



Mauro DiReda

August 21, 1931 - December 12, 2020

Mauro DiReda, age 89, of Newark, DE, went home to be with the Lord on December 12, 2020. Mauro was a hard worker in anything he decided to do and took great pride in his work as a lithographer. He served in the Air Force during the Korean War as a Staff Sergeant. Mauro loved mentoring everyone, especially kids. He was a jack of all trades. Some of his skills included carpentry, landscaping, and cement work. Mauro was extremely selfless and would do anything to help anyone. Some of his many selfless acts included doing handyman work for free and providing food for those in need.

Mauro is survived by his children: Vincent DiReda (Jean), Daniel DiReda, Mary Sica (John), and Lisa DiReda; grandchildren: Natalia, Brandon, and Ryan; and great-grandchildren, Mason and Jaxson. He was preceded in death by his wife, Maria.

In lieu of flowers please make donations to the food bank of Delaware. 222 Lake Drive, Newark, DE 19702. (302) 292-1305. Services and burial will be private. To send an online condolence, visit www.stranofeeley.com

Comments



“ Instead of flowers, please take the dollars you would spend on flowers and make a donation to the Delaware Food Bank, thank you. My brother, Vincent DiReda has a donation post set up under his Facebook page. Thank you again! My Dad was very charitable this time of year when so many are doing without, especially now. This is the purpose we wish to serve.

Mary Sica - December 24, 2020 at 04:08 PM



“ I remember that 4th of July when I met your Dad! He was hoot! Every time I think of him I will have a smile on my face. I will keep you all in my prayers.

Love
Jennie

Jennie Read - December 24, 2020 at 11:50 AM



“ My dad came from Italy as a US citizen. There’s a story behind that since he had never stepped foot in this country. So how was it that he was a US citizen, with a freshly made US passport? It all started with my Nonno, his father. He served in the United States Army in World War I, while living and working in New York which automatically naturalized him as a citizen. Hence, by way of my Nonno, my father was also able to claim citizenship. My father wrote in a journal stating that long before he discovered he could be a US citizen, he always dreamed of coming to the United States. He was very curious about the America that his father talked about from time to time. One day, as a child walking to school, he spotted the Life magazine written in Italian. It happened to be a special edition about the 100 best things in the United States. He spent all of his Lira on it. When he got home that night he went through the entire magazine soaking up every bit of what was great about America and since then he couldn’t stop thinking about making the trip. The older he got the more anxious he became about coming to America. One day, his friend told him something very interesting. He was 17 or 18 years older the time. His friend said that he should look into becoming a US citizen because his father was one and he might be able to become one himself because of that. He discovered that indeed he could become a naturalized US citizen simply because his father was an honorably discharged veteran of World War I. This made him the happiest person on the planet. He got his papers in order and boarded the ship and landed in New York at 10 AM on July 4, 1951. Because it’s New York and it’s what they do, fireworks were going off all day and all night back then and my father thought the fireworks were for him. Later in life, he found that hilarious since he then knew that they were not for him but we would always laugh about that. Every Fourth of July he would tell us the story about how we came to the United States and the fireworks. He always said it was his own independence day. Not that he didn’t love his family but he knew there was more for him in this country than in Italy. You see, my father was the first in this family to have a college education. He join the Air Force six months after arriving here not speaking a word of English. Somehow he persevered eventually learning the language. He had bestowed upon him the privilege of being the printer for the New Castle County Air Force Base. That’s why my father took on printing as his lifelong trade, becoming one of the best in Delaware, if not the best! He went back to Italy, married my mother, had four kids and never ever ended up getting stationed anywhere else. That’s why he stayed in Delaware. Most of his relatives were in northern Jersey or New York. Still he liked Delaware, so this is where he stayed. Eventually, he invited his brother Nick or Nicola, to come from Italy, so he could have someone from his family with him and not feel so lonely. He made his life in Delaware, he made many many friends and did so much for so many people. Now when I think about how much he did for so many it would be really hard not to feel the great loss we are enduring. I am quite sure that his soul is very busy now, helping, because that’s who he was on earth and will continue to be at the Lord’s right hand. We love you Dad. We will miss you for sure but we know that you have even greater challenges in heaven serving God! We all know how you like staying busy!! God speed, we will see you again someday!