



Donato "Danny" Antonio D'Agostino

February 23, 1930 - September 28, 2020

Donato "Danny" Antonio D'Agostino, Sr., age 90 of Lewes, DE passed away peacefully at his home on Monday, September 28, 2020, to the comfort of God's embrace, with his devoted wife Adelaide "Della" at his side. He was born on February 23, 1930 in Washington DC, to Italian immigrant parents, Antonio and Filomena (Gentilcore) D'Agostino.

Danny enjoyed a loving and large family upbringing. He graduated from McKinley Tech High School in DC, where he was active and talented in sports, cheerleading, and various social activities - even awarded the "Best Dressed" senior.

Danny married his junior high school sweetheart and love of his life, Della D'Amico, and they celebrated nearly 70 years of marriage. They had a special relationship and were everlasting partners. As a proud and loving father, Danny was a teacher, coach, supporter and counselor. He was active in the Catholic Church, as well as civic, sports, and school activities. He enjoyed his hobbies of collecting bicentennial quarters, building birdhouses, and tending to his home and yard. He immensely loved the company of his family, relatives, and friends. When you met Danny, you always felt welcomed, and he had a special ability to make you feel part of his family. He cherished Italian traditions, American patriotism, special celebrations, family reunions, and holidays. At his core, Danny was a consummate family man.

Danny lived in Chillum, MD for many years before moving to Lewes, DE to enjoy his retirement with his wife. He worked for the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission for over thirty years as a Senior Designing Engineer and Draftsman. Danny was a mentor/supervisor to countless staffers, and he received numerous awards, certifications, and honors.

During his retirement years, Danny was a consultant, handyman, and volunteer for many community organizations. He felt blessed to travel with his wife throughout the country and abroad. Danny loved family visits and spending time together at the beach. He leaves a

legacy of love and memories.

In addition to his parents, Danny was preceded in death by his siblings: Joseph, Philip, Nicholas, Rosalie, and Antoinette. He is survived by his beloved wife, Adelaide "Della" D'Agostino; his children: Danny, Jr. (Barbara), Terry Schott (Joe), Gina Rooney (Tim), Lori Gough (Nat), and Christine Dufrane; his fourteen grandchildren and their spouses; his 8 great-grandchildren; his sister, Katie Fratantuono; and his many cousins, nieces, and nephews.

A private memorial Mass will be held at a later date with consideration to COVID-19 guidelines.

Donations in Danny's memory may be made to any charity of choice.

Please sign the online guestbook located on the tribute page.

Comments



“ We were very fortunate to have Della & Dan as our neighbors at their first house at the beach, Oak Knob Court. We became instant friends, how could you not with Danny and Della. He was so friendly, unassuming and just a great guy. Frank says, "He just makes me smile." As we reminisce about Dan now Frank shared that he looked forward to getting down there to hang out with him. Frank had lost his Dad some 5 years later and he really thought of Dan like a father figure. Dan would guide you and give you great advice. We had many good times together when they to Hockessin and visited us. As the years went on and we sold our place at the beach we did not see them often but when we did get together it was like not a minute had passed. Della would lay out her spread at every visit and we ate, and ate and just laughed. We knew all their children and we enjoyed hearing about all the grandkids. We spend lots of time looking at pictures of the family and all there many vacations. The last time we got to talk to Dan was on his birthday. It is a message that I will cherish forever. He always started out by sharing his 5 names. And that upbeat voice and manner was a true gift. We are sorry for the loss to your family but you left them with nothing but great examples of what a true family man and Christian is all about. Thank you Dan for making our lives better. You were one in a million and we will love you miss you forever.

Debbie Marinelli - October 27, 2020 at 12:53 PM



“ The Prayer Card Poem:

I would like to share what I would call a Prayer Poem that was selected by Mom / Della -
it appears on the back of Dad's Prayer Card, and is titled:

"God Looked Around His Garden"

God looked around His Garden
And found an empty place.
He then looked down upon the earth
And saw your tired face.

He put His arms around you
And lifted you to rest.
God's garden must be beautiful
He always takes the best.

He saw the road was getting rough
And the hills were hard to climb,
So he closed your weary eyelids
And whispered "Peace Be Thine."

It broke our hearts to lose you
But you didn't go alone,
For part of us went with you
The Day God called you Home.

Dan D'Agostino - October 19, 2020 at 03:42 PM



“ xoxox

Christine D Dufrane - October 19, 2020 at 04:19 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Dan D'Agostino - October 05, 2020 at 09:30 AM



“ Dad was always your #1 fan! Great picture, Danny Boy!

Christine D Dufrane - October 19, 2020 at 01:48 PM



“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Natalie King - October 04, 2020 at 09:57 PM



“ Grandpa needed a few takes for a "selfie." He loved spending time with his eldest grandchildren! Love you!

Christine D Dufrane - October 19, 2020 at 01:50 PM



“ Such a tremendous gift to have him in my life for as long as he was, and an even greater gift that my children will always remember their "GGpa". The way he summoned you or asked you to come closer to tell you a joke or make a crack at a moment's notice always ended in a chuckle, a giggle, or a full fledged roaring laughter. May his entertaining and charming ways be enjoyed by all in heaven as they were here on this Earth.
Love always, Natalie



Natalie King - October 04, 2020 at 09:54 PM



“ What a wonderful visit! Your words are beautiful, Natalie! xoxo
Christine D Dufrane - October 19, 2020 at 01:51 PM



“ So sorry for your loss. Danny was a wonderful man. I can close my eyes and remember times at WSSC. It was a great place to work!. Your family is in my prayers. God bless!! RosemaryTreichel

Rosemary Treichel - October 04, 2020 at 06:57 PM



“ Thank you, Rosemary. You were always one of Danny's/our Dad's favorite people at WSSC. We sincerely appreciate your condolences.

With love,
Della and family

Christine D Dufrane - October 19, 2020 at 01:53 PM



“ Della and family,
So sorry to hear about Danny's death. I remember him well. Mom and Dad (Bea and Phil) enjoyed being with you both at his Mom's, St. John's, and in Rehoboth. I remember visiting you in Delaware. I hope the memories you have help to ease your loss.
Bea and Steve Boccucci Gordon

Bea Boccucci Gordon - October 04, 2020 at 06:38 PM



“ Dear Bea,

Thank you so much for remembering Danny with such fondness and for your sympathy and kind words. He will be missed so very much, but we have great memories to bring us smiles and to cherish.

Love,
Della and Family

Christine D Dufrane - October 19, 2020 at 01:56 PM



“ Della-

Mom and Dad were blessed to have you and Dan as neighbors for over 25 years. Dan always lit up the place with his smile and goofy stories. I know that he and Dad and mom are "Upstairs" talking about us. Marcy and I were so glad we got to see both of you this summer after mom passed away.

Love to you and the family. We'll hold Dan in our hearts forever.

Dave Mayer

Dave Mayer - October 04, 2020 at 03:23 PM



“ Dear Dave,

Your parents were such treasured friends of Danny and Della. Your friendship and recent visits are treasures as well. Gratitude to you and Marcy!

With love and appreciation,
Della and Family

Christine D Dufrane - October 19, 2020 at 01:59 PM



“ Grandpa-you are sorely missed. You and grandma had the life many could never and will ever achieve. It is a rarity and one to admire. Your life together was full. An unconditional love and adoration for each other is one Tony and I hope and strive to achieve. You both taught me so much about commitment, love and strength — and for that, I am forever grateful and will continue to make you proud. Thank you for enriching our life and everyone you met during your 90 year journey in this world. Your spirit lives on and your laughter flowing with each passing wind. We love you and miss you terribly. God bless Della, your children and our entire family. May you look down on all of us and be proud of your accomplishments and legacy.



Dana Pawinski - October 04, 2020 at 01:53 PM



“ Dear Dana,

Thank you so much for your heartfelt words. Grandpa was the epitome of a man devoted to his wife, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. He loved his family so much and sharing time with them brought him great happiness, right up until the end of his life. He continues to live in all of you.

I love you,
Grandma

Christine D Dufrane - October 19, 2020 at 02:02 PM



“ Dear Della, I was so very sad to hear of Danny's passing. You and he made such a handsome couple, always happy and smiles of warmth for me and all. Cherish your memories together and bless your family.
With love, Marie Gentilcore Craig

Marie Craig - October 04, 2020 at 09:47 AM



“ Dear Marie,

Thank you so much for your kind words and sympathy. We loved sharing time with our relatives over all of these years we had together. The outpouring of memories and heartfelt condolences has been so overwhelming, moving and comforting. Hope all is well with you and yours. God bless you.

Love,
Della and Family

Christine D Dufrane - October 19, 2020 at 02:06 PM



“ My sincere condolences to the D'Agostino family. I had the pleasure of being around Mr D as a teammate of Dan Jr at both SJC and Catholic University. If you asked any of the players they would be quick to express their fondness of Mr D, his ever present smile, and his encouragement - especially when things weren't going to well.

One of those people in your life that you have been fortunate to know.

Jim Ohlhaber

Jim Ohlhaber - October 03, 2020 at 11:36 AM



“ Dear Jim,

How very kind of you to remember Danny so fondly. He loved going to those games at SJC and CU. You young men were always respectful to Mr. D. and he truly enjoyed those connections, and remembered them so well through most of his life. He treasured and considered those good ol' days part of his good fortune.

With sincere appreciation,
Della (Mrs. D.) and Family

Christine D Dufrane - October 19, 2020 at 02:12 PM



“ Dear Della, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. Mary Ellen sent me a photo of you and Danny just last month. And now she let me know about Danny passing.

With love,
Frank Damico

Frank Damico - October 03, 2020 at 08:54 AM



“ Dear Frank,

Thank you so much for your sympathy. Danny had a wonderful long life. He truly loved his family and relatives, and enjoyed sharing laughs and a helpful hand to all of our family when he could. We miss him so much. Hope all is well with you. God bless you.

With love,
Della and Family

Christine D Dufrane - October 19, 2020 at 02:16 PM



“ Our heartfelt prayers for your family. I was blessed to recently talk with him and learn about his love for his family. He shared many stories about growing up in DC and knowing my parents Jim and Terry Lyons. He talked with such enthusiasm and loved his wife and family very much! May he Rest In Peace! Love and prayers to all. Eileen and Ken Hardy

eileen hardy - October 03, 2020 at 08:52 AM



“ Dear Eileen and Ken,

Thank you so much for your kind words and sympathy. He really enjoyed those DC connections with you. We truly appreciate your prayers.

Fondly,
Della and Family

Christine D Dufrane - October 19, 2020 at 02:21 PM



“ Dear Della and Family, Mike and I are so sorry to hear of Danny's passing, His smile, his kind words and his obvious love for Family are what I most remember of him and we hold you in our hearts at this sad time. He will be missed by many. Love, Prayers and Condolences to you and yours.
Sue and Michael Short

Susan Short - October 02, 2020 at 12:06 PM



“ Dear Sue and Mike,

Thank you for remembering Danny so fondly. He sure did have a great smile and a big heart. We miss him so much. Your condolences are truly appreciated.

Love,
Della and Family

Christine D Dufrane - October 19, 2020 at 02:24 PM



“ I have fond memories of Mr. D both when he came to Catholic U and when some of us students were invited to his house for a great Italian dinner. Mr and Mrs D were always smiling and laughing and very proud of their family. It felt good to be around them.

Thoughts and prayers from Bob and Donna Frew

Robert M Frew - October 01, 2020 at 08:01 PM



“ Hello Bob Frew and Donna!

What a lovely note to receive from one of our favorite young men from days gone by. How Mr. D. and I loved those days with the CU gang. You gentleman and young ladies were always a delight and so respectful to us. Danny and I treasured those days. Thank you very much for your kind words and sympathy.

Love,
Della (Mrs. D.) and Family

Christine D Dufrane - October 19, 2020 at 02:30 PM



“ We were so sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. D. What a special person. Our deepest sympathy to Mrs. D and the entire family.

Love,
Barbara, Rich and family.

Barbara Marshall - October 01, 2020 at 04:42 PM



“ Dear Barbara and Rich,

Thank you so much!!

Love,
Della and Family

Christine Dufrane - October 01, 2020 at 07:25 PM



“ We have lost a true friend, fellow parishioner and leader. Your constant smile and positive outlook have set an example for all to follow. Hope to see you again! Jay and Mary Mulholland

Jay Mulholland (family friend) - October 01, 2020 at 03:26 PM



“ Dear Jay and Marzi,

Thank you very much!

Love,
Della and Family

Christine Dufrane - October 01, 2020 at 07:27 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Dan D'Agostino - October 01, 2020 at 02:17 PM



“ Such a great photo! He loved life! xoxo
Thanks for posting, Danny.

Love you,
Christine and Mom

Christine D Dufrane - October 19, 2020 at 02:18 PM



“ Mr. D was a gracious host when he and Mrs. D had Danny's Catholic University friends over during our college days. To those of us who were far from home, a visit to their house provided a warm family atmosphere, good conversation and incredible food ~ a welcome break from dorm life. May he Rest In Peace after a life well lived.

Mary Corcoran Gunderson - October 01, 2020 at 01:48 PM



“ Dear Mary,

Thank you very much!

Love,
Della and Family

Christine Dufrane - October 01, 2020 at 07:27 PM



“ Great memories for sure Red!

Thanks for sharing.

DD

Dan D'Agostino Jr - October 03, 2020 at 10:38 PM



“ Dear DAD:

Just a quick note, and I'm sure I also speak on behalf of Terry, Gina, Lori and Christine - and of course Mom. Want to thank you for being the Man you were, the provider and overseer of our entire family. I have no doubt you did not realize the impact you had on so many of us, relatives, and friends. Your warm smile and laugh will be severely missed. We thank you for the many lessons learned, and no matter what or when - providing your guidance, assistance, and support. We thank you for your devotion and love, and so very sorry you were victimized by a devastating illness. But the illness was a rallying call for us and many others to team up, coordinate and share in your care till the very end.

I'll never forget the smile on your face as your spirit and soul drifted to heaven on Monday the 28th of Sept 2020. You were so at peace, and so deserving. And cannot finish without saying how much we all enjoyed seeing, and sincerely appreciate, the love you bestowed upon Mom during your nearly 70 years together - in both good times and some tough times. Thanks again - for everything Pop!

Your Loving Son,
Danny (Jr.)

Dan D'Agostino Jr - October 01, 2020 at 09:24 AM



“ Danny, I am so sorry to hear about the passing of your father. I remember enjoying many nice moments we spent on the SJC sidelines. I especially enjoyed his story telling...and the pride he had in your football accomplishments. God bless him. And God bless you and your family..... John Jennings.... St John's College High School 1968

John Jennings - October 01, 2020 at 05:57 PM



“ Hi Danny -

Beautiful words for Dad! We were so blessed!!

Love,
Mom and your sisters

Christine Dufrane - October 01, 2020 at 07:29 PM



“ John J. What a nice surprise to read your message and to hear from you after many years. Yep - we had some good times during those SJC glory days and Dad loved being there cheering for the team. Really appreciate your words and trust all is well.

Danny D

Dan D'Agostino Jr - October 01, 2020 at 09:40 PM



“ Dear Danny: Here at Goodwin House Alexandria, we have included your Dad's name in our services this week. May the memories of times with your Dad bring you joy and peace. Please know that our hearts go out to you and Barb, your mother, and the rest of your family with sympathy and condolences from all of us at Goodwin House.

Blessings to you,

Your Chaplain

Bruce Stewart

The Rev Bruce Stewart - October 04, 2020 at 06:12 PM



“ Danny Boy,
You said it all!
Love you,
Christine

Christine D Dufrane - October 19, 2020 at 02:31 PM



“ Uncle Danny is my Godfather. When I was very young, he took me to a monastery and bought me a statue of the Virgin Mary. I still have her in my bedroom watching over me. I loved him very much. Patti

Patricia Heskett - October 01, 2020 at 08:45 AM



“ Dear Patti -

Uncle Danny loved you, too! Thank you for your lovely words!

Love,
Aunt Della and Family

Christine Dufrane - October 01, 2020 at 07:30 PM



“ Hi Patti

Thanks for sharing the special memories and thoughtful words. Trust all is well,
Danny

Dan D'Agostino Jr - October 03, 2020 at 10:35 PM



“ So sorry for your loss, our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends during this most difficult time. Nancy and Patrick Rooney.

Nancy Vaeth Highsmith - September 30, 2020 at 07:43 PM



“ Dear Pat and Nancy,

Thank you so much!

Love,
Della and Family

Christine Dufrane - October 01, 2020 at 07:31 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Donato "Danny" Antonio D'Agostino.



September 30, 2020 at 06:43 PM



“ Mr. D was one of the most incredible men I've ever known. I will always cherish the love, memories, laughs and hugs we've shared!



Casey Gignac - September 30, 2020 at 05:29 PM



“ Dear Casey,

Thank you so much. Mr. D. loved you!

Love,
Della and Family

Christine Dufrane - October 01, 2020 at 07:32 PM



“ Elonie, Joey, Tim, Vivian, Charles and Timmy purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Donato "Danny" Antonio D'Agostino.



Elonie, Joey, Tim, Vivian, Charles and Timmy - September 30, 2020 at 04:16 PM



“ Robin Lewis lit a candle in memory of Donato "Danny" Antonio D'Agostino



Robin Lewis - September 30, 2020 at 04:07 PM



“ My sincere condolences for your loss.

Robin - September 30, 2020 at 04:13 PM



“ Share the Health was purchased for the family of Donato "Danny" Antonio D'Agostino.



September 30, 2020 at 01:29 PM



“ Debbie McClanahan Mattheis lit a candle in memory of Donato "Danny" Antonio D'Agostino



Debbie McClanahan Mattheis - September 30, 2020 at 01:17 PM



“ Dear Debbie,
Thank you for your sympathy and prayers.

Love,
Della and Family

Christine Dufrane - October 01, 2020 at 07:33 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Donato "Danny" Antonio D'Agostino.



September 30, 2020 at 12:07 PM



“ I always was impressed how Dan always had a smile. He never seemed to get upset. He will be missed.

John Barwick - September 30, 2020 at 10:14 AM



“ Dear John,

Thank you for your kind words!

Love,
Della and Family

Christine Dufrane - October 01, 2020 at 07:34 PM



“ Wendy DeStasio lit a candle in memory of Donato "Danny" Antonio D'Agostino



Wendy DeStasio - September 29, 2020 at 11:33 PM



“ Dear Wendy,

Thank you for your kind sympathy.

Love,
Della and Family

Christine Dufrane - October 01, 2020 at 07:35 PM



“ I will miss “Danny” stopping by to say hi and chat with me. I loved how he would recite his entire name for me and then ask me to guess how old he was. His smile always brightened my day!! Prayers of peace and love to you Della and your family.
Wendy

Wendy DeStasio - September 29, 2020 at 11:30 PM



“ Dear Wendy,

How sweet of you to remember Danny with such kindness! We will miss his smile so much.

Love,
Della and Family

Christine Dufrane - October 01, 2020 at 07:36 PM



“ Sweet Sincerity was purchased for the family of Donato "Danny" Antonio D'Agostino.



September 29, 2020 at 07:11 PM