



## Santo "Tom" Pellegrino

April 5, 1932 - April 25, 2020

Santo "Tom" Pellegrino, 88 passed away on Saturday, April 25, 2020, at Richmond University Medical Center after a courageous battle with the Covid-19 Virus.

Born Tuesday, April 5, 1932 in Bronx, New York, he was the son of the late Angelo Pellegrino and the late Josephine Martello Pellegrino.

Tom a US Marine Veteran and Staff Sergeant, during the Korean War, served proudly both active and reserve from 1949-1963. Following his active service Tom became a police officer at the 94th Precinct retired, and continued working as a security officer at the former St. Vincent Medical Center and then at Carmel Richmond Nursing Home before his final retirement.

Tom met and married his beloved wife Marie Franzese on May 1, 1955. Marie passed away in June of 2001

In his free time Tom could be found playing Poker in Atlantic City in his younger years and at the Esplanade Senior Living Facility, where he has resided the last 5 years, Everyone lovingly referred to him as "Poker Tom".

Devoted husband of the late Marie Franzese Pellegrino. Loving father of Thomas Pellegrino. Adored father in law of Rosanne Pellegrino. Dear brother

of Rocco Pellegrino. Cherished grandfather of Philip and wife Joanna and Maria Tozzi and her husband Joseph.

Interment will be in Resurrection Cemetery, Staten Island, NY.

Toms family would like to thank the staff of the Esplanade and Link Homecare and the ER and SLB5 Staff at Richmond University Medical Center for the care and compassion shown to their loved one at this, their most trying and difficult time.

# Cemetery Details

## **Resurrection Cemetery**

361 Sharrot Avenue  
Staten Island, NY 10309

# Tribute Wall



“ *Santo "Tom" Pellegrino*

October 04, 2023 at 06:13 PM



“ *To the family of Mr. Tom Pellegrino  
Wishing you peace to bring you comfort, courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your heart. Mr. Tom will remain in my heart forever. Always smiling and pleasant. May you be comforted by the outpouring of love and support from all who knew him. R I P 🙏*

**Annette Ware** - May 03, 2020 at 03:03 PM



“ *Word's cannot express the feeling right now. Tom Pellegrino, You was the sunshine that brighten up the poker room every morning at the Esplanade. Always full of patience and kindness. Know that you was loved by many, Staff and residents alike. you will be missed.*

*Thank you to the family for allowing us to get to know such a kind soul. Thank you for allowing him to be a part of the Esplanade family for the last 5 years. Tom will be missed, but his memories will live in our hearts forever.*

*My condolences goes out to the family. I pray that God gives you strength and endurance during these difficult time.*

*Milagros Rodriguez  
FLSD, Esplanade*

**Milagros Rodriguez** - May 03, 2020 at 02:59 PM

RS

“ This one hit home. I was lucky enough to be a colleague of Tom's for 5 years at Carmel Richmond Nursing home. We worked any shifts together and what I enjoyed about it most was his stories . Stories of him on the police force in the old days, stories about the old Yankees, Stories about his family , he would make me laugh he would once a week tell me this same story of how he left the NYPD after 20 years and should of stayed longer but he listened to his bone head friend who talked him into working at a bowling alley lol. All seriousness me being much younger he was a great mentor at that time and I truly appreciate our time spent together.

*I was lucky enough to again connect with him when I worked part time at the Esplanade for a short period of time .*

*Tom will be truly missed and one thing he always spoke about when we were colleagues was his wife's passing and you can tell how much he truly loved and missed her . I'm happy to know they are reunited.*

*You will be missed Kemo Saber*

*Your friend,*

*Robert Estrada Sr or as you would call me "Robbie"*

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**Robert Estrada Sr** - May 02, 2020 at 01:29 PM

DS

“ Tom was such an amazing man. He was just so easygoing, loving and always had a quick off the cuff joke that would have the whole dining room laughing. He was considerate like no other. Always made sure his table mates got their order taken before his own. Very understanding and patient. We talked about a lot of personal things like when he was in the marines, things he did as a policeman, and so on. I was closer to him than i was with my own father or grandfather. It was a pleasure to have been able to take care of him these last 5yrs. He constantly reminded me how all my hard work would pay off one day and that he loved to see me smiling and happy. Very caring and optimistic. He would say how there was such a bright future ahead of me and that any man would be so lucky to marry me. He brought up the spirits of everyone who was around him. I will miss most our closeness-the inside jokes, the lil nicknames we had for eachother. There will never be another man who's as goodhearted as Tom. I always said to him "they don't make men like you anymore" and that's the truth. The other residents would get jealous cuz i always openly said Tom was my number guy. He will be sorely missed and i will hold the memories close to my heart forever❤️ RIP my wonderful friend until we meet again xoxox

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Danielle Scudieri - May 01, 2020 at 01:55 PM

HP

“ There is no words to describe how hard will be come in to work everyday and not see anymore, what a wonderful person, always smiling, positive and grateful with everyone. My "Tommy Tommy" rest in peace knowing that you touch lot's of hearts here on earth. KIMOSABE my friend.

Your favorite cook,

Haysa Pina <3

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Haysa Pina - April 29, 2020 at 12:54 PM

FP

“ "All of us here at The Esplanade wish the family our sincerest sympathies for Tom."

Being the Executive Chef here at the Esplanade you could imagine how difficult it is to please every resident with their dining requests. Tom was not one. He knew what he wanted and it was our pleasure to deliver his request each and every day.

His all time favorite was Grilled Chicken with Penne Marinara. Oh, and don't forget to have a second portion ready for him because he could put it away. We here in the kitchen will deeply miss Tom and his wonderful appetite.

Rest in peace Tom, Rest in Peace.

Chef Frank Pulgiano

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Frank Pulgiano - April 29, 2020 at 12:01 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Cyndie Casserly** - April 29, 2020 at 11:22 AM

CC

“ My deepest sympathies to all of Tom’s family & friends. He will be sorely missed.

*Tom went by a few names but he will be forever be known to me as “Kimosabe”. He was a kind-hearted man and a dedicated poker player here at the Esplanade. He had a lot of tough jobs in his lifetime but I think one of his toughest challenges was being in charge of the poker table. He had patience of a Saint when it came to that poker table. It gave him great pleasure getting people together and running the game. Every morning, I would come to work get off the elevator and there he was setting up the chips! I will never look at that poker table every again without seeing him sitting in his favorite spot getting ready for the next game and waiting for his fellow players to show up. All of his friends here will miss him and most of all me. He taught me a lot about playing poker. They say that a Royal Flush is the best hand to have in poker and to me he was my Royal Flush! I never did get that Royal Flush with Ace high but I had the honor of playing the game with him. Rest in peace Kimosabe! You will be forever in my heart!*

*May God hold you in the palm of his hand ‘til we meet again!*

*Love, Cyndie Casserly*



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Cyndie Casserly - April 29, 2020 at 11:04 AM

JB

“ Thinking of you and wishing you peace and comfort as you remember a great man, father, and grandfather. I fondly remember his smile and good words for all.  
Love, Paul and Jean 🙏

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**Jean Bednarczyk** - April 29, 2020 at 07:42 AM

JE

“ How fortunate I have been to have known "Tom". He was a terrific guy, always a kind word & a perpetual smile. He loved watching the Classic Movies at the Esplanade, and we would sit and talk about them all the time. I will miss my dear friend "Tom"  
The Esplanade Staff & Family has lost one of our shining stars.

*May you rest in Peace my dear friend. Until we meet again*

*Jeff Elkins*

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**Jeffrey A Elkins** - April 28, 2020 at 04:47 PM

SK

“ I find it difficult to find the right words to express how much we will all miss Tom. He was a rare gem - a truly great guy who rarely had a bad word to say about anyone, and never had a bad word said about him. Things won't be the same without him, but he will live on in our hearts and minds.



*With a heavy heart, and my deepest sympathies,*

*- Sharon Kunz*

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**Sharon Kunz** - April 28, 2020 at 12:50 PM

PF

“ Tom was such a wonderful man - so appreciative. He always a kind word - always said hello and asked how you were doing. We was such a big part of our Esplanade family and certainly our Poker King! To know him was to love him and so thankful that he was a part of our lives for the past five years. May he rest in the sweetest peace. With my deepest sympathies, Patrice Ficco.

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**Patrice Ficco** - April 28, 2020 at 12:38 PM

VH

“ It was a privilege to know Tom, as he represented the best of men- funny, compassionate, helpful, kind, chivalrous, warm hearted, and endearing to all who knew him. Tom always had a kind word and was well respected by all; he will be sorely missed. On behalf of myself and the staff, our sincerest condolences are sent to Rosanne (who Tom called his personal angel), Tom and their son and daughter who he often spoke of with pride and joy. Rosanne- you are a living testament of love and dedication to the sanctity of life, both in its preservation and quality. As a fellow nurse, you were inspiring as I watched you care for Tom with such devotion, compassion, and respect. Tom spoke of you with such admiration as I now do. You all remain in my prayers. With sympathy, Valerie Hughes

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**Valerie Hughes** - April 28, 2020 at 11:52 AM

GA

“ I wanna express my condolences to the family and want to say that when i first meet Tom i meet him when he was playing poker and we be came close and then as time went on i meet his daughter in law Roseanne who he spoke so much about and i want him to know that he will never be forgotten love you always it may you rest in peace



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**Gladys Sevilla Linkhomecare Aide** - April 28, 2020 at 11:47 AM

JK

“ Our deepest condolences to Tom, Rosanne and family.  
Love,  
Janice and Kevin Kok



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**janice kok** - April 28, 2020 at 02:50 AM

BZ

“ Bob And Sharon Zimmerman lit a candle in memory of Santo "Tom" Pellegrino



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**Bob and Sharon Zimmerman** - April 27, 2020 at 11:37 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Santo "Tom" Pellegrino.



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April 27, 2020 at 04:27 PM