

Francesco Tomei

June 20, 1928 - December 31, 2020

Tomei, Francesco December 31, 2020 Age 92. Beloved husband of the late Fiorina (nee Santia). Loving father of Mary (Richard) Demsky, Joseph (Rhonda) Tomei, Carl (Jenanne) Tomei, Rita (Sam) Haynes and Lisa (David) Irby. Proud grandfather of 8. Due to the covid 19 pandemic visitation and services are private. Entombment Resurrection Cemetery. Share memories with the family at their "On-Line Guestbook" @ WujekCalcaterra.com

****Please be advised that social distancing and wearing a face covering is deeply appreciated and is mandated by the State of Michigan****

Tribute Wall

TA

“ *My deepest sympathy in the passing of your father. So may memories of Francesco growing up. I remember when he and Fiorina lived upstairs from us on Rohns. sitting on our front porch and shared many stories of his life in Italy. He always had time to talk with us kids. My brother and I were honored when we were asked to be the God parents for Mary. What a celebration with all that great food and wine. Francesco was always a good friend to our family. When my father died, he came to visit my mother bringing her all those great vegetables and spices he grew.*

Always admired him we were together at a wedding or social event and he started doing his jumping jacks. A man who loved his wife, children and grandchildren and a great fiend to all. I will miss dearly.

Teresa Andrus - January 15, 2021 at 11:01 AM

SJ

“ *Salvatore J. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Francesco Tomei.*



Salvatore J. - January 08, 2021 at 01:49 PM

AN

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



andrea - January 08, 2021 at 01:05 PM

MD

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



mary demsky - January 08, 2021 at 12:43 PM

AN

“ Andrea sent a virtual gift in memory of Francesco Tomei



andrea - January 06, 2021 at 09:28 PM

AN

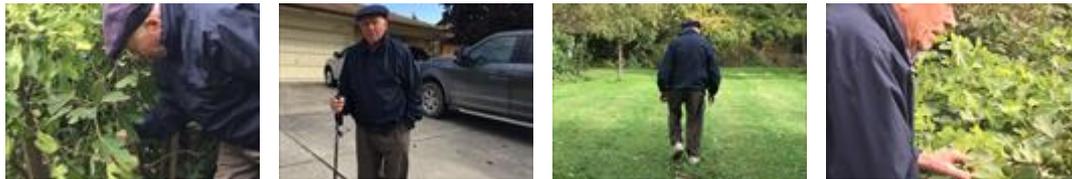
“ Andrea lit a candle in memory of Francesco Tomei



andrea - January 06, 2021 at 09:28 PM

AN

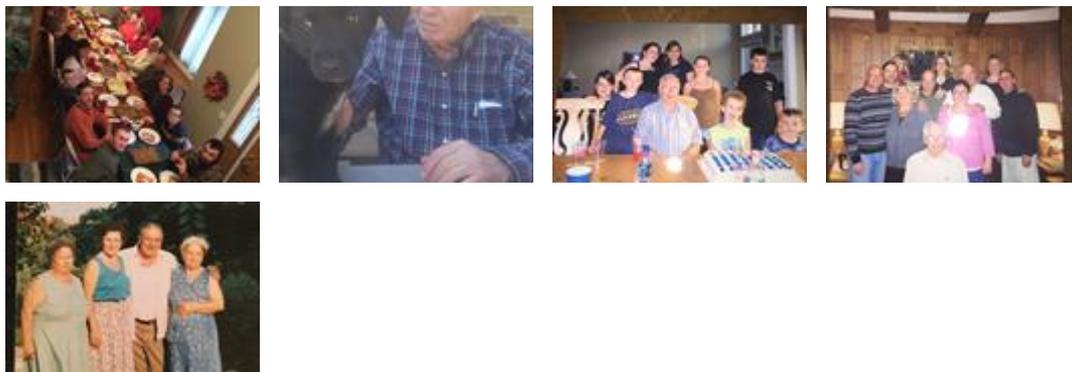
“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



andrea - January 06, 2021 at 09:26 PM

AN

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



andrea - January 06, 2021 at 09:23 PM

AN

“ It is hard to write this. Sorry it took me so long. Being the oldest grandchild is taking a major toll on me.
I remember as a kid when I would come over you and nona would have the pasta machine ready for me and we make homemade pasta or even homemade applesauce.
When we would play games Nona would yell at you to let me win. You would tell her no she has to learn. Now I realize you were teaching me a life lesson. Things are not always handed to you.
When you would work in the garden, you would save me the snails as pets and showed me your way of gardening.
Every time I came over we would walk to meijer or go for bike rides to the schools's park down the street.
Another memory I will always remember is playing checkers and cards. With us being both competitive it made the games more interesting. Now who am I going to play with and accuse of cheating?
I can go on and on with all the memories and life lessons you have taught me. I miss you and I love you. Give Nona a hug and a kiss for me. When we meet again you and Nona better have that pasta machine ready to go.
I'll love you forever and always.
Love always,
Andrea

andrea - January 05, 2021 at 08:49 PM

“ DEAR DAD,
TUESDAYS WON'T BE THE SAME ANYMORE WITH ME NOT COMING OVER TO COOK SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE MEALS. WE WOULD MAKE PASTA FAGIOLI, SHRIMP FRA DIAVOLO, STEAK AND POTATOES AND MANY MORE MEALS YOU WOULD ENJOY. MANY OF THOSE MEALS INCLUDED VEGETABLES AND HERBS FROM YOUR GARDEN. NOT ONLY DID YOU HAVE VEGETABLES, YOU HAD FRUIT TREES AND MANY FLOWERS. YOU HAD A REAL "GREEN THUMB". YOU TAUGHT US YOUR GARDENING SKILLS.

YOU TAUGHT US MANY MORE THINGS TO SURVIVE IN LIFE. YOU ALWAYS TOLD US TO DO OUR BEST. THAT IS WHY WE ARE ALL DOING WELL FOR OURSELVES.

YOU ALSO ENJOYED YOURSELF. THE SENIOR CENTER WILL NOT BE SAME WITHOUT YOU. YOU WOULD GO THERE PLAY PICKLEBALL, WALK THE TRACK, TAKE FIELD TRIPS, PLAY BOCCE BALL AND MOST OF ALL YOU ENJOYED PLAYING PINOCHLE. YOU WOULD NEVER MISS A PARTY AT THE SENIORS. YOU EVEN SHOOK HANDS WITH THE MAYORS. AND IF THAT WASN'T ENOUGH, YOU TOOK UP BOWLING IN YOUR EIGHTIES. YOU KEPT YOURSELF BUSY. WE HAD A HARD TIME KEEPING TRACK OF YOU.

YOU WERE NEVER TOO BUSY TO SPEND TIME WITH YOUR FAMILY. YOU WOULD COOK WITH US, PLAY GAMES, AND JUST SIT AND TALK. YOU MADE MEMORIES WITH US TO SHARE AND NEVER FORGET.

THANK YOU FOR BEING MY DAD. YOU WERE ALWAYS THERE FOR US, AND YOU ALWAYS LOVED US.

LOVE YOU ALWAYS
MARY



“ Dad,

You are the one who held my hand on the first day of kindergarten and didn't leave until i stopped crying. (independence)

You are the one who always told me to do better than my best in school. (knowledge)

You are the one who took my friends and me to my volleyball games and cheered me on.(strength)

You are the one who taught me how to drive before I was even old enough. (courage).

You are the one who held my hand down the aisle to give me away with tears in your eyes. (self-respect)

You are the one who was always there for me if I needed your advice, even though I was married. (confidence)

You are the one who took care of Mom when she couldn't. (selflessness)

You are the one who taught me how to attain all of these traits with discipline, dignity and integrity.

I hope I am able to be just like you by the time I am 92.

Now you can make Mom laugh again.

I will cherish every moment I got to spend with you on this earth, especially this past year.

I will love you forever and always.

Lisa (Tomei) Irby

Dave Irby - January 05, 2021 at 01:26 PM

AC

“ *I was so very sad to hear of your fathers passing. I remember his infectious laugh and how he and my father, Nicola Bonanni, were such good friends.*

May your memories sustain you during this difficult time.

May he rest in peace and may perpetual light shine upon him.

Anna Bonanni Cole

Anna Bonanni Cole - January 04, 2021 at 09:00 PM



“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



Alyssa Logan - January 04, 2021 at 12:45 PM



“ I am proud to be a grand daughter of Francesco Tomei.

I remember very clearly as a youngster, maybe 4 or 5 years old, biking in the subdivision at Papa's house with the cousins. I fell off my bike and scraped my arm. I scampered into the house to ask Papa for a band-aid. With a twinkle in his eye he said to me, "why waste a band-aid? Just like your arm". As a scientist now, I have to chuckle at this not-so-biosecure solution. Looking back, I see that Papa taught me at a very young age resourcefulness, tenacity, and grit!

Papa was not known to shy away from a challenge, evidenced by his incredible garden, quite literally growing between the sidewalk in his back yard. While he led by example in terms of the value of hard work, he also taught his children and grandchildren the value of education. It never ceased to amaze me how well educated all of his children were, and the adeptness for engineering, science, construction, and languages in his grandchildren.

I see Papa in so many places in my life. I see him in my pantry when I reach for garlic, basil, or extra virgin olive oil. I see him whenever I see a donkey, laughing at the misfortune of the toothless steed that he had in Italy! I see him when I look back at my wedding photos, and have great memories of Papa spending more time on the dance floor than just about any other guests!

I am so thankful to have had this truly good man in my life. Thank you for all that you have given me, including a fantastic father and the best friends a child could ask for in my cousins. I hope that you and Nonni can take a good long walk together, you have a lot of catching up to do.

We love you,

Alyssa Logan

Alyssa Logan - January 04, 2021 at 12:43 PM

SD

“ Dear Mary Joe Carl Rita & Lisa, Al and I would like to extend our sincere condolences on the passing of your Dad. I've known your Dad for many, many years he was always a very kind and loving person. May he Rest In Peace now with your Mom. (Frank, now you can have all the brownies you want) ❤️
PS Tell my Mom & Dad I miss them.

Susan Demsky - January 04, 2021 at 12:08 AM

FC

“ *Francesco was always so kind and welcoming. It was a comfort and a joy to be in his presence. He was a model of courage , determination, humility and kindness. His long life was a tribute to his loving and uncomplicated personality. We were very fortunate to have known him and his kind family.*

Fred and Alice Cavaiani

Fred and Alice Cavaiani - January 03, 2021 at 08:57 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Francesco Tomei.*



January 03, 2021 at 08:02 PM



“ *3 files added to the album Memories Album*



Joseph Tomei - January 03, 2021 at 06:17 PM



“ Dear Dad,

I can't even begin to share everything you have done for me and with me. In summary of my life with you, let me say:

Thank you for making me who I am.

Thank you for giving me the foundation I needed to survive in life.

Thank you for allowing me to develop upon that foundation.

Thank you for letting me go.

Thank you for being a friend.

Thank you for trusting me to guide you.

Thank you for letting me be involved in taking care of you.

Thank you for trusting me to be involved in handling your affairs in your absence.

You can go in peace knowing that your children have everything under control, because you did your job as a parent right.

I will always love you, you will always be in my heart and you will always be missed.

Salute,

Say hi to mom,

Your Son,

Joseph Tomei

Joseph Tomei - January 03, 2021 at 06:03 PM

OT

“ Thank you for raising wonderful children that I can call my dad, aunts and uncle.



Olivia Tomei - January 03, 2021 at 05:44 PM

“ Papa,

I've missed you so much. Living far away from you these past 6 years has not been easy but I know you are proud of me like how I'm proud of you. Thank you for showing me that family is the most important thing that someone can share. They will always be there, no matter what. Carl gives my mom, Taylor and I that same kind of unconditional love he learned from you and Nonna. This is the greatest gift I've ever been given.

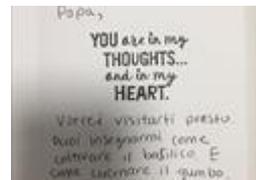
It fills my heart knowing that you held onto the card I sent you this summer, laying next to you at the table. I wish more than anything that I could've hand delivered it. During my visit, you probably would've corrected my Italian, beaten me at bocce and eaten a delicious meal Zizi Rita cooked for us. I wouldn't trade that in for the world.

You are my guardian angel now; I can count on you being with me. But don't laugh when you see me try to make pasta. It'll never taste as good as yours.

I look forward to when we can play "13" again because I'll be practicing. Please tell Nonna that I love her.

Grazie. Te Amo <3

Love, Olivia



Olivia Tomei - January 03, 2021 at 05:37 PM

JT

“ Papa,

I came into this family not truly knowing what I'd find. I was nervous because I didn't speak any Italian, I wasn't Italian, I was blonde, I didn't cook plus I was dating/marrying Carl - the golden child. However, you gently eased my mind.

You made me feel right at home. From the first day that we met- with ALL the relatives and a seven course meal including homemade pasta (YUM!!) where I grew up - pasta was not an appetizer it was a complete meal. You welcomed me with open arms. And that I won't forget.

You always have encouraged me with my cooking, gardening and playing games (cards, bocci & bowling) through your kind words and example. I know I could depend on you on any given day.

You are a great father-in-law, father and papa - you stand out above the rest. I thank God for blessing me, my husband (Carl) and my girls (Olivia and Taylor) with you. You are the best. And with this, it is time for you to rest.

*God Bless You
Forever in our hearts and memories.
We Will Miss You*

Love, Jenanne

P.S. Buona Pasqua

Jenanne Tomei - January 03, 2021 at 03:38 PM

RH

“ Dad,

Thank you for always encouraging me to be better, do better, be healthier, and beat you at games, even though you almost always won. Thank you for being my biggest supporter, and always being there. You showed us your love in so many ways, from making us chicken soup when we weren't feeling 100%, to at 92 having dinner ready for me after a difficult day at work, to helping us with our gardens and home projects, to showing us how to make homemade pasta and gnocchi, to sending us home with endless groceries and homegrown herbs and vegetables. Pasta fagioli and pasta with anchovy will never taste the same. I will miss you everyday. I will even miss you showing everyone how you can easily do jumping jacks.

*Love,
Rita*

Rita Haynes - January 03, 2021 at 10:33 AM

ML

“ Dear Carl, Jenanne, and beautiful family!
Please accept our sincerest condolences upon the passing of your beloved
Father and Papa. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all!
Fondly,
Richard and Marilyn Lash

Marilyn Lash - January 02, 2021 at 07:19 PM

TD

“ Papa,

This is note does not justify the amount of thanks you deserve. Thank you for showing me there is not an age limit for going on adventures. I get to humbly brag that I got to go to Disney World with you and watch as you took a ride on EPCOT's fastest ride at 85 years young. You not only impressed me, but you also impressed everyone at the park! Thank you for showing me that there is joy in the simple things. You showed us that one deck of cards could be hours of fun- or frustration when you would win multiple rounds of 13 in a row. But, it didn't matter how many times you won because the real joy was seeing the smile on your face. Lastly, thank you for being the family nutritionist. No matter how much you tell me they are good for me, I will think mushrooms are gross, but I will always know that antibodies, such as those in blueberries, kill all the free radicals (insert machine gun noise here). If we ever needed herbs, we knew to always look in your vegetable garden...or the rose beds for garlic or the cracks in the driveway for parsley. It didn't matter where we found the vegetables, herbs, or berries because we knew that each plant was grown with care; the same care that you gave to each member of your family and each person that crossed your path. Papa, you raised a family that I am so lucky to be a part of. Whether I am playing a game of cards, enjoying a round of bowling, or appreciating a family recipe, I will always leave a spot for you to join.

Thank you.

*Love,
Taylor*

Taylor Darga - January 02, 2021 at 03:23 PM

TD

*** OOPS antioxidants, not antibodies.

Taylor Darga - January 02, 2021 at 03:29 PM

CT

“ Dad. I wish that people could have known you like we did, always living life to the fullest. Driving yourself to the Senior Center two to three times a week, playing pinochle, bocce, bowling, playing 13 and Kings in the Corner and gardening until you were 90. You would sit on your rocker reading up on subjects in your health insurance magazines or in an encyclopedia. I hope that you were finally able to understand tides of the ocean and where all the water went (LOL). Who would have thought that taking an 85 year old to Disney World could have been a real adventure of fun. You were like a kid riding all those rides as we can see the enjoyment in your face.

We knew that you were as proud of us as we were of you. You were kind, generous and loved by all and we enjoyed spending time with you.

Thanks for all the great times and memories.

Love

Carl, Jenanne, Olivia and Taylor (Peter)

Carl Tomei - January 02, 2021 at 11:55 AM

MM

Love you guys. Know the at we are with you in spirit.

Michele Mohan - January 02, 2021 at 09:07 PM

TD

“ 10 files added to the album Memories Album



Taylor (Tomei) Darga - January 02, 2021 at 11:54 AM

TD

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Taylor (Tomei) Darga - January 02, 2021 at 11:51 AM

MD

“ Dear Tomei Family, Mario and I sent our deepest condolences for your loss!! We have been neighbor for the last 40 years and will miss Franco walking up and down the street and inviting us to go to the senior citizen center to play cards and bocci!! May He Rest In Peace!! All of you are in our thoughts and prayers!!! Mario and Betty DiPonio



Mario & Betty DiPonio - January 02, 2021 at 09:59 AM



Dear Family, Kris and I would like to offer our deepest sympathy in hearing of your loss. Always liked Francesco and was happy to be around him. MY he rest in peace. Thoughts and prayers. Carl and Kris Bonanni

Carl Bonanni - January 02, 2021 at 11:07 AM

TB

Dear Tomei family, I was saddened to hear of the passing of Francesco. I have known him for many years and thought of him as family. He was a good friend of my father, Nicola Bonanni.
Offering my sincere condolences. He is now reunited with his loving wife, Fiorina. May God grant him eternal peace in His Kingdom. Hugs and prayers.
Celestina (Tina) Bonanni Dalea

Tina Bonanni-Dalea - January 02, 2021 at 12:22 PM