

# *Memorial Service*

SUNDAY MARCH 10TH, 2024 3:00 PM

VFW POST 7293

5209 SPRINGMILL RD, WHITEHALL, PA 18052

## *Our Hope*

1 Thessalonians 4:13 - 14 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

## *Thank You*

The family of Mr. Louie Rodino wishes to express our sincere appreciation for all the prayers, phone calls, visits and many other acts of kindness shown to him and our family during the last few years of his life, and his short illness just before he died.

# *Honoring* THE LIFE OF



LOUIE RODINO

JUNE 25, 1934 - DECEMBER 29, 2023

# Order of Service

Welcoming Words – Dante Rodino  
Opening Prayer – Luigi Rodino  
Hymn (23rd Psalm)  
Reading of the Obituary – Tatiana Rodino  
Informal Tributes  
Eulogy – Joshua Lyons  
Hymn (Bless the Lord Eternal, O My Soul)  
Closing Prayer – Dante Rodino  
Thank you and Acknowledgements  
Refreshments and Fellowship

## Psalm 23

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD; I SHALL NOT WANT. HE MAKES ME LIE DOWN IN GREEN PASTURES. HE LEADS ME BESIDE STILL WATERS. HE RESTORES MY SOUL. HE LEADS ME IN PATHS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS FOR HIS NAME'S SAKE. EVEN THOUGH I WALK THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH, I WILL FEAR NO EVIL, FOR YOU ARE WITH ME; YOUR ROD AND YOUR STAFF, THEY COMFORT ME. YOU PREPARE A TABLE BEFORE ME IN THE PRESENCE OF MY ENEMIES; YOU ANOINT MY HEAD WITH OIL; MY CUP OVERFLOWS. SURELY GOODNESS AND MERCY SHALL FOLLOW ME ALL THE DAYS OF MY LIFE, AND I SHALL DWELL IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD FOREVER.

# Obituary

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Louie Rodino, who died on December 29, 2023. Born in 1934, Louie lived a full and vibrant life, leaving a lasting legacy for his loved ones. Shortly after his birth in 1934, his father retired and moved the family back to his hometown, Pontegrande in the Province of Catanzaro, Italy but conditions in Italy forced them to return to Elkhorn, WV later the same year. Louie graduated from Elkhorn High School in 1952 and embarked on a life of constant excitement, living in West Virginia, Detroit, MI, Palm Harbor, FL, and finally in Bethlehem, PA.

In 1976, Louie married his beloved wife, the late Vera Graczyk Rodino. They were married for 31 years. Louie was also the proud father of his late son, Anthony Rodino, his surviving son, Dante Rodino, and stepdaughter Yvonne Morey. He was also a beloved grandfather to Tatiana, Ariel, Francesca, Meghan, and Luigi, and a caring father-in-law to Dante's wife Lisa. His extended family, including his nephews Timothy Rodino and Chuck Barbieri, nieces Cheryl Rodino Litton and Rosemary Graziano Rodino will forever cherish his memory.

Louie was predeceased by his parents, Salvatore Rodino and Teresa Concetta Tomaselli, and his siblings, Mary Rodino, Teresa Rodino Grosh, Anthony Rodino, and half-brother Chuck Barbieri. Despite their regular familial disputes, Louie maintained a close and enduring connection with his siblings, a testament to his forgiving nature and charismatic personality.

A proud born-again Christian, Louie always wanted to make sure people knew they were forgiven. He also highly valued living within one's means and hated the idea of wasting anything. An avid reader, he held the elementary school record for reading the most books. Louie was Italian and Calabrese to the bone, loved his pasta, and could not sleep if there was any leftover in the refrigerator. We also remember that no food was safe from black pepper and chili flakes. He was also quintessentially "capa tosta" (hard headed), and we think if you looked up that phrase in an Italian-English dictionary you may find a picture of him next to the definition. A man of many interests, he frequently sought solace in the tranquil beauty of his favorite beaches in Florida with his wife Vera.

Those who knew Louie will remember him as an extraordinarily funny and hot-headed individual with a heart full of warmth and kindness and legs that could dance all night long. His legacy also lies in his lifelong friendship with his classmates from Elkhorn High School and the undying love he held for his family. To commemorate his life, a memorial service will be held on March 10, 2024, at 3:00 PM at the VFW hall at 5209 Springmill Rd., Whitehall, PA 18052

Louie Rodino's loss will be deeply felt by all who knew him. His memory will forever remain a beacon of love, warmth, and resilience, reminding us to embrace our journeys, no matter where they lead us.



## *Our Favorite Stories*

He once ate mayonnaise right from the spoon with gusto because we couldn't waste it. It grossed out Luigi and me. - Francesca

He'd throw his hands up in that way whenever he was caught snooping around in stuff he shouldn't be getting into, declaring "I ain't doing nothing." Or "it wasn't me!"

"I ain't gonna say no more." Meant he had plenty more to say, but he was frustrated it wasn't going his way.

He once declared to the doctor that he shouldn't reduce his sodium because "The Bible says we're the SALT of the earth." The doctor was not amused, but we were.

He once thought he had bone cancer because of the arthritis pain in his legs. When asked if he was taking anything for the pain, he declared "Aspirin, the WONDER DRUG."

He sang all the time, especially the warbling country love songs of old.

He watched just about every preacher there was on TV.

He wore a pair of his brother's glasses to save money. Who knew how well they worked.

When my father was 3 or 4 years old, he found my grandfather's gun in one of the bedrooms upstairs. It fired and he was dead silent. My aunt's were screaming and terrified to go up and see what happened. When they found him, he was just sitting on the floor in shock.

Another time when he was little, he dumped a box of talcum powder on his head and when my aunts found him, they thought he had burned his skin off.

## *Special Thanks*

I had to write something about my father's love of his hometown Elkhorn, West Virginia and for the love of his classmates from Elkhorn High School. Its hard to explain how so many people could have the bond of love between them like the people in the coal camps on route 52 of McDowell county West Virginia. A few years back, I took my father to the last reunion to be held for Elkhorn High School. It encompassed the entirety of the schools existance as a high school (1920 - 1953). I met so many of the people that I have known through stories and voices on phone calls and letters over the years. He truly loved everyone from those days. When I walked into the registration foyer for the reunion, a lady asked me who I was. I said, I was Louie Rodino's son. She jumped out of her chair with joy and said that her brother would be so excited to see him because Louie hadn't been to a reunion in several years. My dad's classmates had only the nicest things to say about him and our family. It was overwhelming.

So, I would like to give a very special thanks to Rachel and Billy Pickett, Lewis (deceased) and Bobbie Sharpe, Jack Barger, David LeFon, Norma Jean Triplett, Patty Romeo Boyd, and to my dad's best friend Bob Norris. I am sure I missed several others, and I could thank all those who have gone on before him; but thanks to all of you, he was never without any friends in this world.

## *The Staff at Phoebe Allentown*

A special thanks to the staff at Phoebe Allentown. None of us ever want our loved ones to need round the clock nursing care, but if they do, we would want them to be cared for in a facility like Phoebe Allentown. Special thanks to Nurse Ruth, Margarita, and my father's beloved Gail for taking special care of my father. I asked them who would be their favorite now. They said Louies don't grown on trees.