



Ralph A. Garcea

March 20, 1931 - December 12, 2020

Ralph Garcea, Sr., age 89, passed away peacefully on December 12, 2020 at The Villages, Florida. Ralph split his time between the Village of Glenbrook and his lake home in Pulaski, NY. Born and raised in Syracuse NY, Ralph met the love of his life, Evelyn, while a counselor at Camp Zerbe (Williamstown NY) and was married three months later, enjoying 62 years together before she passed in 2016. They raised three sons in a home full of love, family adventures and delicious food. Ralph was an avid skier and golfer as well as a Little League Coach for his sons. He loved cooking, reading, playing cards with his family and singing. Ralph always had a smile on his face. He was a father figure to many who enjoyed his company and looked to him for advice on any topic. Logical and insightful, he helped many of us grow and make sense of any situation, continuing his lifelong passion of counseling. Along with his immediate family, many "adopted" children will also mourn the loss of this great man.

Ralph was born in Syracuse to first generation Italian immigrants, Nicola and Palma Garcea. His stories of those times were always interesting and quite special. After graduating high school, Ralph served in the Army, stationed at Fort Dix, New Jersey. When his service was completed, he moved his young family back to Syracuse and resided there most of his life.

He received his Arts and Science degree from Syracuse University and

became a counselor at the Boys and Girls Club of Syracuse. This solidified his resolve to help as many people as he could. His gift of relating to all people led him to further his education at the University of Buffalo receiving his Master's Degree in Social Work and continuing his career with the Syracuse City School District. He had many positions in administration with the district and retired as the Director of Pupil Services. He was always advocating for the children and families of the school district he loved. Anyone who came in contact with Ralph knew that he was special. He made many lifelong friends who all smile whenever his name is mentioned.

Besides his parents, Ralph was predeceased by his wife, Evelyn; sister, Rose (Robert) Suskin; brother Anthony (Margarite) Cosco; sister Mary (John) Quinzi; and several special nephews and nieces. Ralph is survived by his children: Ralph Jr. "Rick" and Leslie, James and Tasha (Schwartz), Daniel and Janet (Stevens) along with his beloved grandchildren: Kelly Garcea and Ralph III "RJ" Garcea. He also leaves behind a host of loving cousins, nieces, nephews, "adopted children" and special friends. We will all miss this great man. He's a tough act to follow but we will make him proud. Give Evie a big hug and look over your family. We love you.

Special thanks to Jimmy and Tasha for taking such loving care of Ralph for the last year. His life was enriched and enhanced by all you both did. It meant the world to him.

The family is planning a future celebration of the lives of both Ralph and Evie when Covid restrictions are lifted.

Arrangements entrusted to Beyers Funeral Home and Crematory, Lady Lake, FL. Online condolences may be left at www.BeyersFuneralHome.com

Tribute Wall

CP

“ *My sincere condolences on the passing of a wonderful man. My parents, John and Pat adored Ralph (and Evie too). My Dad would spend hours of the phone with Ralph talking politics, recipes and how to solve the problems of the world. They sang together and joked together. Ralph certainly lived a full and loving life. May your many memories provide comfort.*

Christine Ciabotti Perille - January 03, 2021 at 04:57 PM

ML

“ *I just learned of Ralph's passing. I want his family to know that I always valued and admired Ralph. He was the one to interview me in 1988 when I applied for a School Social Worker position with the SCSD. All throughout his tenure as the Director of Pupil Services, he was most supportive, and encouraged all of those who served under him. He was caring and a true professional who was admired & respected by all. He knew the students of the SCSD were deserving of not only an excellent education but also of the best social work & psychological support available. I am honored to have known Ralph. My deepest and sincere condolences to his family.*

Maria Lopez - December 24, 2020 at 01:30 PM

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Maria Lopez - December 24, 2020 at 01:27 PM

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Maria Lopez - December 24, 2020 at 01:26 PM

NL

“ Rick, Jimmy, Danny

My prayers are go out to you and the family at the loss of Dad. He was a wonderful man, more like a father. Eve and Ralph were parents to us all. So many good times at the house. Summer, High School and College Soccer they were there every step of the way. Simply the best.. Its such a gift to spend time with them when we get older and Ralph will be missed. They're always with us. Stay strong. My heart is with you all. God Bless.

Nate LaRocca - December 21, 2020 at 11:33 PM

DC

“ To Ralph's family. Ralph was truly a special person, a great administrator ,a great everything. He wasone of the most influential people in my life but he honored me by being my mentor and I loved him dearly. He was quietly brilliant, and a leader who was loved by all who worked with him. He taught me how to make the best greens and beans, and how to make a tomato salad the right way. Honestly, it was Ralph that made going to work a pleasure because I got to be in his company for another day. He was a wonderful teacher to me. but what I remember the most was how Ralph loved and respected EVERYONE.

Dr.Tom Cappa - December 18, 2020 at 04:01 PM

MA

“ I had the pleasure of working with Ralph in the Syracuse City School District. He was a wonderful colleague, always helpful, kind and happy.
My condolences to Ralph's family and all who loved him.

Mary Ellen Andrews - December 18, 2020 at 11:42 AM

KH

“ Our hearts go out to you. I admire your strength and the loving care the two of you gave your dad. The joy and peace you gifted him in turn has gifted you with the same joy and peace. God be your strength as you celebrate and morn your loss. Kurt and Lee

Kurt and Lee Harper - December 17, 2020 at 08:49 PM

PP

“ Dear Garcea Family,
Thinking of you wishing you peace and comfort as you remember Ralph.
Mike and Patti Poole

Patricia A Poole - December 17, 2020 at 12:46 PM

LF

“ Deepest sympathy. May the beautiful memories soon soothe the pain of your loss. Ralph was a wonderful person and I will always remember his positivity and joyous laugh.

Lori Rubenstein Fazzio - December 16, 2020 at 09:51 PM

MM

“ Dear Garcea Family,
On behalf of all of the Murrays, please accept our condolences on the loss of your dad. What a life he led! He sounds like a remarkable man, and we know he'll be missed by all of you. The void of your father never goes away, but we know you will continue to make him proud with all you each do for your families and your communities.
May his memory be a blessing.
With our deepest sympathy,
Meg Murray
And siblings.

Meg Murray - December 16, 2020 at 08:31 PM

ES

“ *My family extends to you our deepest condolences*

Eric Schuster - December 16, 2020 at 07:52 PM

MB

“ *So sorry for your loss . What a great write up amazing man. My family had great times with you all at your home in Syracuse and camp on Lake Ontario always great food and company . Our thoughts and prayers go out to you all at this difficult time . Sincerely Michele and The Bunce Family*

Michele Bunce Baker - December 16, 2020 at 03:28 PM