



## Alfonso M. DiStefano

July 6, 1966 - May 21, 2026

With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of our beloved father and Poppa, Alfonso DiStefano, who peacefully departed this world on May 21, 2026, surrounded by his loving family.

Born on July 6, 1966, in Brooklyn, New York, Alfonso; affectionately known to everyone as "Big Al"; was a pillar of strength, loyalty, and unconditional love to all fortunate enough to know him. Though he was only 59 years old at the time of his passing, Alfonso lived more lives, created more memories, and touched more people than most could in several lifetimes.

Alfonso is survived by his loving family Barbara, Michael, Khrystyna, Sabrina and Francesca, who brought endless joy and pride into his life. Alfonso is also survived by his mother, Johanna, his sisters, Chritine and Suzanne, and nieces, nephews, cousins, and wonderful friends. He was preceded in death by his father, Michael. To them, he was a protector, teacher, and constant source of support.

Three of Alfonso's greatest joys in life were working alongside his father at Big Mike's Meat Market, serving with pride in the New York City Police Department, and being a Poppa to his granddaughter Francesca. All reflected the values he carried throughout his life; hard work, dedication, and a deep commitment to others.

Starting in his childhood, Alfonso worked side by side with his father. From making deliveries to learning the craft of butchery, there was no place he would rather be. His time working with his father curated his love for food and his ability to cook.

In October of 1990, Alfonso proudly joined the New York City Police Department, beginning a distinguished career as an NYPD officer. Through hard work, leadership, and dedication, he quickly rose through the ranks, concluding his career as a Sergeant in the Major Case Squad Manhattan. Alfonso served with courage, integrity, and honor, carrying an unwavering commitment to protecting others throughout his career, including his service as a 9/11 First Responder.

As a grandfather, there was nothing Alfonso loved more than spending time with Francesca. She brought immense joy to his life, and he cherished every moment they spent together, especially dancing and singing, memories that will forever be treasured by those who loved them both.

Alfonso had a larger-than-life personality and commanding presence. He entered a room and easily became the center of attention. People naturally gravitated towards him and sought his well-earned life advice. Above all else, Alfonso lived by one simple motto: family first. To him, family extended far beyond relatives. His home was always open; whether someone needed a place to stay, a seat at the holiday table, or simply a warm meal and good company. No one was ever turned away.

Alfonso showed his love through acts of service, and nowhere was that more evident than in his cooking. Big Al was happiest in the kitchen, feeding the people he loved. Ask anyone who knew him, and they would tell you the same thing: Big Al knew how to cook. His meals brought people together, created

lasting memories, and made everyone feel at home. For Alfonso, food was never just food; it was love, comfort, and connection.

He will be remembered for his endless generosity, his strength during difficult times, and the way he made every person feel important. His legacy lives on through his children who will continue to live in his honor each and every day.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to Tunnel to Towers Foundation would be greatly appreciated. Donate to Tunnel to Towers Foundation <https://t2t.org/>

A Funeral Mass will be held at 10:15 AM on Tuesday at St Charles Church located at 200 Penn Ave Staten Island, New York 10306.

The family will receive friends from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM and 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM on Sunday, May 24, 2026, and Monday, May 25, 2026 at John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals, Inc., 28 Eltingville Blvd, Staten Island, New York.

# Upcoming Events

## Visitation

MAY **24.** 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

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

## Visitation

MAY **24.** 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

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

## Visitation

MAY **25.** 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

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

## Visitation

MAY **25.** 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

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

## Service

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MAY **26**. 10:15 AM (ET)

St Charles Church  
200 Penn Ave  
Staten Island, NY 10306