



Mr. Mario Venturini

March 5, 1939 - December 12, 2014

Mario Venturini, 75, of Cortland, New York, beloved husband and father, passed away Friday, December 12, 2014, at home. Born March 5, 1939, in the Tuscany region of Italy, Mario was the son of Edane and Ada Regi Venturini. In 1950 Mario came to the United States with his brothers and sisters on board the ship Saturnia. They arrived in New York City and from there went to western Pennsylvania, where they settled with their mother Ada and stepfather Giacomo Lombardi. After graduating from high school in Heilwood, Pennsylvania, Mario attended Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where he received a Bachelor's Degree in Art Education. Mario then accepted a position at Groton Central School, where he enjoyed a successful career as an Art teacher from 1962 until his retirement in 1996. While teaching in Groton, Mario founded a very popular annual student art show and Italian dinner. His students will remember him as a dedicated and wonderful teacher who nurtured them with kindness, patience, and humor and inspired them with his talent and generous heart.

Mario was very active within the community, where he was well-known as a local artist and as a gourmet Italian cook. He was also active throughout his life in both St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church and St. Anthony of Padua Roman Catholic Church, both in Cortland. Here, his artistic talent was demonstrated by his design and creation of the banners of each region of Italy, which are still used and displayed annually during the St. Anthony's Day Festival. In addition, he also made the banner for Lent as well as altar cloths

used in St. Anthony's Church on Easter and St. Anthony's Day.

He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Patti Bale Venturini of Cortland, and two sons, Stephen Alessandro Venturini and wife Rowena of Montréal, Québec, and Justin Daniel Venturini of Cortland; two brothers, Antonio Venturini and wife Patricia of Evansville, Indiana, and George Lombardi of Alverda, Pennsylvania; two sisters, Alma Sgro of Indiana, Pennsylvania, and Anna May and husband Blaine of Greencastle, Pennsylvania; and two grandchildren, Sophia Isabelle Venturini and Matteo Christian Venturini, both of Montréal, and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. In addition to his parents, Mario was preceded in death by his brother Genesio Venturini. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Wednesday, December 17, 2014, at 11 a.m. at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Cortland, New York, with Rev. Joseph Zareski serving as celebrant. Prayers of committal, delayed until spring, will be at Hector Union Cemetery in Burdett, New York, at the convenience of the family.

The Venturini family will be present to receive friends on Tuesday, December 16, 2014, from 5-7 p.m. in the Chapel of Riccardi Funeral Home at 69 N. Main St., Cortland, New York.

Those who wish to honor Mario's memory in the form of a contribution are asked to please consider St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, Tennessee 38105. Condolences may also be sent to the family by visiting www.riccardifuneralhome.com.

Tribute Wall



JS

“ I wish I had taken the time to share my gratitude with Mr. Mario Venturini for instilling such a love and appreciation for the visual arts while I was a double art major at Groton Central during the 1970's. Throughout my life I have recognized his influence on my endeavors; and certainly during high school his classes were a mainstay for my fervent desire to attend school daily. His mannerism of tilting his head, pursing his lips and taking in my artwork with silent critique has become an endearing memory. On my family's recent trip to Florence Italy I recalled his passionate art history teachings. I am abundantly grateful Mr. Venturini was part of my youthful education. The students of Groton HS were so fortunate to receive his talented guidance; now realizing he could have gone to any city or college level for his career, I feel especially blessed for his commitment to Groton High School. I surely hope the school has dedicated the art wing in his honor!!
Janine Deptuch- Sadki

janine sadki - September 06, 2024 at 04:58 PM



“ Dear Mrs. Venturini and family, So sad that we lost such a talented man. I was happy I got to see him a few years ago when I purchased a few of his prints for Marty's birthday. Of course Marty had many more dealings with Mr. Venturini as he was an excellent art student. I still have my "lopsided" vase that I made in his class. May God comfort you during this hard time. Fondly Mary Lou and Marty Mattoon

May 18, 2018 at 11:09 AM

CR

“ Dear Mrs. Venturini and family, How sad to hear of the passing of such a dedicated man, educator and selfless man. He drew talent from each of his students in one form or another. His humor was contagious! I was blessed having him as a teacher. He has immeasurably increased my appetite for art on so many different levels and ways. The world will miss this wonderful soul, but he leaves a beautiful legacy in his family, community, church and the Art world, as well as, in each student who knew him. Prayers for courage and comfort. Connie (Dellow) Reed class of 1966

Connie Reed - May 18, 2018 at 11:09 AM

DH

“ so sorry for your loss. I have many fond memories of mr. venturini from my high school art classes. there were few teachers that are unforgettable and he was one of them.

Deena Horner - May 18, 2018 at 11:09 AM

AH

“ Dear Venturini family,
I am so sorry to hear about Mr. Venturini's death. He was my homeroom teacher at least one year in Groton many moons ago. Mrs. Venturini was my English teacher. Having just lost my Mom in October, I know the pain and grief of losing a loved one. Please know we care!
Anita Alexander Hanford (Class of 1980)

Anita Hanford - May 18, 2018 at 11:09 AM

LB

“ Patti, I am so very sorry to hear of Mario's passing. He has fought for a long time. And just losing your Mom as well. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Lois (Phelps) Brown - May 18, 2018 at 11:09 AM

SO

“ Mario was one of those people who was so alive and creative that you just couldn't help getting down in the dirt with him and making something beautiful. I will always miss him and be looking over my shoulder wondering if they have art classes in heaven.

Stephanie Reagan Otto - May 18, 2018 at 11:09 AM

JE

“ Mr. Venturini was one of my favorite teachers growing up. My heart goes out to all of you.

Jynn Edwards - May 18, 2018 at 11:09 AM

LA

“ I was so fortunate to have Mr. Venturini as my art teacher. His class was one that I always looked forward to. Deepest sympathy to the family.

Lou Ann Cummings
Class of 1971

Lou Ann Aylor - May 18, 2018 at 11:09 AM

GP

“ Mr v was top self.he was so good to me.I would not have made it though high school without him.

greg plunkett - May 18, 2018 at 11:09 AM



“ Le nostre più sentite condoglianze per la perdita del caro Mario.Venturini Salvadori Giovanna e Barberis Maurizio

December 16, 2014 at 12:00 AM