



Thomas J. Riccardo

January 20, 1918 - February 11, 2015

West Albany-Thomas “Curly” Riccardo, 98, died peacefully on Tuesday February 10, 2015 surrounded by his family and friends. He was predeceased by his parents, Carmen and Maryann Riccardo.

One of the greatest of the “Greatest Generation”, Curly, as he was known to everyone, served his country with pride and distinction in WWII and after as a member of the United States Navy, the United States Army, and the National Guard. He was part of the crew of the US Pasadena, a light cruiser, in the Philippine campaign at Luzon and Formosa in the South Pacific. Curly saw the world and the world was made a brighter and happier place. Upon his coming home from duty to his country, Curly, returned to his roots in the Italian neighborhoods of Albany working in the rail yards of West Albany and as a laborer with Laborers International Union of North American, Local 190. He was also a very talented farmer as many will attest. His family were part of founding members of the Italian Benevolent Society of West Albany. He had the distinct pleasure of escorting the former First Lady and U.S. Senator from New York, Hillary Clinton, when she visited the Society Hall. He had a charm about him that never stopped. He would smile through difficult times because he loved to bring happiness to others, and when the times were good he shared his joy with everyone.

He was a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Lodge and

Christ Our Light Roman Catholic Church. He was predeceased by his 8 siblings Pete Riccardo, Nick Riccardo, Vito "Ricky" Riccardo, Helene Johnson, Kate Meisner and Joanne Brown. He is survived by his cherished son, Thomas C. Riccardo, his former wife, Rosemary, and his nieces and nephews from his brothers and sisters.

Services will be at the Christ Our Light Roman Catholic Church on Tuesday February 17, at 10:30 a.m. Calling hours will be at the McVeigh Funeral Home 208 No. Allen Street Monday February 16, between the hours of 4 pm and 7 pm. To leave a message for the family, visit www.McveighFuneralHome.com

Cemetery Details

Our Lady of Angels Cemetery

1389 Central Ave
Albany, NY

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 16. 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

FEB 17. 10:30 AM (ET)

Christ Our Light Catholic Church
1 Maria Drive
Loudonville, NY

Tribute Wall



“ Thomas J. Riccardo

October 08, 2023 at 09:24 PM



“ Dad its been over 7 years now since you passed still remember the first day I was reunited with you that Christmas of 1980 after not seeing you for 8 years the plane landed in Albany and the snow was falling as I looked out the window. I walked off the plane and you were waiting in the lobby we shook hands and we walked outside to your car the snow falling and the wind blowing driving back to West Albany past old Tobin's meatpacking plant I can remember smelling the meat cooking inside as we drove past and we arrived at your house . Was a surreal day the first time we were together since 1972 at the age of 3 . You had your Christmas decorations up inside the house and gave me a present we spoke to each other asking questions learning who the other was and bonding. That Christmas was one of the best ever and I'll remember it ! The last time we saw each other in person was in front of the Suneco gas station in West Albany that morning of June 3rd 2011 you had driven up to make coffee earlier while I packed by suitcases and into my car drove up and we spoke for a few minutes at the station and then shook hands in front of Suneco and said our good bye and our time together was over .The world moves on and we don't always control all the events in our lives sometimes storms come and destroy so we must rebuild and start over again! You told me a few years before that I should not be sad when you die because your life was fast, fun and exciting you lived it to your fullest and enjoyed you days so you had some regrets and did some things maybe you should not have done but we all have .

Thomas - July 02, 2022 at 11:12 PM

TR

“ Thomas Riccardo lit a candle in memory of Thomas J. Riccardo

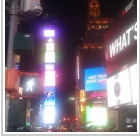


Thomas Riccardo - April 06, 2021 at 04:02 PM

TR

Well its been a few years since you passed on and the world keeps changing nothing stays the same. The old Italian Neighborhood in West Albany is gone, the old West Albany Italian Benevolent Society that we belonged to is no longer a club and the older generations passed on. The West Albany Catholic Church where you married my mother is now Korean marking the end of the old Italian heritage and the entire area has changed ! I'm glad as a very young boy I was reunited with you after being separated for so many years we had our differences but we had each others back in the end and we were the only ones left for each other although the last couple of years I was involved with the medical cannabis wars in Arizona, serving my country the best I could against Criminal elements in the government and private sector that have damaged this country as you gave your services to the USA during your younger years and could not see you still we communicated on a regular basis! I'm grateful for your help over the years and also I'm glad to have been there to assist on many occasions when other family and friends let you down and left you by yourself especially when you almost died in 2006 and 2007 luckily I had come up from Florida by chance and was around when you were dying and took you to the hospital a few days before it would have been too late. Things happen for a reason sometimes . You came to Florida to visit me during the winter and myself would come up to NY to stay at your place during the summer for many years . We have our memories and nothing is forever! The Truths of all things are eventually revealed the lies and deceptions of others cannot stay hidden the light of Truth always shines upon the shadows of darkness sooner or later and things are balanced again.

Thomas Riccardo - April 06, 2021 at 04:18 PM



“ *Thomas Riccardo sent a virtual gift in memory of Thomas J. Riccardo*



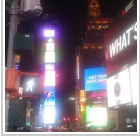
Thomas Riccardo - August 29, 2017 at 07:38 PM



“ *Thomas Riccardo lit a candle in memory of Thomas J. Riccardo*



Thomas Riccardo - August 29, 2017 at 06:24 PM



“ When I was reunited with my Father in 1981 after being separated for 9 years it was a great summer. We went to Niagra Falls and stayed on the Canadian side for a couple of days. Traveled to Saratoga Battle Field, Lake George, Adirondack Mountains, Fort William Henry,acquainted me with the West Albany Italian Benevolent Society where I became a future member, went up to story town and road the rides, met the neighborhood kids and others for the first time, was reintroduced to my Aunts and Uncles and my fathers friends, we gardened together and took the vegetables out of the garden and fruit off the trees at his house in west Albany and sold them at the farmers market in Menands near Albany and sometimes we would go to the larger farmers market to big up a few items we did not grow. My father bought me a bicycle that summer and I road it around west Albany and Colonie. Wish our family could have stayed together years before but we did have good times afterwards and we all only have so much time on this earth.

Thomas Riccardo - August 29, 2017 at 06:22 PM

FM

“ FRANK IT'S THE YEAR SINCE TOM LEFT US LAST YEAR YOU ARE BACK AT HIS HOUSE I SAW CURLY PLAYING BOCCE BALL AT THE CLUB WE MISS HIS SMILE MISS YOU CURLY

FRANK MARINO - June 01, 2016 at 10:48 PM

NJ

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Nephew Peter Johnson - March 28, 2016 at 06:41 AM



“ I have fond memories of my Uncle Curly, he taught me how to farm! And to never ever touch his green beans before they were ready! That cigar would be hanging out of his mouth while teaching me of the earth and I would giggle!!! He would say, " well, it's time for Bochy ball! ;) love you and thank you for so, many good childhood memories and of course bringing a pound of pepperoni every time you came to FL!

Tammy Tittle - March 27, 2016 at 03:16 PM



“ Dad have a Happy Easter! Its been over a year since your passing but it seems like yesterday and at the same time a 100 years ago! I thank everyone for the stories and support hope your holiday is pleasant and full of life!

Thomas Riccardo - March 27, 2016 at 02:26 PM



“ See you on the other side Uncle Curley, you always had my back, RIP!

Nephew Peter - November 28, 2015 at 08:20 PM

TJ

“ DEAR TOM DAD WAS A NICE GUY WE WENT TO THE IBS FOR PIZZA DAD LOVE THE PIZZA HIS BIRTHDAY IS JANUARY 20 IN 2011 WE SANG HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOUR DAD AT THE CLUB HE IS ALMOST 99 YEARS OLD HE WILL HAVE HIS BIRTHDAY IN HEAVEN HE PASSED AT THE HOSPITAL THE SAME DAY AS TOM DONATO WILL BE THINKING OF DAD HE IS IN NO MORE PAIN HE HAD A CANE BECAUSE OF HIS HEALTH HE CAME TO AUNT LUCY'S WAKE IN 2013 HE OWN THAT HOUSE HE DROVE THE CAR HE HAD THAT SILVER CAR HE RETIRED OF WORKING IN THE RAIL YARDS HE WAS IN THE NAVY WHEN HE RETIRED FROM THE NAVY HE WENT TO THE ARMY AND HE RETIRED FROM THERE IT WILL BE THE FIRST HOLIDAY WITHOUT DAD THANKSGIVING CHRISTMAS DAD HAD HIS BOWLING BALLS AT HIS HOUSE FRANK MARINO LIVED UPSTAIRS WITH HIS MOM AND DAD AND HIS SISTER DAD LIVED WITH HIS MOM AND DAD HE BOWLED AT ABC FOR YEARS DAD IS IN HEAVEN NOW IT WILL BE THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF YOUR DAD'S DEATH HE WAS A HUGE ST LOUIS CARDNAILS FAN HE LOVED BASEBALL HE IS WATCHING DOWN FROM HEAVEN HE WENT TO ST FRANCIS CATHOLIC CHURCH IN WEST ALBANY DAD FRANK AND JOHN PANETTA WENT TO SUNSET LANES FOR PIZZA WE ATE IN THE BAR AT SUNSET IN 2009 DAD WAS THE BEST THINKING OF HIM IN YOUR PRAYERS DAD PASSED AWAY LAST YEAR ON FEBRUARY 11 2015 MISS YOU DAD HE SMOKE CIGARS OUTSIDE ON HIS PORCH LOVE YOU DAD AND MISS YOU SO MUCH
TOM RICCARDO JR

TOM RICCARDO JR - November 05, 2015 at 08:28 PM

MO

“ To family: May the words at Isaiah 25:8 bring you comfort during this difficult time " He will swallow up death forever, And the Sovereign Lord Jehovah will wipe away the tears from all face."



Montana - October 28, 2015 at 01:49 AM

JP

“ DEAR JOHN PANETTA SORRY ABOUT CURLY HE IS IN A BETTER PLACE NOW IN HEAVEN HE WAS IN THE BOWLING LEAGUE AT ALBANY BOWLING CENTER FOR MANY YEARS AGO HE WAS A GOOD BOWLER HIM AND FRANK USED TO GO WATCH JACK HOLT BOWL AT THE PLAYDIUM ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS NOW HE IS WITH HIS MOM AND DAD BIG GRAM CARMEN PANETTA SR GEORGE KOT SR AUNT LUCY AND UNCLE BOB COLLEEN MARCIL ALL OF THE BOWLERS HE WILL BE MISS BY ALL OF US
JOHN PANETTA FROM WEST ALBANY

JOHN PANETTA - September 20, 2015 at 10:51 PM

FM

“ DEAR FRANK THINKING ABOUT CURLY REMEMBER HIM IN YOUR PAYERS THINKING OF YOU MISS YOU CURLY
FRANK MARINO

FRANK MARINO - September 20, 2015 at 10:42 PM

JP

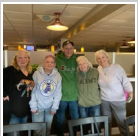
“ DEAR FRANK SORRY ABOUT CURLY HE WAS A NICE MAN HE WENT TO ST FRANCIS CHURCH HE IS IN HEAVEN NOW HE PASSED AWAY AFTER HIS 98TH BIRTHDAY HE WAS ALMOST 100 YEARS OLD HE WAS SHY BEFORE HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY HE IS TALKING IN HEAVEN ABOUT HE WAS LIVING IN WEST ALBANY AT HIS HOUSE HE OWN THAT HOUSE MARY MARINO IS GOING TO A NURSING HOME SHE IS VERY SICK SORRY FOR YOUR LOST HE IS HAVING A GOOD TIME IN HEAVEN FRANK MARINO FROM WEST ALBANY

JUSTIN PANETTA - September 20, 2015 at 10:39 PM

JP

“ DEAR TOM YOUR DAD WAS THE BEST IN WEST ALBANY WATCHING THE CARDNAILS PLAY BASEBALL WE WENT TO THE IBS FOR PIZZA HE WAS ALMOST 100 YEARS OLD HE IS IN HEAVEN WITH MY GRANDFATHER CARMEN MY GRANDMOTHER SANDY JOYCE ARNOLD TOM DONATO SR RICH YARTER SR BIG GRAM COUSIN LISA COUSIN VITO EARL ANTHONY AND ALL OF THE OLD TIME PBA BOWLERS FATHER ANTHONY GULLEY CHUCK GREENWOOD SR MR. ROGERS DONNA MARGIASSO HARRY ROTHWEIN GARY HOLCOMB UNCLE BUDDY AUNT LUCY AND UNCLE BOB MAY HE REST AND PEACE
JUSTIN PANETTA ALBANY

JUSTIN PANETTA - August 12, 2015 at 12:50 AM



“ *Curly made us smile. Was always kind !!! Linda Seib (Exchange Cafe)*

Linda Seib - February 14, 2015 at 05:40 AM

MK

“ *Curly was the happiest person in the world always spreading his cheer, may you rest in peace.*

Mike K - February 13, 2015 at 09:39 PM

RR

“ *Curly was such a great man. I enjoyed our many conversations at the IBS, in the village and Sunoco. He will be greatly missed. RIP dear friend.*

Robin Ramundo - February 13, 2015 at 09:38 PM