



Anthony Russo, III

June 7, 1942 - April 14, 2016

Anthony Russo III, a life-long resident of Tabernacle, NJ, passed away on Thursday, April 14, 2016. He was 73. He died on a beautiful spring day, doing what he did best – working the land of his 500-acre fruit and vegetable farm in Tabernacle. The farm is located in the center of downtown Tabernacle - “God’s Country” as he often called it.

He began his day as he had for over three fourths of his life; with morning coffee brewing, the weather scanner chirping and thoughts running through his mind about planning the day’s farming activities. Chances are his cell phone was in his hand, waiting to hit speed dial to talk to one of “the boys” or one of his cherished friends or colleagues. Tony always said morning was the “best part of my day.”

He knew what the plan of action for Russo’s Fruit and Vegetable Farm that day before he hopped in his truck to get his day started.

His day always began with a firm “Good Morning”, two simple words that were his trademark. Tony’s hard work ethic, persistence and determination, was the model of positivity. He believed that everyday was a gift, a response he gave to so many when asked “how are you today, Tony?”

After a morning on the tractor preparing the fields for planting, Tony enjoyed lunch with his loving wife, Maryann, of 50 years. He headed back to the fields

to do the job that he was famous for...working the land and planting “Jersey Fresh” sweet corn for fresh market sales. In a surreal twist of events, Tony was involved in a farming accident that ultimately ended his life. Tony – one with the earth in so many ways. Planted into a farming family, cultivated to be the leader of one of South Jersey’s most successful agribusinesses, rooted in strong family values, returned to the earth on the soil of his beloved Russo’s Fruit and Vegetable Farm. He was doing what he loved, second only to his family.

Always ready with words of advice, solicited or not, Tony’s words of wisdom were thoughtfully, graciously, and freely passed on to all who were willing to listen. Whether at his kitchen table, on a tractor, at his desk, over coffee in the break room or in a greenhouse full of seasonal flowers, Tony words were admired by all who viewed him as a mentor, leader and teacher.

Tony has been involved in New Jersey agriculture his entire life. Numerous organizations and agencies within the agricultural industry have benefitted from his expertise and knowledge. Among the organizations he was involved with were The Burlington County Board of Agriculture, the Tabernacle Co-Operative Growers, the Farm Credit Advisory Board, The Trenton Farmers’ Market Cooperative Association and the New Jersey Farm Bureau. Tony served as director and president at various times in each of these organizations. Tony was also instrumental in founding Sun National Bank and served on its Board of Directors for 25 years.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Maryann; his daughter & son-in-law Joann & Kevin Gsell; son & daughter-in-law: Anthony & Melissa Russo IV all of Tabernacle; 6 grandchildren: Jacqueline, Gabrielle, Elizabeth, Kevin, Anthony, & Luke. He is also survived by two sisters: Madeline Capelli & Natalie Casano, a brother-in-law Msgr. James Dubell, a sister-in-law: Joan (Richard) Coughlin as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends

whom he held dear to his heart. Tony will be lovingly remembered for the man of strength that he was for so many.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Tuesday at 11:00 AM at Church of the Holy Eucharist, 520 Medford Lakes Rd, Tabernacle, NJ 08088.

Relatives and Friends are invited to his viewing on Monday from 4-9 PM and Tuesday 9-10 AM at the Church. Memorial Contributions may be made to the Children's Home Society of New Jersey, Development Office, 635 South Clinton Ave., Trenton, NJ or Tabernacle Rescue Squad #439, 134 New Rd., Tabernacle, NJ 08088 or Tabernacle Fire Co. #431, 16 Hawkin Rd., Tabernacle, NJ 08088 or Church of the Holy Eucharist at the address above.

Cemetery Details

Sacred Heart Cemetery

Washington St.
Hainesport, NJ

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 18. 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Church of the Holy Eucharist
520 Medford Lakes Road
Tabernacle, NJ

Visitation

APR 19. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Church of the Holy Eucharist
520 Medford Lakes Road
Tabernacle, NJ

Service

APR 19. 11:00 AM (ET)

Church of the Holy Eucharist
520 Medford Lakes Road
Tabernacle, NJ

Tribute Wall



“ *Anthony Russo, III*

October 29, 2022 at 11:57 AM



“ *Anthony Russo, III*

October 29, 2022 at 09:53 AM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



James Choyinski - April 19, 2016 at 07:13 AM



To The Friends and Family of Tony- May his Memory be Eternal- My God keep the Family in his hands

James Choyinski - April 19, 2016 at 07:15 AM



We are so very sorry for your loss of your loved one. Praying God comforts you at this most difficult time. Ken&Kathy Clements

Kathy Clements - April 19, 2016 at 09:55 AM

TW

*Dear Madeline and family,
I am so sorry for the loss of your brother. My condolences to his wife,
children and grandchildren.*

*May God grant you peace.
Thelma (Yeats) Wolverton*

Thelma (Yeats) Wolverton - April 21, 2016 at 09:09 AM

GR

“ *Gruenberg/Steele lit a candle in memory of
Anthony Russo, III*



Gruenberg/Steele - April 19, 2016 at 05:07 AM

TG

“ Dear Family,

I will always remember when Dan came with me to buy my dinner vegetables when he was about 5 years old. Tony talked to him like he was a little man. He got a ride on his 4 wheeler and then gave him a handshake and Dan walked away proud as any farm boy would be that was treated like he was something special. That was how Tony always made the people that walked into his vegetable stand feel. I always look forward to my visit to the stand before dinner. The times that Tony rested from farm work, he would take a breather in the beautiful farm stand. If he was there when I stopped in, I would always make it a point to walk over and say hello. His big smile under his brown cowboy hat always makes people feel respected and important. I have learned this from the legacy that Tony and your family show at our Community Farm stand. Tony's gracious spirit and positive outlook on life is what has makes your market a very pleasant place to visit weekly. That spirit will always be there in the ground he worked, in the lives he touched in his family and customers. Maryann and family, we love you and our prayers are with you as we mourn our loss in the community.

Love,

Ted and Cindy Grovatt

Deer Haven Farm, Tabernacle

Ted and Cindy Grovatt - April 18, 2016 at 09:05 PM

SS

“ I met Tony over thirty years ago and worked with him designing and producing the Russo's Farm Market logo and signage which is still in use today. I became quite close to the family at that time and for many years after. I always looked for Tony in the field, in the market or driving his truck when I went by. He loved his tractors and was passionate about farming. Funny, but the last lengthy conversation I had with Tony was about tractors. He wanted an old photo of a specific tractor sitting in front of the farm and wondered if I could create something for him (in Photoshop?). I thought about it for a while, but we never talked about it again. Tony was always pleasant and made a lasting impact on the community and the many lives he touched. He will be missed and mourned by many for a long time to come. Tabernacle just won't be the same without him.



Sandy Sandy - April 18, 2016 at 06:59 PM

EW

“ Our deepest sympathy to the entire family.
You are in our prayers.



Eric & Mary Wall - April 18, 2016 at 06:49 PM

BH

“ Our deepest sympathies go out to the entire Russo family. May God give you the comfort and peace that you are seek during this difficult time and may the soul of Tony rest in peace. Please accept our sincere condolences.

Bonnie and Ray Hartman (Holy Eucharist)

Bonnie and Ray Hartman - April 18, 2016 at 05:32 PM

DB

“ There are enough words to express the deep loss we feel, We will miss his smiling face, That wave of his hand, The familiar figure so devoted to the land, His family, His farm, and the people around him, and I can't imagine the grief the family is going through now, Please know that our whole community is praying for you in this time of sadness

Allen's Feed

Debra Brown - April 18, 2016 at 02:44 PM

MH

“ *Russo-Onorato Family, Newport Beach, California*

Tony, Thank You, for All the Wonderful Memories growing up on "The Farm"

with you, Natalie and Madeline, Uncle Tony and Aunt Mildred.

Trenton Farmers Mkt,

Campbell Soup Co. Tomato truck delivery 3:00 a.m. All the Amazing Thanksgivings and Family gatherings over many years.

Oh! and when you chased me all the way to the Farmhouse, after I let the tractor clutch

out too fast, and dumped a full trailer load of corn in the field. Those were the Days!

So Many Memories... It would take a book! You will live in our Hearts Forever and those

Memories will continue to bring Smiles until we meet again.

And, until then, Our Thoughts and Prayers are with You, Your Family, and Friends and All those who knew and loved you.

We Wish you Eternal Peace, Heavenly Farming and

Eternal Love,

Maria, Roy and Taylor



Maria Russo Onorato Harper - April 18, 2016 at 02:34 PM

MP

“ *The Historical Society of Tabernacle Twp. send our condolences to the Russo Family. He will be missed by many, but his spirit will live on. He embodies our light and our life. Thank you for being our friend.*



Mary Ann Silvers, THS pres. - April 18, 2016 at 11:37 AM

 Kim
Mason

“ *Condolences to the Russo family on losing a loved one. Prayers. Mr an Mrs. Richard Knapp*

Kim Mason - April 18, 2016 at 11:24 AM

JF

“ *Dear Russo family:*

I wish to convey my sincerest condolences to your entire family. Losing a loved one in death is one of the hardest things that anyone will ever have to deal with. There is a great hope held out to us for the future because God promises to bring those we lost back to life by means of a resurrection to a paradise earth, where sickness and death will be no more. I hope this brief message will bring you a measure of comfort in this difficult time.

Johnson family - April 17, 2016 at 08:52 PM

TM

“ *Our deepest sympathy to the entire family. We send you prayers and hugs, love the Meale Family*

tami meale - April 17, 2016 at 08:46 PM

JF

“ Praying for God's comfort and strength for your family. So sorry for your tragic loss.

Peace....Jane Francis

Jane Francis - April 17, 2016 at 06:46 PM

DB

“ The entire Russo and Casano families have been in my thoughts and prayers...and will continue to be. Thanking God that we learned of our Faith doctrines together at Sacred Heart School. It is the Comfort and Peace that will surround all of you. Tony is remembered vividly from the early days...always so kind and respectful; smiling. One of the few boys who probably never felt the wrath of Sister Raymond!!! At least that is how I remember him! Maryanne ... It was such a blessing to see both of you together at the reunion. Know that you are uppermost in the prayers of the Beetel famies. Peace...Dottie Beetel

Dottie Beetel - April 17, 2016 at 02:56 PM

ML

“ God Bless Tony Russo and his family. With deepest sympathy and prayers.

Maureen Lyons and family



M Lyons - April 17, 2016 at 02:22 PM

TH

“ Terry Ann Horner lit a candle in memory of Anthony Russo, III



Terry Ann Horner - April 17, 2016 at 09:50 AM

CS

“ Our deepest sympathies to all of the Russo, Capelli and Casano families. Kate and Mick told one story after another of working on the farm Big Tony. We all remembered the generosity and kindness of each and every one of this truly remarkable family. Please know that Tony will always be remembered with love and respect by all of the Sullivans. Godspeed.

Claire Ann Sullivan - April 16, 2016 at 08:59 PM

AC

“ I'm so thankful that Uncle Tony and Aunt Maryanne came to my parent's anniversary party. It was such a wonderful time, and I will always treasure the photo I have of Uncle Tony and Dad eating pie and talking in my kitchen.

Thank you also for the little truck for Steven (my son, age 12 now) when we came to the roadstand to get some hanging baskets for the yard. They were beautiful of course! We had a nice visit for a little while, it was such a lovely day.

Thank you for being part of my life. I will remember you always with love and joy.

My deepest sympathies and prayers for the whole Russo family.

Almira Yates Campagna, Medford, NJ

Almira Campagna - April 16, 2016 at 11:27 AM

OJ

“ tony i will never forget the great fig tree you grow on the wall green house the fruit was so sweet healthy !! great !! ur pal joe aromando medfordn j

old pal joe aromando medford n j - April 15, 2016 at 11:49 PM

PM

“ Tony was one of the nicest people, friendly, quiet smile and a man who always looked like he enjoyed what he did-farm! I will miss seeing him there, but I was very impressed with the family's togetherness when I visited today. He will never be forgotten.

With my sincerest condolences and prayers ,

Patricia McLoone

Pat Mcloone - April 15, 2016 at 06:34 PM

JA

oh tony & MARYANN! you were a classY A GUY A IKAN! a great family man and very good friends for mY life, very wise it was pleased to work on the board of directed for the sun bank thanks for shareing ur life to me it was FAR too short 4 us we will missed U greatly you man! now you are in the OUR god gardens a perfect place you deserved this tony when i SAW last you with ur bright smile those twinkled eyes are resting now I ALSO SAW OUR JESUS TOO then ! GREAT TO KNOW YOU TONY 4 SO MANY YEAR IT WAS MY HONORS !! GOD SPEED TONY UR OLD OLD FRIEND JOE/ CONNIE AROMANDO MEDFORD N J U CANT MISS! UNTIL NEXT TIME BUDDY! CIAO TE AMO AND MULTA PRAYERS PIASANO

JOE/CONNIE AROMANDO - April 15, 2016 at 11:11 PM

KH

With a heavy heart I extend my deepest condolences to your family at the loss of this wonderful man. Tony was welcoming and always greeted me warmly with his giant smile. He has left a wonderful legacy . . . proud to have known him.

Karen Hood - April 16, 2016 at 09:40 PM

PP

Knew him and his family for a lifetime as we grew up and worked on neighboring farms. He was always there for our family and I will always remember his love and kindness. My sincere sympathy to Maryann, Madeline and Natalie as well as the entire family.

Pat (Grovvatt) Parks

Pat Parks - April 17, 2016 at 04:32 PM



Mr. Russo was always such a kind and generous person, always had a smile and always would stop to talk. I had a problem with my tomatoes one year and he sold me some of his starter plugs to get plants back in the ground. He was a true genuine farmer and I appreciate everything he has taught me.

Jeanne Gray Smith

Jeanne Smith - April 17, 2016 at 05:09 PM

TC

I would like to express my deepest sympathy to the entire Russo family. I feel honored to have gotten to know Mr. Russo over the last few years and am especially grateful as a parent that my daughter's first job was working with the Russo family where she continued to work for several years. The hard work ethic that she experienced working alongside the entire Russo family has played an integral role in the person that she has become today and for that, I will be forever grateful. Mr. Russo took a special interest in my daughter and made me feel like a million bucks as a parent with his never-ending compliments about her. I feel privileged that she had the opportunity to work with such a great mentor. She truly admired and respected him and he will forever be in our hearts! Rest in peace, Mr. Russo and thank you for all that you have done over the years for my daughter.

Tina Campbell

tina campbell - April 17, 2016 at 07:53 PM

BR

My heartfelt sympathy to the entire Russo family. God Bless.

Barbara Romanowski - April 18, 2016 at 12:33 AM

MS

Tony Russo was our family's Father Christmas. He would call and tell Glenn, "I found your tree!" When he would go to the farm the perfect tree and numerous poinsettias were our inside decorations for the 28 years we were in his area. A kind man who walked the walk for all the years we knew him. We grieve for his wife and children and know how hard his passing is for them. Please accept our most sincere sympathy. The Schmidt Family.

Maryanne schmidt - April 18, 2016 at 04:27 PM

JR

my deepest sympathies go out to the entire family. I knew the Russo's and Mary Ann from High School. I have seen them thru the years at agricultural functions. They're all great and he;s going to be missed by all. So sorry I can't be there, but praying for you all. I have cherish memories, so sorry to hear of this tragic accident. God Bless and I will never forget the fun we had thru the years.

Joy Hall Ricker - April 18, 2016 at 10:18 PM