



Anthony M. DeSantis

November 28, 1942 - June 20, 2020

Anthony M. DeSantis, 77 of Great Kills passed away on Saturday, June 20, 2020, at home surrounded by his loving family.

Born Saturday, November 28, 1942 in Palermo, Italy, he was the son of the late Salvatore and (Maria Barraco) DeSantis.

Anthony moved here as a child from his native Sicily. A veteran of the US Army Green Berets 82nd Airborne, retiring in 1992 following a 30 year service, Anthony also rose in the city Sanitation Department to become deputy director of waste disposal, retiring in 2001.

Along the way, Anthony, 77, developed a reputation for being a tough guy with a big heart who has spent more than 40 years devoted to a charity for special-needs kids.

Anthony sat on the board of directors of the all-volunteer Community Mayors, an organization that takes thousands of handicapped kids, many in wheelchairs, on fun trips to the circus, zoos and the Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum.

The Staten Island grandfather, who retired from the department in 2001, battled Parkinson's disease, but never let it stop him from going all out to help. "When they smile, that makes me smile," said Anthony, who had been nominated in 2009 for a New York Post Liberty Medal in the Freedom category by fellow board member Samuel Amster.

Anthony was in charge of the toy drive at its biggest function, the annual Operation Santa Claus, held at a hangar at Kennedy Airport for about 4,000 kids who are served lunch, get presents and wait for the guest of honor ' the big guy in the red suit to appear.

Anthony was many things a marathon runner, a member of the Knights of Columbus, President of the Sanitation Columbia Association, Chairman of the Staten Island Dept of Sanitation Retirees, and many more organizations to his credit.

In his free time Anthony could be found on the Golf course enjoying the day and when otherwise not occupied Anthony was with his family especially his grandchildren, always taking photos of them showing off how proud he was.

He was the beloved husband of Joanne (Bistersky) DeSantis.

Loving father of Salvatore DeSantis & Kimberly Cardinuto.

Dear father in law of Elena DeSantis and Frank Cardinuto.

Adored brother of Lena, Anna, Rosalie, and Vincent.

Cherished grandfather of Amanda, Briana, Anna, Anthony, Alexa and Salvatore

A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered on Wednesday 11:15am am at St Clare Church.

In lieu of Flowers to honor Anthony's Memory donations may be made to the Parkinson's Foundation online at:

<https://www.parkinson.org/>

Donation page link:

[https://secure3.convio.net/prkorg/site/SPageNavigator/2017_donate_form_2.html?tab=tribute&_ga=2.138217200.1326332520.1592775976-](https://secure3.convio.net/prkorg/site/SPageNavigator/2017_donate_form_2.html?tab=tribute&_ga=2.138217200.1326332520.1592775976-471449155.1592775976&_gac=1.203565604.1592776048.EAlaIQobChMIw9LO7fCT6gIVR5yzCh0cNg1rEAAAYAiAAEgJCT_D_BwE)

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Cemetery

Resurrection Cemetery

361 Sharrot Avenue
Staten Island, NY, 10309

Events

JUN **Visitation** 05:00PM - 09:00PM

23

John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals, Inc.
28 Eltingville Blvd, Staten Island, NY, US, 10312

JUN **Service** 11:15AM

24

St Clare Church
110 Nelson Ave, Staten Island, NY, US, 10308

Comments



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Anthony M. DeSantis.



June 23 at 12:55 PM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Anthony M. DeSantis.



June 23 at 09:23 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Anthony M. DeSantis.



June 22 at 06:31 PM



“ Anthony (always knew him as Tony) was a most faithful friend, constantly putting himself out for others. Tony never backed away from the responsibilities of his long, proud career with Sanitation as well as his trove of volunteer positions through the years. In addition to his unblemished work record, Tony loved the companionship of friends and made his various "posses" happier just by his presence and his caring nature, Tony loved his family - his daughter Kim & son Sal (and their families. For lack of another word, he adored his wife Joanne, implicitly trusting her judgment and devotion. This relationship lasted well over fifty years, til his passing. Tony, unconsciously, taught so many to be better people. He lives on in our hearts and minds and love for him; he has touched us all.

Mary Tesoriero - June 22 at 05:29 PM



“ Tony was a special friend, a man with a good heart and lots of drive. He came to this Country from Palermo, sicily, when he was about 12 years old. He had to learn how to speak English, a very difficult task. I met Tony in 1972 when he came to work in Brooklyn North Borough Office of the NYC Department of Sanitation. We became good friends from the start. You can see that he had a lot of pride, having been a Sergeant in the United States Army special Forces, a uniformed member of the NYC Department of Sanitation, and most of all, having a wonderful family. Over the years of working together, helping to fight some major snow storms and being able to keep our sanity, we continued to be good friends. I even asked Tony to be our Best Man when Mary and I were getting married, and he accepted. Many of us in Brooklyn North Borough, around this time, started to get promoted to Supervisor and we were sent to other locations to work. We continued to stay close on and off the job, attending Department dinner dances and family functions. We went on a few trips together but the trip to Italy in 2001 was extra special in that we just retired. Tony & Joanne, Mary & me, and Marie & Rob (Joanne's cousins) made this 16 day trip together. We visited many places in Italy and even got to Palermo, Sicily where Tony was born. About 26 of Tony's relatives met us in Palermo as our bus pulled in. They treated us royally. We got to visit the church where Tony (Anthony) was christened in the town of Spira Cavallo. We saw the house where Tony was born. It meant so much to him as it did for us to be there with him. Tony retired in 2001 as Deputy Director, Bureau of Waste Disposal, NYC Dep't of Sanitation. He handed over his presidency of the Columbia Association, but he continued to be very active with the Community Mayors' Association, and he also took on the secretary job with the NYC Sanitation Retirees. He did so much and will surely be missed.

Tony & Mary Tesoriero - June 22 at 05:06 PM



“ Growing up being friends with Sal his father was always laughing and a fun person to be around. A role model for many of us with his hard work and love for his wife and kids, he will be missed.

Phil Ciprello - June 22 at 04:15 PM