



Alphonse John "Al" Sgaglione

January 27, 1925 - May 14, 2013

Mr. Alphonse John "Al" Sgaglione, age 88, passed away on Tuesday, May 14, 2013 in the comfort of his home with his loving family by his side.

Born in Brooklyn on January 27, 1925, Alphonse was the son of the late Nicholas and Lucy (Petrella) Sgaglione. He was raised and educated in Brooklyn. A proud veteran, he honorably served his country in the United States Navy from 1943-1946. At one time, he was wed to Emilia Muojo. On May 14, 1970 he married his soul mate, the former Joann Wortendyke with whom he shared 42 years prior to her passing on November 4, 2012. Al and Joann loved each other wholeheartedly and shared in a very special bond. During his working life, Al was employed as a Police Officer with the New York Port Authority from 1952-1973. From 1961-1980 he was the president of the Police Conference of New York State. This was his life work; during his time there he accomplished many things to benefit all police officers including, 20 year retirement plans, the Heart Bill, and the 207C injury in the line of duty, among many other achievements. Later on, he worked with the Teamsters where he held the position of Executive Administration for the NY Teamsters Health & Hospital Fund, the position from which he retired. Al enjoyed spending time with his family, and sharing a daily cup of coffee with his friends after he retired. He was a man of strength, yet gentle of spirit. His character was built upon his benevolent beliefs and the principles of honor and integrity. He volunteered his time at Bingo at his home parish, the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes. He was a member of the Police Benevolent Association (PBA)

and kept abreast of legislation, bills, and enactments through its newsletter, and participated in lobbying in Albany.

Al is survived by his children, Lucille Trivisonno of NJ, Marie and Martin "Marty" Cohen of White Plains, Judy Sgaglione, and Carol Sgaglione, both of NJ, Tia L. Yezzi of Boston, and John A. Sgaglione of Utica; and his grandchildren, Joseph; David, Jessica, and Rebecca; Jacob, Marissa, Taylor; and Vincent and his mother Jacqueline Vatalaro. He also leaves his brother, Michael Sgaglione of Long Island; many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and in-laws Mary "Midge" Barnes of Schenectady, and John and Daphne Wortendyke of FL. He will be missed tremendously by his dog Metty. He was predeceased by his brother, Nicholas Sgaglione; and his in-laws Rynier Wortendyke, Nicholas Wortendyke, and Allan Debevose. Gratitude is offered to the nurses and staff of Hospice & Palliative Care, Inc. and the staff of 2 West at the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center for all their care and compassion.

The family will honor Al's life in a private gathering. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Al's funeral service and Celebration of Life which will commence on Friday morning at 11:30 at the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes where his Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. Joseph Salerno. The family will receive visitors at the conclusion of the service. Expressions of sympathy in the form of donations may be directed to Hospice & Palliative Care, Inc.; envelopes will be available at the service. Committal service and Interment with Military Honors will take place graveside in Calvary Cemetery.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

2407 Oneida Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 735-2727

Tribute Wall

MD

“ I was fortunate to be associated with Al during my years in the PBA while Al was president. He was a good friend but above all a tremendous leader. My sincere sympathy to all his family. God Bless All, Matt Doyle

Matt Doyle - May 17, 2013 at 10:51 AM

DO

“ Uncle Al

You were always there growing up providing the best presents for a young kid. Your gentle demeanor and quick wit were a model of how people should conduct themselves. You will be missed and remembered.

Doug - May 16, 2013 at 10:23 PM

TB

“ R.I.P Uncle Al! Thank you for being a part of our lives. Thank you for being there when we were bad kids, keeping us in line. Thank you also for helping us get through our Christmas's. They would have been a real downer if it weren't for your help to make it better. You will be missed. Your loving nephew- Timothy Barnes

Timothy John Barnes - May 16, 2013 at 06:23 PM

JW

“ I was deeply saddened to hear about Uncle Al's passing. I have fond memories of my grandfather, Uncle Al and Uncle Nicky together at family events. You will be missed.

Joe Williams - May 16, 2013 at 01:38 PM

AW

“ *Adri Wortendyke lit a candle in memory of Alphonse John "Al" Sgaglione*



Adri Wortendyke - May 16, 2013 at 12:35 PM

SB

“ *my uncle Al was a great man many memories as a child I will miss you Shawn Barnes*

shawn k barnes - May 16, 2013 at 08:37 AM

FA

“ *Al Sgaglione, my friend my friend. From the first time we met at the Alpine to the many dinners at Grimaldi's with our wives. so many great memories. You have always displayed what a "True Gentlemen" is and always showed much respect for others. Your smile and gentle spirit I will carry within me. I already miss our phone calls. Sleep in His Peace until we meet again.*

Frank Annese

Venice Fl.

Frank Annese - May 16, 2013 at 07:10 AM

MS

“ I mourn my brothers passing but i am also grateful that god gave us many years to be close to each other. Al talked me into taking the port authority police test way back in 1951 and and i owe him for so many good things he passed on to me. I had 2 great brothers and i thank god for keeping us close thru the years. So much to say about Al i can not put it into words so i will leave it this way,Al enjoy your new life with brother nick and mom and dad and rest assured we we will be having our good times again as we have had in the past. So until we meet again Al thank you for all the help you gave me and my heartfull gratitude for all the beautiful memories. Love you.
Brother Mike Sgaglione

Mike Sgaglione - May 16, 2013 at 06:53 AM

FA

“ Dearest John, Tia and Families,
Words cannot express our deepest sympathy for the loss of your father. Always a gentleman, kind and gentle spirited. He will forever remain in our hearts. The fond memories of him, his smile his attentiveness, his embrace will be kept safe within our souls and look forward to seeing him again with your mom by his side.
Much love, peace and comfort at this most difficult time.Frank and Mary Annese,Venice Florida

Frank & Mary Annese,
Venice, Florida

Frank & Mary Annese - May 16, 2013 at 06:52 AM

PM

“ *Paul Mangano lit a candle in memory of
Alphonse John "Al" Sgaglione*



Paul Mangano - May 15, 2013 at 10:27 AM

BM

“ Al Sgaglione was truly a "man among men". Although I never worked with him, I came to know him because he was my mentor's mentor, and I attribute much of the success I've had in life to lessons passed down from him. He was President of the Port Authority PBA from 1957 through 1973, President of the Police Conference of New York (State) from 1960 through 1980, one of the founders (and the original Recording Secretary) of the New York State Public Employee Conference, was known and highly respected in the labor community throughout the metropolitan area and nationally, and was close friends with Governor Rockefeller. He was instrumental in the enactment of many laws that beneficially affected law enforcement, including the 20 year pension for police in New York's state retirement system.

I would like to share an excerpt from a piece I wrote about him approximately 15 years ago: "... it is easy to see why he was so successful. He is a true professional, but more importantly, he is sincere, and that sincerity is readily evident to anyone who encounters him, because it radiates from within. He has ... a gift that professional politicians covet dearly – the ability to identify with and win over almost anyone he encounters, along with an uncanny ability to remember minutiae about you and your life. A simple smile, a few words, perhaps a handshake, and Al has you in his corner almost immediately."

Al epitomized the phrase "true gentleman". That is the best compliment a police officer can attain, and no one deserves it more than him.

Bing Markee - May 15, 2013 at 09:28 AM

CH

Dear Al.....I have fond memories of you from the NYS Teamster on Rutger Park in Utica, NY. A wonderful man, a gentlemen and such a pleasure to know. I remember the day I came into your building and my Dad, Carmen DePerno, was rubbing his arm you got some what frightened for him and called the ambulance. Thank God for your call because my Dad had the beginning of a stroke had he not got to the hospital in time. You were so down to earth. The last time I saw you was at Daniele's Deli on Mohawk and James St.. I asked Theresa what you drank and she said wine. I bought you a bottle of the wine you liked and you were do thrilled with my gesture. Hope you are having a couple of glasses in heaven and finally relaxing with your loved ones. You left good memories and I will never forget you. Police officer like my Dad, they were the best back then. Amen

Cindy DePerno Hobaica - May 17, 2013 at 05:41 PM