



Joseph Giaccone

December 31, 1969 - June 11, 2014

Obituary of Joseph Giaccone It all started December 7, 1931. Joseph was born two months prematurely to Virginia Puscedu and Giovanni Giaccone who were originally from Sardinia and Sicily, respectively. Brother to Marie Prost who was seven at the time. She would endearingly call him Jojo and he called her Santina. He grew up in the city of St. Etienne, France located on the eastern side of France bordering Switzerland. During WWII, he was sent to live on a farm for a short time when he was about 9 years old with a family as there was no food to eat in the city. He always shared the story about having to catch the chickens in evenings. This was a very difficult task until he realized if he gave them a little wine, this task became a lot easier. In school, he studied to be a woodworker and play music, his two passions at the time. He became very skillful in both areas. He created many beautiful pieces of furniture. He was very proud that his "dovetails" were always a perfect match and made a very snug joint. His love for music gave him opportunities to attend a conservatory for music in France. The first year was to learn to read music, second year was to learn fingering and finally the third year he could put it all together and play his instrument. Imagine waiting three years to play an instrument! Joseph also served in the French Military playing saxophone in the band. He was stationed in Tunisia, Africa. He would share stories of the extreme heat and gigantic bugs. His favorite stories were of the jokes the band members would play on each other. One time he was ready to march in the band and found his reed was covered in honey making it delicious but

almost impossible to play. As he became older, he taught many students his skill and passed along his passion for woodworking. In the evenings and on weekends, he would play in the Big Bands of that time. Jazz, especially Spanish jazz, became his favorite music to play. Because of this love, he visited Spain many times and became fluent in Spanish as well as Italian and French. These passions led him to having opportunities to come to America. He was chosen to come to the States to work on the cabinetry of large yachts with the famous Direktor brothers in Mamaroneck, NY. He also had an opportunity to design the interior of a famous hotel in Puerto Rico. This job enabled him to continue practicing his Spanish. When he returned to the States, he still needed to work on his English. He began taking English classes in the evenings where he befriended Adolfo. Adolfo's sisters, Clarisa and Blanca, were coming into town to make sure their little brother was doing well away from his homeland of Colombia. One evening, all the students of the English class gathered to welcome Adolfo's sisters. This is where Joseph and Blanca met and their journey together began. They exchanged addresses and wrote to each other for two years. Next time they met was two weeks before their wedding on June 20, 1964. The year of 2014 will be their 50th wedding anniversary. As a married couple, they moved back to New York City. The adventures they experienced together with being in a new country and trying to communicate in three languages were priceless. One story is when Joseph went shopping at the supermarket. He thought he was buying chicken pté for his new bride. When Blanca looked at the can, she asked Joseph what a cat on the label had to do with the chicken pté. With closer examination of the can, he realized he had bought chicken flavored cat food. Nine months later on April 8th, 1965, their only child Jacqueline was born. They continued to live in NYC for the next three years with a brief six months residence in France. The family then moved to Long Island and lived in Port Washington for about 10 years. He continued to design interiors for many places in NYC such as Metropolitan Opera House, World Trade Center offices, and many retail stores such as Gimbel's. He also loved to bowl and with much practice

finally bowled a 300 game! On Long Island, Joseph continued develop his passion for going to the beach with an interest in fishing. He caught mackerel, snappers, blue fish, bunkers and eels which filled his fishing stories for the day. Holbrook, Long Island was their next home. This home was further East and included more deep sea fishing. He loved going to the beach and fishing off the jetties or off party boats for any schools of fish that would come in. One of the best stories is when he was walking out onto a jetty in East Hampton and noticed the tide was going out. He looked down at the pools that collected and noticed movement. It was a 25 pound striped bass. He took out his net and scooped it up. He was extremely excited and lucky. His passion for the beach continued as Joseph and Blanca also took many exotic trips to St. Martin, Bahamas, Puerto Rico and Florida. Joseph continued to design interiors for many retail companies. In Bloomingdales, he designed not only their retail stores but also their restaurant, Le Train Bleu. When it was time to open the restaurant, the staff needed someone to record the welcoming announcement as people entered. Joseph was asked to record the greeting, "Bonjour Messieurs et Mesdames ". He also worked and retired from Macy's. He designed many interiors for Macy's but his biggest project was designing the interior and exterior of the Colonie Mall Macy's in Albany, NY. This family of three continued to live in Holbrook until 2004. Joseph welcomed a wonderful, son-in-law, Mark Newman, into the family. This brought him much joy as he could speak French with Mark. March 6, 2005 Joseph's first grandchild, Elsa Aurora, was born. The proud grandparents lived in upstate NY until Elsa was about three years old and they treasured every moment. Joseph would always chase her and say "Elsa, where are you?" in his endearing French accent. Winters are cold in Clifton Park, NY so Joseph and Blanca moved to Ocala, FL in 2007. They bought a home in 2009 in Oak Run and were surrounded and loved by their Colombian family. They became close friends with a number of families in their new community, all of whom continue to be a wonderful support for Blanca. Joseph's sense of humor never

weakened, even through his last days at the hospital and rehabilitation facility. Joseph was infamous for asking someone, with a twinkle in his eye, to take him to the beach with champagne. If they didn't, he jokingly said he would call his lawyer. We will truly miss you Joseph! Thank you to ALL the staff at MRMC Hospital and Palm Garden who took care my dad and our family. We truly appreciate all your support over the last several weeks. Also, thank you to Roberts Funeral Home and especially Steed Salls for all their assistance. A photo album celebrating Joseph's life can be viewed at: <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.4207221076300.1073741835.1758140698&type=1&l=bfb02950d0> Addresses: Blanca Giaccone 11581 SW 84th Ave. Rd. Ocala, FL 34481 Mark, Jacquie & Elsa Newman 1064 Goldfoot Rd. Glenville, NY 12302

Tribute Wall



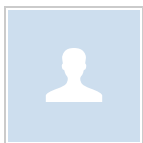
“ *Joseph Giaccone*

joanne castano - June 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *Tio Joseph: We miss you very much and you are still part of our lives. The kids remember your jokes and there are so many memories that stayed with us on our daily living. "Una Paloma Blanca" still is heard and a "Lets Go To The Beach" and "Give Me Some Champaign". John remembers you always saying "your a good man". We love you Tio and we know your still among us. Your our Angel who guards us from heaven until we all meet. Thank you for loving me as your own niece, you were that Dad I didn't have and I still feel that pure love from heaven so much that today is your One Year Anniversary and I just finished watching The Five Year Engagment and they sang "Una Paloma Blanca" sure you were letting me know from heaven what day it was today. Love you Tio just never said it enough and I miss you. Joanne*

joanne castano - June 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *Joseph Giaccone*

June 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Joseph Giaccone... Thanks for the memories. While many people may remember the later years, I remember years ago growing up and all the things you showed me. How to Fish, catching Blues and eels off of Fire Island and Flounder of Port Jefferson. How to cut squids and put the slimy things on the hook. I remember going on a party boat with you and landing Blues. Oh how you loved fishing for Blues. You always enjoyed designing and building. I remember going to your home in Holbrook and wondering what did he change now? Garage, into a bedroom for Jacquie, wall to separate the dining room, and then knocking it down, why? because you could. I remember grilling in the backyard, playing bacci ball. Let's not forget the first time you let me mow your grass..ha think it was the last time too. I remember going bowling with you the first time and wearing the funny shoes. It was always fun going out to the Island to see you and Blanca and of course my wonderful cousin Jacquie. Who always was playing with her friends and I didn't find much fun so I would go hand out with Joseph until I got older and realized they were cute! You were always willing to help people and share your knowledge. Yes, Joseph had his humor and his temper. Over the span of his life, like in all there were times were a do over would have helped, However, no one cant take away the many good qualities he had. I learned many things from Uncle Joseph! Your later years were rough for you and those around you. But, you never gave up and you hung in there. Now, you have been inducted into God's Hall of Fame! Enjoy permanent Peace and Happiness and you will not need your lawyer! Rest in Peace! JVS

Jose Vicente Salazar - June 17, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RA

“ The staff here at Palm Gardens had the pleasure of serving Joseph Giaccone for rehabilitation services. What an enchanting man, it was truly our pleasure to know him even for such a brief time. Please except our sympathies for your loss.

Roxy Acosta - June 16, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ *What an amazing man! He lived quite a fascinating life. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Jacquie and all of her family.*

Sandy, Drew, Maddie & Derek Swayne - June 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

IV

“ *Joseph for us was our dear friend The Beach as we used to call him, was an amazing, lovely, funny, and his smile illuminated every room, anywhere he entered. Always asking "Do you want to go to the beach? The Beach and Blanquita had dinner with us this last Valentine's Day. He wanted a French Dinner, so I made a Spinach, Ham and Cheddar Cheese Quiche. I also got French Bread, real European Butter, and Salad. Our friend "The Beach" got the French Champagna, as he used to call it. We had never seen The Beach ate so much, he just loved my French meal. This last Sunday we went to visit him, and I told him as soon as he came back home I was going to make his Quiche, and he was smiling from ear to ear. In his honor I will bring his favorite Quiche tomorrow to our Neighborhood Dinner. The Beach was more than a friend or a neighbor to us, he was family. Rest in Peace friend. We love you and We will miss you. Isabel and Ken Vierk*

Isabel and Ken Vierk - June 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ *We enjoyed Joseph and are very sorry we didn't get to spend more time with him. He had that twinkle in his eye that let you know he was up to something, then flash that innocent "who me? " face that made it okay. May he shine bright in your hearts forever. Love, Teresa, Bill, Diana and Eli*

The Benosky Family - June 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ Joseph, You were such a happy person and always had a smile on your face. The kindness that you showed, and was always there to offer a helping hand with what ever someone needed. We will remember your humor and silly jokes, and only wish that we would have taken more opportunity to go with you to the beach. The love that you showed for family is priceless. Your presence will be truly missed but all of our beautiful memories of you will never be forgotten. We thank God for having the wonderful brother in law that you are. I will always remember at the hospital that you told me Adolfo you are my brother in law and I miss you. I will also miss you. May God welcome you with open arms. You are a beautiful person.
Love; Adolfo & Charlene

Adolfo & Charlene Castano - June 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM