



Michael D. Treffeletti

July 14, 1945 - November 28, 2023

Clifton Park, NY-Michael D. Treffeletti, a cherished son, brother, father and baseball coach, departed from this world on 11/28/2023, leaving behind a legacy of hard work, selflessness, and service to his community. Born on July 14, 1945 in Waco, Texas, to Carmen and Victoria Treffeletti (Bernino), Michael touched the lives of those around him with honesty, integrity, and his unique blend of stoicism and childish humor.

Michael grew up in Albany, New York as the son of an impassioned Italian grocer and his adoring wife. Michael attended the Vincentian Institute (V.I.) of Albany and he would later brag for decades of all the home runs he hit on the school baseball team. He hit none. Ever. He later served in the United States Army Reserves and graduated from Siena College with a degree in Economics.

A lifelong resident of Albany and Clifton Park, Michael dedicated his life to mentoring his sons, their friends and the youth of his community through sports. While Michael coached basketball for many years, he left his mark as the baseball coach and league commissioner of the Clifton Park Baseball League. In the late 1980's, Michael and a group of coaches and families broke ground at what would later be known as the Clifton Commons sports complex. They built eight baseball fields with Michael's effort, attention to detail, landscaping passion, and humor leading the way. Two decades later, the

largest and most beautiful field in the complex would officially be named, “The Mike Treffiletti Field.”

Using unique strategies such as grilling hot dogs and hamburgers during practice for his players, and teaching kids that they should never try to hit home runs, only line drive doubles, his infectious personality and love of the game brought him the endearing title of “Coach T” by his hundreds of former players and assistant coaches. Near the end of his life, he proclaimed the greatest of all his life’s accomplishments: Holding the all-time Clifton Park, New York record for the number of high-fives given and received. He earned this honor over the span of his 25 years coaching and working on the fields for Elnora Mohawk and then Clifton Park Baseball. Aside from the dozens of championship teams and all-star teams he coached, his efforts to keep the fields beautiful and well maintained earned his field the distinction of twice hosting the Babe Ruth World Series, and leaving Coach T as the head coach for both world series host teams.

Professionally, Michael excelled as a Financial Consultant for 40 years, leaving a unique mark on the industry. His passion for analyzing numbers and trends, his work ethic and commitment to excellence inspired colleagues and earned him the respect of peers as well as numerous industry benchmarks and awards.

Beyond the workplace and the ballfields, Michael had a passion for landscaping, illustration, poetry, and Sunday pasta dinners with his friends and family. His sketches of Santa Claus and his childish jokes brought smiles to the younger siblings of all his ballplayers.

Michael earned numerous awards in the community to which he served, including:

1993 Babe Ruth Baseball New York State Regional Tournament- Head Coach

and Groundskeeper.

1996 Capital District YMCA Century Club Award for generous support of service to young people.

1997 Babe Ruth Baseball League World Series- Head Coach and Groundskeeper.

1999 Babe Ruth Baseball League World Series- Head Coach and Groundskeeper.

2003 Town of Clifton Park's 175th Anniversary Honor Roll in recognition of outstanding citizenship.

2006 Big Brother of the Year for the Capital Region of New York State, by the Big Brothers, Big Sisters of America Organization.

Michael is survived by his brothers Joseph and Eugene, his beloved sister Victoria, sons Joseph (Aimee), Michael (Kasey) and Steven (Elaine), and his grandchildren Sabrina, Cameron, Carmen, Lena and Victoria, who will hold their "Pop" in their hearts.

Michael is survived by his three nephews and his niece, Claire who became a mom this week. Michael loved his cousins dearly. He took pride in knowing they looked up to him as a source of strength and reliability. Michael was preceded in death by his dearest friends, Ella Jane Ketchum and Dylan Spencer, and cousins Regina and Joey Treffiletti.

In this time of grief, let us remember Michael for the laughter he shared, the community he served, the lives he touched, and the tens of thousands of high-

fives he inspired.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Michael's family Tuesday, December 5, 2023 10:00 am to 12:00 pm at the Parish of Mater Church, 40, Hopewell Street, Albany, NY 12208. His Funeral Mass will then be celebrated at 12:00 pm.

The Rite of Committal will be held at St. Agnes Cemetery, immediately following the Mass.

To leave a message for the family please visit www.McveighFuneralHome.com

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Capital Region, NY in his honor.

May Michael's legacy continue to inspire and bring comfort to those who were fortunate enough to know him.

Cemetery Details

St. Agnes Cemetery

48 Cemetery Ave
Menands, NY

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 5. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Parish of Mater Christi
40 Hopewell St
Albany, NY 12208-1505
(518) 489-3204

Service

DEC 5. 12:00 PM (ET)

Parish of Mater Christi
40 Hopewell St
Albany, NY 12208-1505
(518) 489-3204

Tribute Wall

PB

“ *My condolences to the Treffiletti family.
I have known many of the older members since the 60s around New
Scotland, St Theresas, VI and of course, our true alma mater-
Gasparys.
Mike was a great guy. He was our CYO Basketball Coach in the mid
60s. He and his friends (like Tommy Conoby, the Lupos, etc) worked
out with us.
Thanks to him and the family for all the great memories.*

Paul Byron - December 07, 2023 at 12:28 PM

BB

“ This world lost a true man among men. I first met Mike on the fields on the Commons in 1989 when my son played T Ball. I was sucked into the vortex of volunteerism working with him on field cleanups and coaching. His wit and humor, with a touch of sarcasm, is what grabbed me and everyone around him. I learned a lot from him from coaching, field maintenance and ultimately leadership of Clifton Park Baseball. He was able to take skilled players and mix in not so skilled players, get them to raise their game to a point where he won many division championships. I was involved with all 5 Babe Ruth World Series here in town serving as Host President for 4 of them. He did everything humanly possible to ensure great outcomes in all 5. Serving as Head Coach in the first two series. My greatest honor and remembrance was the day he asked me to be a reference for him to become a mentor in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Program. I watched him as he taught young boys responsibilities through hard work giving back. My second recollection for Mike centers around a phone call from Treff asking me to take an All-Star team with him and coach all summer. I was honored he called me and asked him which team he wanted help with. He said that there was a 4 year old travel team that needed coaches. I was speechless and he finally came around and told me it was not real. But that was his humor and sarcasm. We ended up at Ravenswood for dinner a couple nights later to discuss the next World Series. I have many stories to tell over a 30 year friendship but there is not enough room here. As one of the 5 fathers of CPBL, I wish you and your family many blessings on your journey. Godspeed, Mike. You're one in a million.

Bill and Camille Butler

Bill Butler - December 06, 2023 at 11:18 AM

Jl

“Relentless Work & Dedication”...
Thank You Mike.



Joe & Shirley Ilnatolya - December 05, 2023 at 06:10 PM

JM

“ I laughed out loud when I read how Cousin Mike never hit a home run! Never. It reminded me of when Mike and his brothers sponsored a team at Whitehall Babe Ruth. I played for Handy Andy's back then and well, we stunk. Mike would often threatened to cut off funding unless we played better. We never did play better.

I don't know where Mike got his sense of humor but his big heart came from his parents, especially his Mother. When my father died in 1967, Vicki's kindness and generosity with my mother Julia was legendary.

Rest in peace, Mike.

John Macri

John Macri - December 05, 2023 at 10:45 AM

JW

“ To Joseph and family,
I am so sorry to hear of your loss. May he rest in peace and may God keep you all and give you strength.

Josita Walker and family

Josita Walker - December 04, 2023 at 08:11 PM

PS

“ I am so very sorry for the loss of your brother.

My late husband Joe and Mike went way back to there VI days. Joes love of baseball, horse racing and golf were just a few things they shared with a great passion.

I met Mike when Joe and me were dating back in 1965. He always greeted me with a smile, a few times he would tell me things about Joe that I did not know then ending it with a smile and chuckle. I cherished his sence of humor but first and foremost, Mike was always a gentleman.

He was also our financial advisor for many years with Morgan Stanley, right up until his retirement.

Mike and Joe...aka “Treff and Stonge” are now reunited. I can hear them talking, Baseball, Horses, Golf and all the good times from days gone by.

RIP my friend RIP 🍀🍀🍀🍀

Peg St.Onge - December 04, 2023 at 03:33 PM

JE

“ Joe, Gene and the Treffiletti family: so sorry to read of Mike's passing. My condolences.

John Emsing - December 04, 2023 at 03:21 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael D. Treffeletti.*



December 04, 2023 at 12:52 PM



“ *The Treffeletti's and the Bernardo's go back many years. My father Bill loved your family, and was Mike's basketball coach at St. Theresa's school when Mike was a kid. They had some great talks at the Clifton Park Baseball fields where Mike and I coached, about the glory days of a young, "scrappy" guard. It was a lot of fun to listen to the two of them. We'll miss the Legend that Mike was, but the stories live on.*
Jay Bernardo

William "Jay" Bernardo - December 04, 2023 at 12:37 PM



“ *Mike introduced me to coaching. I watched as he guided kids. I learned so much and he was an inspiration to me when I started coaching. He was quick to share his knowledge and told great stories. With him I worked on the Commons. I'm not sure if I can say that the Commons would not be there if it wasn't for Mike, but I can say that it would not be the wonderful place it is had he not devoted himself to it. Most of all I'm so proud to say I was a friend of his. RIP pal.*



tony Mingione - December 04, 2023 at 11:16 AM

WW

“ *My heart breaks reading his obituary. He had a large influence on my life. We worked together from 1981 to 1995 and remained friends, losing touch in 2000. I thought of him often and we spoke on the phone occasionally. He was a hard working influential man who love his sons above all. He will be missed.*

Wendy Willard - December 03, 2023 at 03:13 PM



“ *Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of Michael D. Treffiletti.*



December 03, 2023 at 11:46 AM

SJ

“ *Joe & Gene, I have so many great memories of Mike , growing up in the same neighborhood. He was always a leader. My sincere condolences on your loss. I hope you are comforted by your memories of him, and that you find strength from family and friends as you mourn his passing.*

Steve Jackson - December 02, 2023 at 05:44 PM

TV

“ In the mid nineteen sixties I was a member of the St. Teresa's high school CYO basketball team. Every Wednesday night we all met Mike, our coach, at the Junior High School gym. He'd unlock the door, bring us in and then conduct a first class practice as coach of a bunch of hoop wannabees; Sat, repeat the same and drive all of us over to the old Albany CYO center for our weekly game. How he put up with us? I know not how or why. Did Mike influence my life? Fast forward 30 years. When I coached my sons youth basketball teams, I used as many of the hoop plays I could remember that he taught us way back when, and tried to impart the love of basketball in my teams the way he kindled it in me many moons ago. A great man.

Tom Venter

Tom Venter - December 02, 2023 at 03:46 PM

OC

“ I went to St. Theresa's Elementary School with Mike "Treff" and journeyed through Junior High and Vincentian as well. We competed in the classroom, on the basketball court, and at stick ball off the walls of School 19. If there was game to play, a hand to deal, a dart to throw, or a cue to wield we picked it up. He was always good at whatever it was, and he always made it worth the effort. There were always laughs, and win, lose or draw it was a positive experience. He played hard and fair and made the time fly with levity and a style that was infectious.

I have no idea where we go from here but if there is any semblance of life on earth in the hereafter there's probably a whistle being blown by a ref to get Mike into the game, or even more fittingly an umpire changing his lineup card so "Treff" can get out into center field again.

Owen Colfer - December 02, 2023 at 11:52 AM

CD

“ First off, words do no justice. I have so much love, respect and admiration for Mr Treff! Baseball was the biggest part of my life growing up and he was THE MAN! I would lose sleep if there was rain in the forecast that night of, or the next morning, because I just wanted to play. We would get to the field early & Mr T already had 2 other fields ready to play at the Commons & would be working on ours haha... he was an absolute legend!!! I'd show up with a big smile on my face and he'd wink and say "go grab a rake" and I was as happy as could be. He was there day in and day out, rain or shine, with a smile on his face... and unlimited jokes & stories to tell. Such a blessing on so many levels! Forever missed but always remembered ❤️

Craig DeCrosta - December 02, 2023 at 10:58 AM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Michael D. Treffiletti.



December 02, 2023 at 09:30 AM

EE

“ RIP to a an absolute legend.
Mr. T had more of an impact on us as kids playing sports than anyone can imagine. A great man. I could not be more appreciative of everything he did. On top of that, he raised three awesome sons. Thanks for the memories Mr. T. You gave of yourself more than anyone can know.

Erik Edson - December 01, 2023 at 07:06 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Michael D. Treffiletti.*



December 01, 2023 at 03:45 PM



“ *I worked for Mike at the Handy Andy Store on Delaware Ave. He was a boss as well as a mentor. Rest in peace, Mike.*

Al Maikels - December 01, 2023 at 03:36 PM