



Nicholas C. Sfara

July 25, 1935 - October 15, 2024

Schenectady, NY-Nicholas C. Sfara, born on July 25, 1935 in Gioiosa Ionica, Italy to the late Domenico Antonio Sfara and Maria Caterina Calvi Sfara, entered into eternal life on October 15, 2024.

“Nick”, as he was known to family and friends, was the quintessential family man. He was fiercely loyal to his family. He doted on his children and grandchildren and loved nothing more than a family gathering complete with a host of nieces and nephews.

Nick led an incredibly interesting life. He was raised in southern Italy until he was about 12 years old. At that point, since southern Italy was ravaged after WWII, his family moved to France in pursuit of work. They lived in a suburb of Paris called Ivry Sur Seine. Nick quickly learned French with his siblings and the help of a cousin, and attended secondary school there. He eventually went to school to study mechanical drawing and received his degree. He was extremely mathematical and precise and a stickler for details.

Nick was drafted into the French Army at age 22 and spent a few years stationed in Algeria during the French-Algeria conflict. He was a sergeant in the army and received a commendation for excellence.

Nick eventually moved to the United States in 1964. His first job was at the

Hotel Wellington in Albany washing dishes. He moved on to the Albany Public Market and at that time he met a nice girl named Mary Jean Pellegrino whose family owned an Italian importing store. Eventually, he and Mary Jean started dating and married in 1966.

During this time Nick studied English at night in adult education classes. Nick was driven, determined and smart. He began working in construction and his first job was at the South Mall in Albany. Nick eventually became a construction estimator in the area and was widely known for his meticulous attention to detail. His specialty was “quantity takeoff pricing”. Nick worked for some of the largest companies in the area and was sought after due to his skill. Nick’s work ethic was second to none. He worked day and night to provide for his family. Almost every night you would find him at the kitchen table hunched over a set of plans figuring out pricing so that a bid could be made. When his bids were accepted he was so proud. That was always a good night in our house!

Nick loved raising his girls, gardening, traveling, spending time with his grandchildren and occasionally showing off his artistic talents by drawing or painting. He spoke four languages and really was a linguist. He loved nothing more than learning about the origin of words. Many nights were spent pouring over foreign language dictionaries in our house. Nick's favorite thing to do was to have a cup of espresso with his siblings. A pot was always going on the stove. He loved to vacation in Rockport, MA and created so many memories for his family there.

Nick and Mary Jean did everything together. From raising their girls, to traveling, hosting family gatherings and watching their grandchildren grow, his passing leaves a void that will never be filled. Yet, the memories created are priceless.

The only thing that really mattered to Nick was his family, and he had a beautiful one. He is survived by his beloved wife of 58 years, Mary Jean Pellegrino Sfara, his daughters Laura Hosey (Thomas) and Nicole Casey (Jeff), his grandchildren Matthew and Joshua Hosey and Genevieve Casey. Also survived by siblings Marianne Maggio, Carmeline Gallo (Nick) and Vincent Sfara. Left to cherish his memory are sisters-in-law Evelyn Haught (Jack), Diana Keller (Chris) and Joanne Gage (Tom), several nieces and nephews and a host of great nieces and nephews. .

Nick was predeceased by brother-in-law Joseph Maggio and sister-in-law Karen Smith-Sfara.

We would like to publicly thank Nick's caregivers who allowed us to keep him home as long as possible. Amrita, Chandra, Sherina and Mala - you not only cared for our father but you provided us with peace of mind. We would also like to offer the most sincere thanks to Shaker Place Nursing & Rehabilitation Center who treated our father with the most compassionate and dignified care we could've ever imagined. Lisa, Jen, Suzie and Sheri, please know that you made a profound difference in all of our lives and especially Nick's in his final days.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Nick's family Sunday, October 20, 2024 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm at McVeigh Funeral Home, 208 North Allen Street, Albany, NY 12206. Please enter the funeral home from the rear parking lot entrance only.

Funeral services Monday, October 21, 2024 at 10:30 am at Blessed Sacrament Church, 607 Central Ave (Rev John Bradley Way), Albany, NY 12206 where his Funeral Mass will be celebrated. The Rite of Committal will

be held at St. Agnes Cemetery, Menands, NY immediately following the Mass.

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

Cemetery Details

St. Agnes Cemetery

48 Cemetery Ave
Menands, NY

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **20**. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

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

Funeral Mass

OCT **21**. 10:30 AM (ET)

Blessed Sacrament Church
607 Central Ave (Father John Bradley Way)
Albany, NY 12206
(518) 489-0188
info@mcveighfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

SP

“ We're sad to just learn of his passing. Our son, Dan, was a classmate of Laura's at Colonie, and we all shared the riches of Betty+Don Arnold on Jo Ann Court, feeling part of a neighborhood, and a good community of people.

Sandy + John Phillips

Sandy Phillips - October 25, 2024 at 07:21 PM

NG

“ Naida G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Nicholas C. Sfara.

Naida G. - October 21, 2024 at 07:11 AM

LL

“ Lucy L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Nicholas C. Sfara.

Lucy L. - October 20, 2024 at 03:41 PM

MD

“ Maria DeMasi of Troy (also originally from Gioiosa Ionica) sends her condolences on Nick's passing. She remembers him well and keeps the family in her prayers during this difficult time.

Maria DeMasi - October 20, 2024 at 09:29 AM

GP

“ Gina P. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Nicholas C. Sfara.

Gina P. - October 19, 2024 at 10:50 PM

EB

“ Dear MaryJean, Laura, Tom, Nicole, Jeff and family,
We were saddened to hear about your loss.
Our prayers and thoughts go out to you at this difficult time. We
have so many memories of Nick and your family on Jo Ann Court
(the parties and other social gatherings). Mr. Sarasota (Nick) was
truly a wonderful person. He was a compassionate loving son,
husband, father and grandfather always caring about his family and
others. We will miss him. May you remember and cherish his
memories in the days to and may bring you peace and comfort.
The Bartlett, Bowes, Saez and Cade family, Altamont, NY and
Sarasota, Florida

Eleanor Bartlett - October 18, 2024 at 08:15 PM

LL

“ Love, Vincent, Michelle and Leo purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of
Nicholas C. Sfara.



Love, Vincent, Michelle and Leo - October 18, 2024 at 01:50 PM

LS

“ Lorrie S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Nicholas C. Sfara.

Lorrie S. - October 18, 2024 at 10:13 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Nicholas C. Sfara.*



October 18, 2024 at 07:42 AM



“ *Love, Darby, Laurie, Megan, and Jacob planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Nicholas C. Sfara.*

Love, Darby, Laurie, Megan, and Jacob - October 18, 2024 at 07:16 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Nicholas C. Sfara.*



October 18, 2024 at 07:16 AM



“ *The Dominguez Family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Nicholas C. Sfara.*



The Dominguez Family - October 18, 2024 at 05:29 AM

MC

“ Mala, Amrita and Chandra purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Nicholas C. Sfara.



Mala, Amrita and Chandra - October 17, 2024 at 07:15 PM

MJ

“ Mary Beth & John purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Nicholas C. Sfara.



Mary Beth & John - October 17, 2024 at 06:34 PM

TS

“ The Casey siblings planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Nicholas C. Sfara.

The Casey siblings - October 17, 2024 at 05:25 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Nicholas C. Sfara.



October 17, 2024 at 05:25 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Nicholas C. Sfara.



October 17, 2024 at 05:11 PM



“ The Maggio/Rubin family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Nicholas C. Sfara.

The Maggio/Rubin family - October 17, 2024 at 04:44 PM



“ The Maggio/Rubin family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Nicholas C. Sfara.



The Maggio/Rubin family - October 17, 2024 at 04:44 PM