



Peter Francis Nepi

August 19, 2016

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Peter Francis Nepi, age 97, on Friday, August 19, 2016, at Brookdale Palmer Ranch, Sarasota, Florida. He died peacefully of natural causes.

Peter was a decorated WWII combat veteran (including a Purple Heart) and Staff Sergeant in the 393rd Regiment, 99th Infantry Division, Third Army, European Theatre. He was called back for several years of active duty during the Korean Conflict as an Artillery Officer. He subsequently was a Battery Commander with the 707th Anti-Aircraft Gun Battalion, and then with the 3rd Missile Battalion, 166th Artillery (Nike-Ajax), Pennsylvania National Guard. He retired as a Major in the Army Reserves. His civilian career started as a shipbuilding electrician and subsequently a ship engineering draftsman at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard. He retired from the civil service as an Electronics Engineering Planning and Operations Manager with the Naval Sea Systems Command (Washington, DC).

He graduated from Our Lady of Angels Roman Catholic Elementary School (Latin Mass Altar Boy), West Catholic High School for Boys, Edward W. Bok Technical School, attended St. Joseph's College, and graduated from, and was an instructor at, the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. Peter was fluent in the Italian language and was considered the family historian.

Peter was born with an effervescent and gregarious personality on Kershaw Street, West Philadelphia, and subsequently relocated to Broomall (PA), Annandale (VA), Ocean City (MD), Delray Beach (FL), and Sarasota (FL). While activated with the Army for the Korean Conflict, Peter and his family lived in Savannah and Augusta (GA).

At the urging of the Catholic Relief Services, he joined the Boy Scouts of America and eventually attained the rank of Life Scout, and, at age 18, he became an Assistant Scoutmaster in Troop 112 at a West Philadelphia Lutheran Church. His father died in Philadelphia during the Spanish Flu Epidemic of 1918, six months before Peter's birth, and

so Peter's very first positive adult male role model was arguably Scoutmaster Elias "Bonny" Borden.

He is survived by his loving wife of 74 years (wed on November 22, 1941), Marie (Mary) Dolores (Roccia) Nepi, and four adoring sons and daughters-in-law: Thomas and Barbara (Cimino); Michael and Dale (Mancinelli); Stephen and the late Dorrel (Edstrand); and, Mark and Suzanne (Connors), five doting grandchildren: Dawn Nepi (Bergen); Sandra Nepi (Cole Arntzen); and, Lisa, Mary and Peter Nepi; three loving great grandchildren: Matthew Bailey; and, Megan and Elizabeth Arntzen, two sisters-in-law: Florence Mariano and Dolores DeCicco, and innumerable fond nephews and nieces mostly in Florida and the U.S. Northeast Corridor, and cherished cousins in the Le Marche Region of Italy.

Peter is preceded in death by his Italian-born parents, Pietro and Assunta (Bachetti) Nepi. He is also preceded in death by his siblings Alberto, Albert (Elizabeth Kramer), Josephine (Michael Kizeik), and Maria, and a half-brother and a half-sister Anthony (Lydia McKeon) and Rose Cacciatori (Vaughn Peterson) respectively.

Peter mostly enjoyed being with, and supporting, his immediate family (the kids) and his extended Nepi-Roccia families. He was also known for his spontaneous singing and jesting, mentoring the young, sipping vino da tavola, mangiare gnocchi marinara, voracious reading, watching CNN and classic movies and musicals, supporting the Scouting program, domestic and international traveling, and professional football (Go Redskins!). He performed for many years as a tenor in annual community variety show fundraisers in support of the Manoa Youth Athletic Association and the Catholic Youth Organization at St. Anastasia Catholic Church (Philadelphia suburbs). Peter was a member of various Barbershop harmony groups and tuxedoed university-sponsored men's chorales in the Delray Beach area, FL. He is the past President of the Ponte Vista Homeowners Association in Ocean City, MD, and the Pine Ridge Homeowners Association in Delray Beach, FL, and a former Boy Scout Explorer Post Advisor, and was on the Chain Crew for W. T. Woodson High School Football games in Fairfax (VA).

A private burial will transpire at the Sarasota National Cemetery at a date and time in the future. Accordingly, all expressions of sympathy can best be accomplished by dedicating a service at your local house of worship in the name of Peter Francis Nepi.

May Gold bless and hold tight our lovable and jovial Peter Francis Nepi. Sempre amato. Fino a tardi.

"Anybody that doesn't like this life is nuts!"

Peter F. Nepi

(a.k.a. Ole Buck and Big Moose)

Tribute Wall

BM

“ JoAnne and I are very sorry to hear about the passing of Peter Francis Nepi. Based on discussions with Mike Nepi during the many years that we worked together, his father was quite an accomplished man and a wonderful family member! It is always sad to say goodbye, but the memories will live on forever!

Bob and JoAnne Mann - August 30, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DN

“ I will forever cherish the wonderful family times, fun events, vacations and wonderful memories (and thousands of pictures) I have been so fortunate to share with my father-in-law, Peter Francis Nepi, for over half a century. He was the best father-in-law I could have ever asked for from God. Dad Nepi was always very loving and caring towards me, treating me like his own daughter from the first day I met him in his Lovell Avenue home. I owe this man a debt of gratitude for raising such a good son to be my husband, and father to Dad's first grandchild. I am proud and thankful, beyond words, to be part of the Peter Francis Nepi family. You will always be with me in my heart and soul, Dad.

Dale Mancinelli Nepi - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ My memories of Uncle Pete were the shows he was in that my Mom and Dad took me too see. The things he wrote every year on the Christmas cards he sent. The times I visited him and Aunt Mary at their condo in Ocean City, MD. The time they both came to my boss's 4th of July party at the White Marlin Marina and sat on his boat the American Lady and Aunt Mary didn't like being on a boat. I remember being at my parents house on Forrest Avenue and Uncle Pete and everyone came to see us when I came home from Missouri and my second son Michael was just a baby. Uncle Pete was the life of the party and always made everyone feel special. He always mentioned how much he had loved my real Mom Rita even though I do not have many memories of her as she died when I was 8 years old right before Christmas in 1952 and my Dad and my brother and I went to stay at their house right after she died. Heaven is now a much happier now that Uncle Pete has arrived to take care of the family that has gone before him and all the troops that are there. Thanks for the memories. God Bless you. We love you.

Carmela and David Straccione - August 28, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ I am very sorry to hear for your recent loss, and offer my deepest sympathies to the family. Peter was a great friend of my father, James A. Angert. As members of the same Communications platoon during WW II they shared many good and bad experiences and not surprisingly became lifelong close friends. My Dad always said what a fun guy he was to be around, even when their circumstances in combat weren't exactly pleasant!

James S. Angert - August 26, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ I am so sorry for your loss.. Uncle Peter was my favorite Uncle i always remember how he helped me get in the National Guard..instead if going into the Navy for 4 years

jeffrey roccia - August 25, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ It is always sad to loose a father, but one like Uncle Peter never stops because he left behind an excellent amount of positive memories to carry on his love. His love of life was contagious. and made you want to be a better person. He found an abundance of joy in people especially family. He was a great role model which my brothers and me often talked about; that he traveled when it wasn't that popular. My brother Don said he wanted to be like Uncle Peter and show his children the world. His influence is everywhere. Thank You Uncle Peter for your encouragement and guidance during my life.

Marilyn Kocur - August 25, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CA

“ Peter (Gramps) was loved and cherished by all who knew him. They don't make-em like that anymore. He will be truly missed!

Cole Arntzen - August 24, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PP

“ Thank you Major, R.I.P. I only know your son Michael, but you and Mary did a fine job with him.

Peter Pate - August 23, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ *What I loved about Peter was his great sense of humor. He was creative and entertaining. Peter stayed in high spirits always. Peter was a fast thinker, extremely smart, quietly self confident, a fast learner and had the most wonderful personality. To know him was to love him. We shared many good times and laughs at a the Heron Club. Laughing with Peter was the best medicine I ever had. When they made Peter, they threw away the mold. Peter was a special friend and I will miss him. Susan Polhemus*

Susan Polhemus - August 23, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ *When my sister married into the Nepi family, not only did they accept her, but they accepted all of her family, too. That is when I first met Peter Nepi. He was a warmhearted man with a vibrant personality. He was a man who wore many hats: son, brother, husband, father, patriot, mentor and entertainer. No one taught him how to live. He learned as a young child to meet the challenges of his "not always fun-filled" life. His stories about growing up, being in the army and loving his country were impressive. I admired how he would read a newspaper from front to back and make notations on noteworthy articles that his family members should read. He had a beautiful voice and I enjoyed hearing him sing. My parents enjoyed many times spent with Peter Nepi and his family. When I visited the retirement home, it was always a pleasure to see him. I was saddened to learn of his illness and his death. How wonderful that he lived such a long life. I know he will be missed by many. My family and I extend our sincere sympathy to all in the Nepi family. The muffled drum's sad roll has beaten farewell Peter Nepi. Rest in peace,*

Carolyn Cimino Rolli - August 23, 2016 at 12:00 AM

WH

“ *William Ham has sent this Expressions of Sympathy card.*

William Ham - August 23, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ *His favorite words he use to say was get off your gigi*

David decicco - August 23, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AV

“ Mike and I offer our heartfelt condolences to Marie and to all of Peter's family. He absolutely enjoyed life to the fullest! It was an honor to know him and a blessing to hear his beautiful Italian tenor voice. He will be missed. May Peter rest in the loving arms of the Good Lord Whom he served with joy and gladness for his 97 years on this earth.

Anne Marie Vale - August 23, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ We will miss you, Uncle Peter and all the happy times we have had together over the years! May you rest in peace and do sing to the souls up in heaven, they will love your voice.!!!

Carl & Elizabeth Jane Roccia - August 23, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ We feel so fortunate to have known Peter. We are truly sadden by this loss, but knowing Peter, he is already singing with the Angels. Love to all of the Nepi family.

Phyllis and John Giuffre - August 23, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ I'm very sorry for your loss. Please accept my deepest condolences. I graduated from W.T. Woodson High School and was one of the football team's managers and had no idea Peter worked our games; that's so wonderful! It's also terrific to see that his love for Scouting runs throughout his family. Rest in Peace Peter as your spirit and memory will live on forever.

Seth Distler - August 23, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ Mike and Dale we send our deepest sympathies to you and your family. Having had the privilege of meeting Peter, it's easy to understand the influence he had on all he encountered. He will be missed, but leaves a long life time of memories behind for all to remember. Keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers.

Janice & Bob Wilkens - August 23, 2016 at 12:00 AM