



Mr. Michael S. Messina

January 15, 1933 - June 28, 2021

Michael Salvatore Messina passed away peacefully on June 28, 2021. He had been residing in the Springside Nursing Home in Pittsfield. Michael is predeceased by his beloved wife, Margaret, who died in February 2020. He is survived by his children: Daniel (Marie), Catherine Quinn (Jack), James (Amanda), Margaret Larkin (Joseph), and Stephen (Lisa). He leaves behind a brother, Frank, and sisters Anne and Florinda, as well as his sister in law, Joan, and brother in laws, Bernard Sturgeon; and David Waymire, who predeceased him.

Michael was an adoring grandfather to 13 grandchildren: Michael, Lauren, Caitlin, Dempsey, Brodie, Jennifer, Matthew, Meghan, Olivia, Maeve, Conor, Mark and Cal. He was proud to be great-grandfather to Pierce and Maeve O'Shaughnessy, Ella and Vaughn Messina, Molly Messina, and Reidy and Rory Quinn.

Michael was born on January 15, 1933, in Pittsfield, to Anna and Salvatore Messina. He graduated from St. Joseph High School and went on to become a tool maker apprentice at General Electric. The majority of his professional career was spent at Beloit Jones, a company that produced large scale machines for paper making, where he was a Supervisor of Standards and Methods.

He married the love of his life, Margaret Guiltinan, in 1954 and went on to raise their children in Pittsfield. Mike had many hobbies and interests over the course of his life: coaching Little League, refereeing high school and college

football games, collecting vintage movie posters and cast-iron toys, playing golf, and especially, wood working and building furniture. There was many a time one of his children put in a request for a bookshelf or bunk beds, and he happily obliged. Mike was a lifelong Red Sox fan and carved out a spot in front of the TV every Saturday in the fall to watch the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame football. He was a constant presence at all his Pittsfield grandchildren's sports games. Family was paramount for both Mike and Peg, and they rarely missed a special occasion involving their grandchildren, no matter the distance.

When each of his grandchildren were born, Mike prepared a "time capsule" of the year's events, to be opened when they turned 21. He cherished them all. During their retirement, Mike and Peg traveled to Europe with his brother and sister in law, Frank and Joan. They spent many years wintering in Florida, where Mike, especially, enjoyed a break from the cold Berkshire winters. Mike was an adventurer when it came to food, always ready to sit down for a good meal, and to try new and interesting foods when he traveled. He was proud of his Italian heritage and his Christmas antipasto.

Michael was a life-long communicant of St. Marks Church, where he served as a lectern for many years. He now resides in God's embrace, with his wife beside him.

Funeral Notice:

Funeral services for Mr. Michael Salvatore Messina will be Friday, July 2, 2021, with a Liturgy of Christian Burial at 10:30 a.m. at Mark's Church, celebrated by the Rev. Christopher Fedoryshyn, Pastor. Entombment at St. Joseph Cemetery will follow. There will be an hour of visitation prior to the service from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Dwyer Funeral Home, 776 North Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Association in care of the Dwyer Funeral Home, 776 North Street, Pittsfield MA 01201. Donations CANNOT be made online, but may be made through the Dwyer Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

St. Joseph Cemetery

222 Peck's Rd.
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 2. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Dwyer Family Funeral Home
776 North Street
Pittsfield, MA 01201
(413) 442-5094
info@dwyerfuneral.com
<https://www.dwyerfuneral.com/>

Service

JUL 2. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Mark's Church
400 West St.
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Tribute Wall



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Michael S. Messina.*



July 01, 2021 at 10:00 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Michael S. Messina.*



June 30, 2021 at 10:16 PM

RL

“ I sat at their dining table, the Messina clan’s, at the end of McKinley, and was asked, “Now, Riccardo, what is your favorite baseball team?”

I was 10. Never played baseball before. Was picked by Mr. Messina to play on his Big N Little League team for some unknown reason, because I truly wasn’t any good, ask Danny, and I knew nothing about the game. Except, for...

And answered, “ Mickey Mantle and the Yankees.” I smiled.

Nobody else at that table, right down to some kid in a high chair, returned the favor.

And Mr. Messina began - and ended:

“Now, Riccardo, the Yanks are a fine club, and they’ve won a few titles. And Mr. Mantle is a fine ballplayer, and won some awards. But there’s no better team than the Red Sox of Boston. And there never has been, or ever will be, a greater hitter than the Splendid Splinter - Mr. Ted Williams, himself. Remember that and you may have a shot at being a ballplayer, too. And get a few more at bats this summer - if and when I think you’re ready. How’s your spaghetti?”

*And that was my introduction to the game I still love, baseball.
(Though I still believe it was an indoctrination.)*

Some say, cynically, that few lives really matter against the vast canvas of the universe. That ‘ You live. You die. You become worm dirt.’

That’s sad.

I guess they never had their Mike Messinas.

Sincerely, Riccardo Lisi

Ric Lisi - June 30, 2021 at 06:44 PM



“ 39 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Dwyer Funeral Home Inc. - June 30, 2021 at 01:27 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Mr. Michael S. Messina.



June 30, 2021 at 09:10 AM



“ *JOHN LAROCHELLE* purchased the *Divine Peace Bouquet* for the family of Mr. Michael S. Messina.



JOHN LAROCHELLE - June 30, 2021 at 01:18 AM