT

“ Expressing my heartfelt condolence to the Family and all Loved Friends of Coach Grasso. Please know that I am so very grateful to have been one of Coach Grasso’s earliest Football Players, His great positive impact and influence carried not only to each Game but to each of Life’s subsequent Challenges as well. Coach Grasso is always reverently remembered, always the source of inspiration!

*Jimmy Tompkins
Class of 1978*

Jimmy Tompkins - September 28, 2016 at 04:16 PM

MF

“ On behalf of the entire Watervliet Cannoneers Athletics Department, we'd like to send our thoughts and prayers to the Grasso & Maginn families. Coach was a staple in Section Two, one that represented us with class and pride. We will miss seeing him on the sidelines, and are thinking of his loved ones during this difficult time.

Michael Foust - September 28, 2016 at 03:38 PM

GK

“ My condolences go out to the entire Grasso family. He unfortunately left way too soon. I played football with Joe at Siena College for 2 years and he was an outstanding football player and one of the best athletes to ever come out of Siena. I always knew whoever we were playing, Albany State, Manhattan, RIT, etc. we would have the best player on the field. I coached with him at Watervliet for one year and it was again a very rewarding experience. You could tell he was going to be an outstanding coach. His loss helps me realize to appreciate the really important things in life, family and friends, as you don't know how long they, you or I are going to be here.

Gerry King


Gerry King - September 28, 2016 at 01:33 PM

JT

“ *Jimmy Tompkins lit a candle in memory of Joseph R. Grasso*



Jimmy Tompkins - September 28, 2016 at 12:22 PM

 Sarah Mastrofski

“ *Grasso Family,
My deepest condolences on the loss of your Dad. He was a great man and did so much for so many. I pray you find peace and comfort during this difficult time.
Sarah Mastrofski (Bernacki)*

Sarah Mastrofski - September 28, 2016 at 11:10 AM

DS

“ *To The Grasso Family:*

Our sincere condolences on the passing of Joe. During his life he was such a positive influence on so many lives and his legacy will continue to affect many more. During this time of celebration of Joe's life, please rest assured that our thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

Donna and Jeff Sullivan and Family

Donna and Jeff Sullivan - September 28, 2016 at 08:45 AM

BF

“ Dear Grasso Family,

My thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this impossible time. Coach Grasso was everything to a lot of people and for a coach in the area he was an inspiration and mentor. He believed in me when I needed a job and took me in and guided me back on my feet. I am forever grateful to a great man. He lives on in so many people and I can assure you he lives on in me as an educator and coach. Grasso family - Thank you for sharing him with so many.

Only the Best,

Brian Fruscio

Brian Fruscio - September 28, 2016 at 08:09 AM

AL

“ Dear Carol and family,

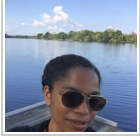
You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. The old neighborhood keeps losing cherished members. Ann Walsh Loftus

Ann M Loftus - September 28, 2016 at 07:50 AM

ML

“ To the Grasso family,
I had the pleasure of playing for Joe in the very beginning at VI, and then the honor of being asked by Joe to coach with him at Bishop Maginn. Joe was my coach, my colleague, and my friend. Three things I learned from Joe: work extremely hard, be well prepared, and NEVER give up! What great life lessons. My fondest memories of the Grasso family were Sundays at the house, watching game film, watching the kids run around (Annie doing her cartwheels), and then sitting down to a great Italian dinner. What a wonderful family. I'm extremely sorry for your loss and so thankful to have had Joe in my life. Knowing Joe he's already scouted out heaven and he'll have a game plan for all of us when we meet him again.
Mike LaFrank

M LaFrank - September 28, 2016 at 07:47 AM



“ Mr. Grasso was a no nonsense man so I mostly tried to stay out of his way. I never wanted to get on his bad side. I never had too many interactions with him but the ones I had were pretty funny. Like the times when I thought I was so cool cause I could balance my school books on my head. I am fooling around with my friends showing off my balancing skills...then in the middle of our laughter I hear a serious and stern voice say "Griffin, Don't make a spectacle out of yourself." He was warning me that I would drop those books and the books and papers would be all over the floor and I would be looking stupid, plus late for class.

The other funny thing I would love was to over hear him chastising someone else for a goofy thing they did. He would usually start with a loud "JESUS, MARY and JOSEPH..." Then dig into that kid correcting whatever crazy behavior they exhibited.

All and all, I left Maginn misunderstanding Mr. Grasso. As a teenager my impression was that he was a strict and serious man to stay away from. As a young adult, I worked with young men coming home from prison, who wanted to pursue college as a long term rehabilitation strategy. As they shared their stories (their pathway to prison), there were no Joe Grassos challenging them, pushing them, coaching them. So many of them had given up on school so early - dropped out by 10th grade! It's was around this time that I realized how amazing Joe Grasso was. He stood in the gap for a lot of us inner city kids who did not have the strong male leadership in our homes or in our immediate communities. He pushed us academically. He certainly pushed the boys physically on the football field.

Plus, there were so many ways that he tried to work with my mom on late tuition. I know for a fact my family wasn't the only one who had a hard time keeping up! My mom - a Puerto Rican Woman with 6 kids - said that one time he was really trying to get her to come to reasonable terms on her arrears. She was feeling the heat. She says she went to see Joe and Father Marbury and says " I have

*been a devout Catholic all my life. I followed all the rules...
Condoms are sinful to use in a marriage. Now look at this! My
husband is gone and nobody wants to help me with all of these
kids." Ooooh...Joe and Father Marbury melted a little and continued
to stretch and bend for her as much as they could.*

*I truly admire and appreciate the 40 years of sacrificing and fighting
that Joe Grasso endured. In his life long professional struggle he
ensured that kids from all over Albany, coming from all kinds of
family backgrounds had a safe, structured, small scaled faith based
high school alternative to the big public high school.*

He is a mighty man... A legend... A king! God bless his soul!

-Charlene Griffin '96

Charlene Griffin - September 27, 2016 at 10:01 PM

JT

“*Mike,
Heartfelt condolences to you, your sisters and the entire family.
As an official it was always a comfort to know that your dad was in
the house.*

Prayers for all.

Jim Toomey

Jim Toomey - September 27, 2016 at 07:02 PM

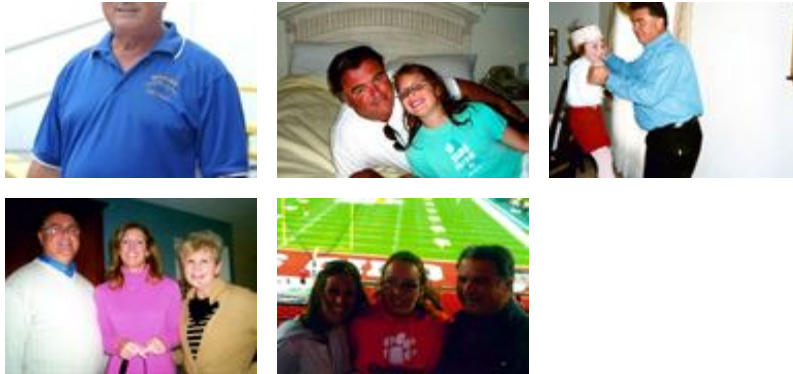
MM

“ As parents of a former Maginn student and football player we will never forget the support he gave our son which was critical to his success in school. Joe's genuine concern for his students was a benefit to many and a credit to him and the school. Our deepest condolences to his family and our sincerest gratitude for his service and dedication. Mark and Patricia

Mark Moody - September 27, 2016 at 04:45 PM

MCVEIGH
FUNERAL HOME, INC.
(518) 489-0188

“ 51 files added to the album LifeTributes



McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc. - September 27, 2016 at 04:02 PM

DB

“ Joe Grasso was not only a wonderful mentor but a close friend. Words cannot describe my sadness for everyone that knew and loved him. He gave me my first opportunity to be an Athletic Director, teacher and Women's basketball coach at the age of 24. His belief in me as a young professional is something I will always cherish. Working on the sideline with the football program, I was able to see not only a great coach but also an outstanding mentor to many student athletes. He taught them the meaning of hard work, discipline and family first. Coach Grasso taught everyone at Maginn that nobody will work harder and, "dreams do come true." My collegiate basketball team still tuck their practice jersey's in and respond, "Yes Coach." For fifteen years, I saw Joe turn boys into men. He was there for some athletes that had little or no guidance. I ran into Coach Grasso at an AAU event a little over a year ago and he was beaming about his family. The Joe I knew at Maginn would never take pictures, but this time, he showed me picture after picture. He had such a love for his family, it was heartfelt.

To the Grasso Family, I am heartbroken for all of you. He loved you all immensely and had a special relationship with each of you and was so very proud of all of you.

Many people say, Joe Grasso was a big part of Bishop Maginn. I say, "Joe Grasso was Maginn."

Coach Debbie Buff

Debbie Buff - September 27, 2016 at 02:30 PM

SK

“ *Some things are best left unsaid. Rest in peace, and may God bless you and your family. Till we meet again. Stu kaufman.*

Stu Kaufman - September 27, 2016 at 02:29 PM

MK

“ *As a former member of the Maginn High School Board, I will always have my memories of Joe as a gracious, generous, hard working man, focused on the worthwhile mission of serving his Maginn students. Joe was such a gentleman, kind and warm. I am so saddened that Joe left this world too soon. My condolences to his family, to his beloved former students, and his many friends who will miss his charismatic presence.*

Maggie Kirwin

Maggie Kirwin - September 27, 2016 at 02:05 PM

MY

“ *Joe Grasso’s influence spanned decades and across thousands of students, athletes and colleagues. In school and on the football field, students learned both academic and life lessons. The impact of this loss is widespread, and his work at Maginn as an administrator and a coach will be remembered for a lifetime. Bishop Maginn High School was fortunate to have Joe Grasso “on their team” for so many years. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the Grasso family.*

Mark and Francine Yanulavich

Mark & Francine Yanulavich - September 27, 2016 at 02:03 PM

BB

“ I wish to express my heartfelt condolences to Joe Grasso’s family, friends, and the Bishop Maginn Community. To have someone taken so unexpectedly shocks our senses, but reminds us as people of faith, that we know not when our time shall come. Faith is what we must now rely on to give us comfort in the belief that Joe lives on for eternity sharing in the presence and grace of God and his good friend Fr. Marbury. I knew Joe for more than 40 years. Together we laughed, we cried, we saw good times and bad, but through it all I most remember his steadfastness, determination and unwavering dedication to serve the children entrusted to his care. Take a well-deserved rest my friend, knowing that you “provided thousands of young men and women with an experience of values and learning in the Catholic tradition that will last a lifetime”.

Bill Bowen - September 27, 2016 at 01:16 PM

KS

“ To The Grasso and Burke Family
We are truly saddened by the passing of Coach Grasso . I (Kim) was a graduate 1993 of Bishop Maginn . My boys were honored to have a great coach and mentor Coach Grasso at CBA . He will be missed deeply . The Shanno Family

Kim Shanno - September 27, 2016 at 12:02 PM



“ Joe and kriaten were friends and neighbors of our family. Always a kind word. Always looking out for the neighbors.. Always a friend. Rest in peace joe and know that you will always be in our hearts. Love the Tomasinos

Lisa Lasher Tomasino - September 27, 2016 at 11:44 AM



“ *What words could possibly describe this man? In 2006 I sent him my son and 4 years later he returned to me a man. I am forever grateful for your mentoring and kindness. Joe will never be forgotten.*

Anna Scampone Brouker - September 27, 2016 at 10:11 AM

GZ

“ *Carol and family , we are so sorry for your loss , Joe was a wonderful man . Our deepest condolences .*

Greg and Antoinette Zorian - September 27, 2016 at 09:37 AM

MH

“ *Mike And Veronica Hicks lit a candle in memory of Joseph R. Grasso*



Mike and Veronica Hicks - September 27, 2016 at 09:34 AM

LB

“ *Too soon. Too young. Our thoughts are with the entire Grasso family.*

Steve and Lynn Bearup

Lynn Bearup - September 27, 2016 at 08:34 AM

MA

“ Coach Grasso will forever be one of the most influential people in the lives of thousands of student-athletes who had the privilege of playing for him or even just knowing him. He was as kind and compassionate as he was demanding of us on the field or in the classroom. Coach Grasso taught us that a team can achieve more than an individual can and that hard work and sacrifice are the keys to achieving your goals. The lessons we learned at Bishop Maginn under Coach Grasso reach far beyond sports. Thank you, Coach.

Mark Abatto
Class of 1988

Mark Abatto - September 27, 2016 at 08:26 AM

AA

“ I am still shocked and cannot believe that a great man like Mr. Grasso left us he was a great mentor to me. He got me admission into the school and he payed my registration fee he was a great man that i will miss. My prayer goes out for his family that be strong and be proud. He will always be remembered.



azmeer amir - September 27, 2016 at 08:24 AM

 Rose
Mercado

“ My son Joey and I are very sadden by the passing of Mr. Grasso he was such a wonderful man my son liked him a lot he was very nice to me and my son he will be missed my prayers go out to his family

Rose Mercado - September 27, 2016 at 07:33 AM

CS

“ *Very saddened by the loss of Joe. I will always remember those Sunday family dinners on Eagle St. They were the good old days .Many great memories from those days I cherish deeply. Please accept my deepest sympathies to Joe's family and friends. He was admired by many and will never be forgotten. My love and prayers for Joe and his family.the Sgroi family.*

Charlie Sgroi - September 27, 2016 at 07:26 AM

TF

“ *We are so very sorry to hear about your dad. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the entire family. What a loss for the community and a wonderful family! May he Rest In Peace . The Hansen Family*

the hansen family - September 26, 2016 at 10:47 PM

AH

“ *We are so sorry to hear of Mr Grasso's passing. Mr.Grasso was a wonderful man. He was a awesome principal. The Grasso family is in our thoughts and prayers. My husband help run the bookstore when we attended Bishop Maginn. He will be misse. RIP MR GRASSO! Love Ann McCullough-Heichel and Joshua Heichel.*

Ann McCullough-Heichel and Joshua Heiche - September 26, 2016 at 07:22 PM

NW

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the whole Grasso family right now. Mr. Grasso was an amazing man who touched so many lives. We are all better people because of him.*

Nikki Wason - September 26, 2016 at 07:21 PM

PT

“ *Kathy, Mike and Grasso Family,
So sorry to hear about your loss. He layed a foundation to a lot of
people of what hard work and discipline should be. Hundreds of
people a year for 40 years. I wish you and your fam the best
through a tough time.*

Pat Traynor

pat traynor - September 26, 2016 at 06:00 PM

MS

“ *Carol, Lynn, Ann, Kerry ,Michael and Kathy,*

*I am so sorry to hear about the passing of Mr. Grasso. I'm thinking
of you all with love! I know in my heart he was great by the most
beautiful Angel and I'm sure Joey had a football ready for the game.
If you can find any comfort in it, know they are together watching
over all of you!! Love and hugs to you all!!
God Speed Mr. Grasso*

Love, Margaret, Terry and Mackenzie Shellenberger

margaret shellenberger - September 26, 2016 at 05:21 PM



“ *Sapphire Skies Bouquet was purchased for the
family of Joseph R. Grasso.*



September 26, 2016 at 04:32 PM



“ *Kerry and family,
I'm so sorry for the loss of your dear father. It turns out younger members of my family knew him from Bishop Maginn and really admired him. My prayers and good thoughts go out to you and your family.*
Fran LoGiudice

Francesca Angela - September 26, 2016 at 04:17 PM



“ *Mr. Joe Grasso was a family man on and off the field,,, a high school principal that appreciated the uniqueness of each graduating class. Condolences to the Grasso family, and may our prayers be with you all.*



Robin Jones-Flowers - September 26, 2016 at 03:22 PM



So sorry for your great loss. All three of our children graduated from Bishop Maginn and one taught there and is teaching at CBA this year. Our prayers to all from the Schilling family.

Beverly Schilling - September 26, 2016 at 04:53 PM



“ *So sad to hear of the passing of Joe Grasso, the first and only head football coach at Bishop Maginn . Joe was a caring and tough football coach, teacher, and academian who touched the lives of so many Catholic students and athletes. His 1978 team with the inside and outside threat of Tim Linehan and his nephew Joe Burke was perhaps the best team ever in Section 2, undefeated and practically un-scored upon, winning the Super Bowl 28-0. But I will always remember Joe as a fair and honest man, and a friend, and of course the heart and sole of Bishop Maginn.*

Mark Mindel - September 26, 2016 at 03:21 PM

SL

“ To Joe's Family, I am so sorry for your loss. May he rest in peace.
Sincerely, Shelley Lofrumento

Shelley Lofrumento - September 26, 2016 at 03:06 PM

BM

“ Joe was an amazing man. A true gentleman, friend, boss and coach. He will be missed by so many. He was a father figure to all of his students & he will truly be missed. RIP Joe.

barbara miller - September 26, 2016 at 03:01 PM

BC

“ It was our privilege to how know such an Honorable Man. May he Rest in Peace. I'm sure He is sitting among the Angels.

Bernice & Bob Cietek



Bernice Cietek - September 26, 2016 at 02:39 PM

SC

“ To have known and worked with Joe for some years -- I can truly say that he was an excellent example of what it means to be a committed Christian educator and coach who loved young people and did all he could to make Bishop Maginn High School a place of warmth and welcome. His task was not an easy one but he always kept in mind the well-being of students under his care. It is a known fact that he became a father figure for many young men -- especially the disenfranchised. Many will say he was (and will continue to be) the "heart" of Bishop Maginn High School. May his dear soul now rest in peace.

Sister Anne Tranelli, CSJ - September 26, 2016 at 02:34 PM

JG

“ You were more than just a coach/principal... You were a second father figure to everyone of your students. Not only are we going to miss you, but you will never ever be forgotten..



Love you papa G

Jezsire Garland - September 26, 2016 at 02:26 PM

LD

“ Leslie & Mike Duell lit a candle in memory of Joseph R. Grasso



Leslie & Mike Duell - September 26, 2016 at 02:24 PM

EL

“ Joe Graso was more than a colleague, he was a dear friend. I had the great good fortune to work with him for 18 years at Bishop Maginn High School. Joe loved his children, each one for his or her individuality. Her loved the students, and for many was the only father figure they had. Silently he helped students without looking for recognition, he was the model of a true Christian. He gave many young men the knowledge of what it meant to truly be a man of substance.

*I was touched personally by Joe's kindness and honored to call him friend. I will miss his bravery and compassionate spirit on this planet. Rest in the peace and love of God dear Joe,
Ellen Secci (formerly Sister Ellen)*

ellen - September 26, 2016 at 01:32 PM

BD

“ *So incredibly sad to hear of Mr. Grasso's passing ... I know that I am not alone among his former students in saying he made a lasting and positive impression on every single student he saw. He was an incredible man and life force, and will be sorely missed.*



Bridget Heilsberg, DVM - September 26, 2016 at 01:12 PM

FM

“ *So sorry to hear about Mr. Grasso. Our prayers and thoughts are with your family at this difficult time. Felix Muniz*

Felix Muniz - September 26, 2016 at 12:59 PM