



Mr. Vincent P. "Jim" Nivaggi

August 1, 1926 - April 13, 2020

UTICA – Mr. Vincent P. “Jim” Nivaggi, age 93, went peacefully to the Lord with his family holding his hand, on Monday, April 13, 2020 at the Abraham House in Rome.

Born in Utica on August 1, 1926, he was the son of the late Giovanni and Teresa (Simone) Nivaggi. Jim graduated early from Proctor High School to join the Navy and served in WW II aboard the USS Providence. When he returned, he worked for the New York Central Railroad and attended Mohawk Valley Technical Institute (MVCC). He then began a 37-year career as an engineering technician at the Rome Air Development Center (Rome Lab), retiring in 1988.

On October 8, 1961 in Anzio, Italy, Jim was united in marriage to Claudia Cappuccia and shared a blessed union of 57 years until her passing in 2019. Jim and Claudia explored the world together, traveling to six of the seven continents. Jim always was ready for an adventure, whether it was riding a camel, hot air balloon, or helicopter, as well as eating grubs! Claudia and Jim cultivated amazing vegetable and floral gardens, and tended to their fig trees. An expert putterer, Jim could fix almost anything. He enjoyed his morning walks in Proctor Park, and at one time, was an avid bridge player.

A man of deep faith, Jim was very active in parish life at the former St. Agnes

Church where he was a Eucharistic Minister and choir member. Jim volunteered in the food tent of the parish bazaar for decades. In recent years, he returned to his home parish of St. Mary of Mt. Carmel and was a member of their church choir until his passing.

Jim is survived by his daughter Elisabetta and husband Michael DeGironimo of New Hartford; and his son, Stefano and fiancée Tamie White of Utica. He also leaves his cherished grandchildren, Jeffrey DeGironimo, Mia DeGironimo, Eric and Nicole White, and Cory and Kayla White; and his great-grandchildren, Selena and Maci White, and Weston and Colter White. He will also be remembered by his in-laws, Nicandro and Paula Cappuccia, and Antonio and Lorena Cappuccia; many special nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and cousins. He was predeceased by his sisters and brothers-in-law, Lena and Carmen Grasso, Angeline and Joseph Ducato, and Josephine and Thomas Graziano; brother and sister-in-law, John and Emily Nivaggi; and in-laws, Antonietta and Andrew Passarelli.

Jim's family wishes to thank the nurses and staff at the Abraham House for their loving care.

Due to the current COVID health crisis, and in keeping with state and federal regulations, Interment services will be held privately. Those wishing to express an act of kindness in Vincent's memory may make a contribution to the Abraham House online at <https://www.theabrahamhouse.org> or by mail to Abraham House Rome 417 N. Washington St., Rome, NY 13440.

During this time of social distancing that we are all experiencing, please take a moment to connect with Jim's family through the "Memories" section of his obituary on our website, www.eannacefuneralhome.com. Our prayers go out to all as a sign of our continued support.

Tribute Wall

GS

“ *My condolences to you and the family on your loss*

Greg sabo - April 24, 2020 at 10:59 AM

TC

“ *Our deep condolences to the Nivaggi family. Vincent and I worked in the same office at RADC for about six years. He was a conscientious co-worker and fine person to have an occasional conversation with about life in general. Several days before his retirement I received a phone call from Claudia saying that she would like to plan a party in the office to celebrate his retirement. She brought all the food and including the tablecloth. I always thought that was a classy act to demonstrate her love for Vincent. In retirement years memories of Vincent were kept fresh because his brother John and I went to the same church in Whitesboro. A close friend of mine several years ago was on a tour of the Amazon river and happen to strike up a conversation with fellow passengers Vincent and Claudia, small world! Vincent was considered as a "good guy" to know, may rest in peace.*

Tony Ciancio

Tony Ciancio - April 20, 2020 at 08:37 PM

ED

Thank you so much for sharing some wonderful memories about our dad & mom! I was out-of-town and missed his retirement party. I wish I was there. (I believe I graduated from ND with your son Dave.)

Thanks again for keeping his memory alive. I hope you and your family are well.

Elisabetta DeGironimo - April 20, 2020 at 10:36 PM

TC

Thanks for your reply. My son David graduated from ND in 1985. Was your father-in-law in the Army reserves and then attended St Anne's church?

Tony Ciancio - April 22, 2020 at 02:01 PM

ED

Yes, my father-in-law Tom. They lived in Whitesboro behind St. Anne's for many years. Again, thank you for sharing your memories.

Elisabetta DeGironimo - April 23, 2020 at 10:39 PM

PE

“ Lis- we are all so sorry about Vinny's death. Though he was always so quiet in our choir loft, he shared a gentle presence with all of us, and we all grew to love him. No matter what he would make those choir loft stairs seem easy to climb- especially to those of us who struggle so much. Your dad had such perseverance and he was so devoted to his faith and to his ministry to our parish. We certainly were blest to know him and to have so many years with him. We will all miss him and look forward to the time when we can sing together to celebrate his life and the love we shared. - Peter Elacqua and the Mt. Carmel/ Blessed Sacrament Choir and Music Ministry

Peter Elacqua - April 19, 2020 at 03:30 PM

ED


Thank you for your kind words. My father always enjoyed being a member of the choir at both St. Agnes and at Mt. Carmel. May God bless you and everyone in the choir.

Elisabetta DeGironimo - April 19, 2020 at 08:55 PM

SF

Dear Elisabetta an Stefano and to your families, we extend our deep condolences on the passing of your Dad. Your Mom and Dad were such a sweet and loving couple. We have many wonderful memories of our time at Saint Agnes. And then later we would meet them somewhere and hear about another of their many traveling experiences. Just loved it and them. God Bless all of you my they Rest In Peace. Love Dick and Selwa Stemmer and family.

Selwa and Richard Stemmer and Family - April 28, 2020 at 01:36 PM

 David
Feduccia

“ *Stefano , I am so sorry for your loss. Your Dad was a wonderful man.*

David Feduccia - April 19, 2020 at 10:39 AM

AB

“ *Cari Elisabetta, Stefano, and family,
Le più sentite condoglianze a tutti voi.
Our hearts are saddened by your loss; know
we are by your side always, especially during
this time of sorrow. Your father made a
difference in so many lives. We are thankful to be members of his
family. Please let us know how we may help you heal.
Sincerely,
Alba, Soliman, Nicandro, Gennaro and all the family*



Alba C. Ben-Barka - April 18, 2020 at 12:48 PM

ED

Grazie a tutti

Elisabetta DeGironimo - April 18, 2020 at 08:51 PM

AB

“ *Alba C. Ben-Barka lit a candle in memory of Mr. Vincent P. "Jim" Nivaggi*



Alba C. Ben-Barka - April 18, 2020 at 12:24 PM

AB

Cari Elisabetta, Stefano, and all the family, our deepest sympathy for you. We wish we could be there to comfort you even in a small way. Although it is hard, try to be at peace and know you are loved by all of us. The Ben-Barkas....

Alba C. Ben-Barka - April 18, 2020 at 12:31 PM

ED

Thank you Alba & family

Elisabetta DeGironimo - April 18, 2020 at 08:51 PM

AB

“ Caro Jim,

And here I must pause--as you always did--before I continue to express my love and admiration for you as a loving, honorable, dear human being, and a true Christian. Out of all the family, you were the one that touched my heart profoundly at a time when I so much needed my extended family.

On a business trip to DC, you called me. and I came to pick you up in Arlington. At the time we lived in Hyattsville, MD. We had dinner in our apartment. Remember? I introduced you to the uncooked lasagna noodles, which delighted you. Soliman enjoyed meeting you. We spent a beautiful evening together. Then I took you back to the Holiday Inn in Arlington.

I think you realized how much I needed a family member to reach out to me. You, dear cousin--in your quiet and loving way--succeeded in making me feel 'normal' and accepted. With you, I felt no need to fight against society nor the ever-present urge to protect my family. You were there for me, and I was fully conscious of it. I have other wonderful memories of you starting before I was ten, but that night you left a most precious, indelible memory. Perhaps some people would not think much of this, but it meant the world to me.

I think of you and Claudia with love and respect. And I will always...

....

RIP, caro Jim, and if you can, put in a good word for us up there :-)

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Alba C. Ben-Barka - April 18, 2020 at 12:24 PM

ED

I'm glad you have wonderful memories of my father. We were lucky to know him.

Elisabetta DeGironimo - April 18, 2020 at 08:54 PM



“ *Elisabetta, Stefano and family,
It pains me to hear about both your parents. I
have such fond memories of them as
generous, loving people who treated me like
family. My heart goes out to you all.*



Deanna Risucci - April 18, 2020 at 07:09 AM



*Sorry I didn't realize my dumb photo would appear like that.
— (Dee Dee D'Alessandro)*

Deanna Risucci - April 18, 2020 at 07:11 AM

ED

*Thank you so much Dee Dee. We had a lot of fun on Poe St. I hope
you are well.*

Elisabetta DeGironimo - April 18, 2020 at 12:05 PM

HM

“ *I first met your parents a few years ago at
their traditional holiday gathering of family and
friends. They were remarkable.....so warm,
loving, and giving. Please know you are in my
thoughts and prayers.*



Holly M. Massocco

Holly M. Massocco - April 17, 2020 at 11:00 PM

ED

Thank you Holly

Elisabetta DeGironimo - April 18, 2020 at 12:07 PM

BM

“ Beautiful Obituary. I know if your dad could read it himself, he would say, " Geez Gats, I have had a good long life." We always enjoyed our time with him and your mom. The holidays will never be the same without them in the kitchen cooking up a feast fit for royalty. We are so thankful that we have so many wonderful memories to hold on to. I can only imagine the wonderful welcome that he received when he reached those gates. He was a good man through and through. We will miss him terribly. Rest in Peace Jim. Until we meet again.



Brian & Kris Massocco - April 17, 2020 at 09:21 PM

ED

Thank you Kris & Brian

Elisabetta DeGironimo - April 18, 2020 at 12:06 PM

SB

“ Thinking of you all and sending hugs during this difficult time. Your Dad will be missed but I know he and your Mom are enjoying their reunion in heaven. Love, Sue

Sue Bateson - April 17, 2020 at 06:44 PM

ED

Thank you Sue

Elisabetta DeGironimo - April 18, 2020 at 12:06 PM

DS

“ Stef, and family so sorry for your loss. rest in peace, jim nivaggi, Prayers from Bill And Diana Stefanovich

DianaBill Stefanovich - April 17, 2020 at 11:12 AM