



Anthony "Tony" Difilippantonio

April 6, 2023

Anthony "Tony" Difilippantonio passed away on April 6, 2023, at the age of 91. Tony was born on July 8, 1931, to Nicola and Alfreda Difilippantonio, in Penns Grove, NJ. He attended St. James High School and went on to join the Army and serve in the Korean War.

At a very young age Tony was captivated by the sweet, soothing trills of the accordion. At the age of ten he was gifted his first accordion. Through much studying and practice Tony proved to be a natural at the instrument he loved so dearly. At the age of fifteen Tony was invited to Atlantic City by the manager of Stars of Tomorrow to perform at the Little Theater Show at the Steel Pier. Tony was such a crowd favorite that he was invited to stay on the show at the requests of the manager. It was there that he met Andy Acari, one of the most esteemed accordion players in the country. Acari was so impressed by Tony's talent and potential that he took the young man under his wing as a mentee. Soon his notoriety reached back to his hometown, and calls poured into his home with requests for him to appear on the radio. Tony would then audition for The Horn and Hardart Children's Hour on Station WCAU in Philadelphia. There he won first place and became a regular on the show, both on radio and television. At the age of eighteen he would go on to study at the Pietro Deiro Accordion Conservatory in New York City where he was awarded highest honors. Tony would later go on to appear on the Ted Mack Old Gold Show, the Horace Heidt Show and, the Playhouse at The

Hotel DuPont. As the years passed Tony would continue to take advantage of every opportunity to play his beloved instrument. He was noted as an “Avant-Garde Accordion Virtuoso”

Tony is predeceased by his parents, his first wife Verna Costanzo, a brother Pete and his brother-in-law Joseph Racite. He is survived by his wife Maxine Difilippantonio; his sister Angelina Racite; a stepdaughter Connie Grepo; two grandsons Aaron (Brooke) Warner; Jason (Lucinda) Warner; seven great grandchildren; one great, great granddaughter; a nephew Joseph Racite Jr. and his niece Carmella (Frank) Ciaca.

A Service will be held on Wednesday, April 12, 2023, at the Adams Funeral Home, 64 Broad St., Woodstown, NJ 08098. The viewing will begin at 10 AM with the service following at 11 AM. Burial will be private. The family has suggested that donations can be made to the American Cancer Society, 1818 Market St., Philadelphia PA 19103 in Tony’s memory. www.adamsfuneralhome.org

Cemetery Details

Private Interment

Previous Events

Viewing

APR 12. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Adams Funeral Home
64 Broad St.
Woodstown, NJ 08098
adamsfuneralhome@comcast.net

Service

APR 12. 11:00 AM (ET)

Adams Funeral Home
64 Broad St.
Woodstown, NJ 08098
adamsfuneralhome@comcast.net

Tribute Wall



“ *Carol Molinari Monks lit a candle in memory of Anthony Difilippantonio*



Carol Molinari Monks - August 04, 2023 at 01:34 AM