



Clifford A. Knesel Sr.

August 2, 1928 - July 10, 2019

Clifford A. Knesel, Sr. "Big Moose", passed away on July 10, 2019 at his home surrounded by his loving family.

He was born and raised in Rossville to the late Christian and Edna Knesel. Clifford was a graduate of Tottenville High School, where he played basketball and baseball and was known for being a great short stop and center fielder. He served honorably in the United States Army 82nd Airborne Div. as a medic from 1946-1949, achieving the rank of Sergeant.

Clifford married the love his life, Rita, nee Cossean in 1947. Rita passed away in 1999. He was a sanitation worker for 20 years with the NYC Dept. of Sanitation retiring in 1973. After his retirement, he worked at the South Shore Country Club, as well as the Richmond County Golf Course. He was an active member of several organizations, some of which included the Rossville Social Club, 82nd Airborne Division Association, Beauvais-Hudson American Legion and the Knights of Columbus Stolzenthaler Council.

Above all, he was a devoted husband, father and grandfather who truly treasured time spent with family, who were his pride and joy.

He was the beloved husband to the late Rita. Loving father to Clifford, Larry, Rita Gardella, Jude and Mark. Dear father-in-law to Sue, Theresa, Gary

Gardella, Robyn and Debbie. Devoted grandfather to his 10 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren. He is also survived by his beloved dog, Duke.

The family will receive friends from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. on Friday, July 12th at the John Vincent Scalia Home For Funerals, Inc., 28 Eltingville Blvd. (at Eltingville Station), Staten Island, New York. A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered on Saturday, July 13th at 10:00 a.m. at St. Joseph's Church, located at 16 Poplar Ave. Staten Island. Interment will follow at Resurrection Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Resurrection Cemetery

361 Sharrot Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10309

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 12. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

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

Visitation

JUL 12. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

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

Service

JUL 13. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St Joseph's Church (Rossville)
16 Poplar Ave
Staten Island, NY 10309

Service

JUL 13 (ET)

Resurrection Cemetery
361 Sharrot Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10309

Tribute Wall



“ *John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Clifford A. Knesel Sr.*



John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals Inc. - July 11, 2019 at 05:45 PM



“ *Clifford A. Knesel Sr.*

October 04, 2023 at 06:13 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Clifford A. Knesel Sr..*



July 12, 2019 at 12:37 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Clifford A. Knesel Sr..*



July 12, 2019 at 11:15 AM

JF

“ *John Matsen and Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Clifford A. Knesel Sr..*



John Matsen and Family - July 12, 2019 at 10:51 AM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Clifford A. Knesel Sr..*



July 11, 2019 at 06:21 PM

DC

“ *Dear cousins , Don here, I wish there was something I could do or say to ease your sorrow ! Uncle Cliff was a great guy ! I will always remember him for his humor warmth and that grin he had as is he was up to something ! Spent many hours hanging out in your back yard with everybody , working on cars and just being together ! He may be gone but his love and warmth along with our memories will always be here ! ❤️ Much love ❤️ Cousin Don*

donald cossean - July 11, 2019 at 05:16 PM



“ 77 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals Inc. - July 11, 2019 at 04:40 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Clifford A. Knesel Sr..



July 11, 2019 at 02:25 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Clifford A. Knesel Sr..



July 11, 2019 at 10:00 AM



“ *Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Clifford A. Knesel Sr..* ”



July 10, 2019 at 07:32 PM