



Andrew Mele

August 8, 2020

Andrew Paul Mele, 81 of Annadale, passed away on Saturday, August 8, 2020, at Staten Island University Hospital North.

Born November 8, 1938 in Brooklyn New York; he was the loving son to his parents the late Paul and Lena Mele. Andrew was a proud graduate of Erasmus High School.

Andy's passion and love of baseball started as a young boy and landed him in Florida where he was lucky enough to be scouted by the Washington Senators and played for their farm team. His love of baseball has been such an important part of his life.

He was a proud Veteran and member of the Army Reserves. He was a member of the Selected Service from 1956 thru 1966. He met many friends along the way through the many Veteran Associations and groups he belonged to. He truly cherished their friendships.

Andrew married the love of his life, Mildred, in 1960. They have two children Andrew & Christine. The Mele's moved to Staten Island in July of 1967 where he resided to this day. Andrew was predeceased by his wife Mildred in 2017.

Andy's love and passion for baseball was something he carried with him his

whole life. He belonged to many leagues over the years. He enjoyed playing baseball, softball and stickball. He was a proud team mate on the "Old Boys of Summer." He made many friends over the years and considered them his family.

He and his team mates even got the chance to play a game on the field at MCU Park in Coney Island. Last year, Andy was inducted into the Stickball Hall of Fame.

After his retirement, Andrew decided to take a job working security for selected libraries in Brooklyn. While working, he became interested in doing research and reading; especially on his favorite baseball team, The Brooklyn Dodgers. All of the information that he found led him to become a published author.

Over the last twelve years, Andrew has published numerous books about the Brooklyn Dodgers. He was the author of "Italian Staten Island" and his latest book was "The Italian Squad". A true story based upon his uncle and other police officers who formed a group of Italian detectives to deal exclusively with the extortion crimes and the criminal underworld of Italian society in New York which had become known in the American press as "The Black Hand Society."

He was so proud of his work and even got the opportunity to have numerous book talks and signings in New York and New Jersey. The last signing was at Barnes and Noble before the start of the Coronavirus.

Andrew was a columnist for the Staten Island Advance and wrote a monthly article called "The Staten Island Memories Column." And for the last five years he taught the course "Baseball Memories" in the Options Program for Seniors at The College of Staten Island.

Andrew was a family man who cherished spending time together. He especially looked forward to family vacations in Cape May and celebrating the holidays, his favorite was Christmas Eve. There was a special place in his heart for his only granddaughter, Alexandra. They spent numerous hours discussing their favorite topics of Space and baseball. He was her biggest fan.

Andrew is survived by his daughter Christine Mele-Love, son Andrew Mele (Michelle), sister MaryLee Kearney and granddaughter Alexandra.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 AM on Tuesday at St Thomas the Apostle Church. Interment to follow in Ocean View Cemetery, Staten Island, NY.

The family will receive friends from 5:00-9:00 PM on Monday, August 10, 2020, at John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals, Inc., 28 Eltingville Blvd, Staten Island, New York.

Please be mindful due to the current state mandate that a mask must be worn at all times in the funeral home and social distancing requirements must be followed during the services. Due to the current Pandemic a strict 40-50 person in room policy is in effect, please adhere to this policy and allow others to pay their respects as well.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.scaliahome.com

Cemetery Details

Ocean View Cemetery

3315 Amboy Rd
Staten Island, NY 10306

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **10**. 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

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

Service

AUG **11**. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

St Thomas the Apostle Church
50 Maguire Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10309

Tribute Wall



“ *John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Andrew Mele*



John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals Inc. - August 10, 2020 at 03:59 PM

ES

*Went to both PS179 and Erasmus Hall HS with Andy and just heard of his passing. A nicer person you couldn't meet. Always a smile. He sure did love his baseball and the Brooklyn Dodgers. Rest in peace my old friend.
Ed*

Ed Sere - May 20, 2023 at 06:06 PM



“ *Andrew Mele*

October 04, 2023 at 06:13 PM

BD

“ *BD
Barbara D'Amora
2 days ago
Christine, we were saddened to read of your dads passing. What a wonderful gift his life was to so many. You were blessed to call him Dad. May your many memories comfort you and know he is reunited with your mom and you will see them again one day. 🙏❤️
Much love being sent to you from the D'Amora family.*

Barbara Pandolfi D'Amora - August 12, 2020 at 12:52 AM

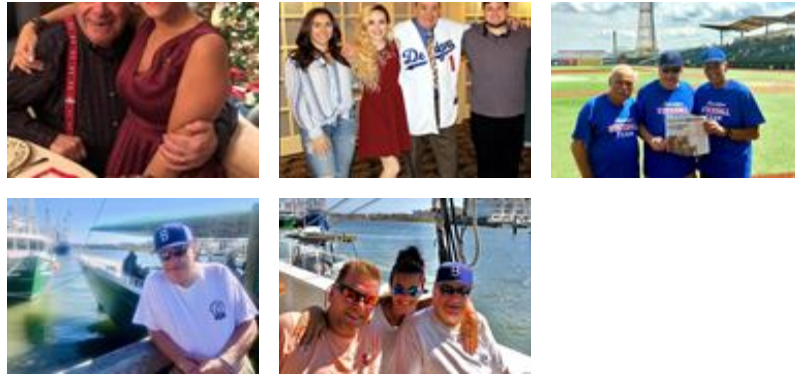


“ To a dear friend,
There are so many wonderful memories I have with you... Going to the yearly ballgames for your family reunions, book signings at all of the different bookstores and ballparks, the many breakfasts we had spending hours talking new and old baseball. I always thought of you whenever I read or saw something related to the Brooklyn Dodgers. You have created quite the legacy and it will live on forever. I was lucky to have you for a friend for 25 years and I cherished our friendship. You are now with the love of your life and both of you can live in God's kingdom together.
Peace and Love Always,
Frank Ballweg.

Frank Ballweg - August 11, 2020 at 12:38 PM



“ 61 files added to the album Life Tributes



John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals Inc. - August 10, 2020 at 03:18 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Andrew Mele.*



August 10, 2020 at 02:00 PM



“ *I met Andy many years ago at Our Lady Star of the Sea when we were assigned to Bingo Night. We became and remained good friends over the years even if I may have blown a call as I was umpiring a game that the "Boys of Summer" were involved in. I will miss his humor and fantastic baseball knowledge that we shared over the years.
My sincere condolences to Christine and Andrew.
Mike Lapetina*

Mike Lapetina - August 10, 2020 at 08:32 AM



Thank you!

Christine Mele-Love - August 10, 2020 at 02:07 PM



*Years ago, I was fortunate to have met Andy at my Sports store and have remained friends since. Truly the salt of the earth, I cherished the conversations we had and was amazed by his passion and knowledge of baseball.
My deepest condolences to his family*

Mike Lanza

Mike Lanza - August 11, 2020 at 09:25 PM

VC

I am so sad to learn of my cousin Andrew's death. He was so funny and friendly and caring. I have wonderful memories of our time together when we were younger. He was a favorite cousin and I am sure he will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Ginny Incao Cook

Virginia Cook - August 13, 2020 at 12:07 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Andrew Mele.*



August 10, 2020 at 08:22 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Andrew Mele.*



August 09, 2020 at 09:13 PM

JS

“ *Andy was a fine facilitator and instructor at Options classes on baseball and entertainment and all around fine person to be around.*
JOE S.

joe S - August 09, 2020 at 08:04 PM

CM

Thank you!

Christine Mele-Love - August 10, 2020 at 02:08 PM

TF

“ *The Dolan Family purchased the Lovely One Spathe Phillyllum Plant for the family of Andrew Mele.*



The Dolan Family - August 09, 2020 at 12:19 PM

AV

“ *Sending my deepest condolences to Michele, Andrew & the Family, thoughts and prayers.*

Andy Valencia - August 09, 2020 at 11:23 AM

CM

Thank you

Christine Mele-Love - August 10, 2020 at 02:10 PM

RD

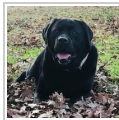
“ *Mr Mele was a Great Man. A pleasure to be around. Always had a good story to tell. May he Rest In Peace with his wife in heaven!!*

Russell Dannecker - August 09, 2020 at 12:59 AM

CL

Thank you ❤️

Christine Love - August 09, 2020 at 06:57 AM



Me, my dad, Cono and my brothers all got to share the field with Andy, Eddie Morano, Tommy Kellet, Tommy Mazza, John Carney Joe Parascondola as the Boys of Summer in the mid to late 1980s. Andy was a great guy and we loved playing together. Our sympathies to Christine, Andrew and Alexandra.

Charlie Petrizzo

Charlie Petrizzo - August 09, 2020 at 01:23 PM

CM

Thank you xo

Christine Mele-Love - August 10, 2020 at 02:10 PM



“ *Peace Eternal Wreath was purchased for the family of Andrew Mele.*



August 08, 2020 at 06:31 PM

DC

“ *My deepest sympathies to Christine, Andrew, Michelle and Alex. Thanks for sharing Andy with us. He was more like family than a friend to us. Whether it was celebrating our November birthdays together at the Marina Cafe, vacationing together at our favorite seashore resort in Cape May or simply debating the ills of modern day baseball over a cup of coffee at Dunkin', spending time with Andy was always an absolute delight. I will miss my dear friend, cherish our fond memories, but be consoled that he has been reunited with his beloved, Mildred.*

Debbie Coscia - August 08, 2020 at 05:47 PM



Thank you for being such a wonderful friend ❤️

Christine Mele-Love - August 09, 2020 at 06:59 AM

BB

*Barbara Boccone and family send their deepest sympathy to Andy's family.
I have wonderful memories of growing up with him and his closeness with my brother Bobby. He was always a delight to be around.
I had the opportunity to work with Andy as his meet and greet person when he would put on senior shows years ago that is a great memory for me.
May he rest in peace. God Bless him.*

Barbara Boccone - August 09, 2020 at 01:01 PM

CM

Thank you, Barbara xxoo

Christine Mele-Love - August 10, 2020 at 02:09 PM

JC

“ *There's a saying that "you can't make old friends." Well, I proved that wrong when I met Andy. I only knew Andy for about 7 yrs. but I feel as if I lost one of my lifelong friends. We immediately hit it off and our bond only got stronger as time went by. Andy would give you his shirt off his back. I'll miss our weekly lunches, when we would discuss his favorite subject : baseball!! We have so many great memories: Cape May, Bermuda Inn brunches, his great baseball classes at CSI, editing his books, Jade Island and so many more which I'll treasure for the rest of my life. My condolences to Andrew Jr. and Chris and the rest of his family. Andy, YOU WILL BE MISSED! Especially by me.*

Joe Coscia - August 08, 2020 at 04:47 PM

 Christine Mele-

Thank you for being a wonderful friend❤️

Christine Mele-Love - August 09, 2020 at 06:59 AM

BD

Christine, we were saddened to read of your dad's passing. What a wonderful gift his life was to so many. You were blessed to call him Dad. May your many memories comfort you and know he is reunited with your mom and you will see them again one day. 🙏❤️ Much love being sent to you from the D'Amora family.

Barbara D'Amora - August 10, 2020 at 12:05 AM

MD

Truly a great man and good friend who with Millie raised two beautiful children. From Our Lady Star of the Sea to St. Joseph St. Thomas St. John Neumann and always helping at University South Mass. Going to be very much missed. Straight to Jesus.

Mary & Jim Devine - August 10, 2020 at 12:43 PM

CM

Thank you xxoo

Christine Mele-Love - August 10, 2020 at 02:09 PM