



Phil Scalcione

December 17, 2019

Phil Francis Scalcione was born on August 13th 1935. He is the second of three sons born to Angelina (Lena Durso) Scalcione and Frank (Francesco) Scalcione. He grew up in the South Bronx, and spent his summers in Mineola, Long Island. He stayed with his mother's sister Aunt Rose and her husband Uncle Louie. He loved spending time with his cousins Peter and Nina.

Phil graduated from Christopher Columbus High School. He remembered seeing Colin Powell being brought to school by his mother, who was a nurse. Upon graduation he went on to City College for two years and completed an Associate's Degree. Phil was then accepted into Columbia University's School of Engineering, he graduated in 1957. One of his most memorable moments at Columbia was shaking hands with Fidel Castro during his 1956 visit to the school. They both share the same birthday August 13th.

In 1960 he landed his dream job at Grumman Aviation. He worked on the Lunar Module (LEM). The part of the Apollo spacecraft which carried the astronauts to the Moon and back to Earth. He considered his work on the LEM his proudest accomplishment in Engineering. He was proud to be a part of one of the most important events of the 20th century and of the history of mankind. The first time a human stepped on another planet.

He married in 1960 and had two daughters; Thea born in 1963 and Julia born in 1964. He was a good father who loved dearly and unconditionally. He always tried his best in whatever he did. He joined the Irish Arts Center in Manhattan, and learned to play the 5 string banjo, how to step dance, speak Irish, and perform on stage as an actor. He traveled to Italy, Egypt, and cruised the Caribbean, a few times. He really enjoyed ballroom dancing, going to the Peter Cardella Senior Citizens Center in Queens, and meeting his friends at Belmont Racetrack for a cold Heineken, and to bet some horses.

He visited his daughters weekly, and enjoyed being with his grandchildren; Cynthia, Francis, Christopher, and Julia. He loved taking them to Disney movies, 3D IMAX, and watching Tarzan starring Johnny Weissmuller and Maureen O'Sullivan.

Phil passed December 17th 2019 during his favorite season of the year, Christmas. He loved everything about Christmas, the music, the food, and his family. It is a time of happiness, joy, and beauty all contained in a simple phrase. Merry Christmas.

Cemetery

Woodlawn Cemetery

4199 Webster Ave.

Bronx, NY, 10470

Events

DEC

23

Memorial Service

02:00PM

The Woolworth Chapel at Woodlawn Cemetery

4199 Webster Ave, Bronx, NY, US, 10470

Comments



“ My father is a Hero in the truest sense of the word. When he was small he was saddled with having to take care of his younger unwanted brother Frank who was supposed to be a girl but became the unwanted third boy. My Dad was a good dutiful son and obeyed when Nana Angelina asked him to take Frank to the movies or with his friends. This was a burden but they were brothers and my Dad protected him albeit reluctantly. Fast forward to when I was born. Me Julia Caesar Scalcione was born. My Dad had given me the middle name Lynn after his brother Franks girlfriend and then wife this hateful poisonous unattractive woman named Lynn. I changed my middle name because I didn't want to give respect to a witch by carrying her name on me so I changed it to Caesar. I say hateful because that's what she was as early as I can remember Lynn she was evil and hateful and disgusting. My Dad owned a nice house in St James and we had a boat too. My earliest memory of Lynn was her black mustang I think it was a 1968 black mustang and she raced it even with me at 3 or 4 years old in her car she raced it then she hit the brake and I smashed my forehead on the dashboard of her memorable black mustang. I remember she was like a demon: she gruffly commanded me not to tell my father what she had done and threatened me. I was so scared I remember it to this day. I never told my Dad but I think that he eventually figured out just how evil this Lynn with the black mustang that matched her eye color would end up being both to his family and his relationship with his whipped brother Frank the object of her obsession. I hated her and I still hate her and her husband who caused a lot of trouble to my Dad. My Dad needed the support of his brother and that was because he had married the wrong woman and rather than be there for him he allied with the enemy my Dads wife. Lynn's influence was pernicious and spiteful especially when she got her wish and my uncle Frank asked her to marry him. What she did to me next is yet another example of her true nature being Ursula from the Little Mermaid. My sister and I are only 15 months apart. What Lynn did next is classic Lynn and probably the reason my Dad didn't like her: she invited my sister to be in her wedding party but not me she just decided to be her natural cruel self and not invite me to participate as a flower girl. My Dad wanted to show his brother respect by going to his wedding to the witch Lynn but I screamed and protested for the entire wedding because Lynn deliberately excluded a 4 year old because she was evil and wicked and she married her perfect counterpart in my Dads brother. My Dad helplessly watched me scream because Lynn wanted to be spiteful. My Dad was a good person never mean spirited and he was saddled with this wicked woman who did nothing but tear his relationship with his brother apart

I wanted to document for posterity the evil Lynn and Frank did and how they hurt my Father. This is a tribute to my Dads life and I loved him he was hurt by these two evil people and I wanted what they did to me and by extension my father to be understood for what it was. : harassment and abuse. My fathers beautiful spirit overcame it and we were lucky not to have to see them as we grew up other than Frank ruining our Christmas one year when he decided to assault my Dad and ruin our Christmas I'm sure at Lynn's provocation
God bless you Dad we will always keep a candle burning for your wonderful memory and your spirit alive. Thank God you got away from those two



“ Poppy is in so many of my most early memories. He was kind, loved to have fun, dance, and sing. He loved movies, and he loved spending time with his family. He was confident in what he believed and would never concede an argument without a good fight. However, the feature of Pops personality that was most extraordinary to me was his Curiosity.

In any given conversation an encyclopedia or dictionary HAD to be in arms reach. He was always questioning the world around him and searching for answers anywhere he could. He was intelligent enough to see the boundless horizon of knowledge in every direction, and delighted in exploring it. I loved to talk to him about what I had learned in Science class, and especially where NASA was in their next space project. He was in awe of astronomy. I can still hear him saying “Billions and Billions of stars and Billions and Billions of galaxies” in his queens accent and with an orange in his mouth.

Theres a quote by Carl Sagan, one of astronomers Pop respected greatly, that I think would closely express what Pop believed.

“I would love to believe that when I die I will live again, that some thinking, feeling, remembering part of me will continue. But as much as I want to believe that, and despite the ancient and worldwide cultural traditions that assert an afterlife, I know of nothing to suggest that it is more than wishful thinking. I want to grow really old with my wife, whom I dearly love. I want to see my younger children grow up and to play a role in their character and intellectual development. I want to meet still unconceived grandchildren. There are scientific problems whose outcomes I long to witness— such as the exploration of many of the worlds in our Solar System and the search for life elsewhere. I want to learn how major trends in human history, both hopeful and worrisome, work themselves out. If there were life after death, I might, no matter when I die, satisfy most of these deep curiosities and longings. But if death is nothing more than an endless dreamless sleep, this is a forlorn hope. Maybe this perspective has given me a little extra motivation to stay alive. The world is so exquisite, with so much love and moral depth, that there is no reason to deceive ourselves with pretty stories for which there's little good evidence. Far better, it seems to me, in our vulnerability, is to look Death in the eye and to be grateful every day for the brief but magnificent opportunity that life provides.”

Poppy loved life, knowledge, his family and I loved him. He helped shape me into the person I am and will become. He taught me to always be curious, and for that I will forever be grateful. Thank you Pop.



“ Dear Dad

It's impossible to express the depth of love and devotion to you because you were such a good man. It's Julia Dad. My kids and I miss you so badly and we miss seeing your smile and hearing your amazing beautiful mind as it wondered about the universe. I wished so hard to be able to avenge you because your two Brothers were worthless users. Both of them equally repulsive in their uncaring un brotherly way. I said it at the funeral and I will say it again You were too good for this world. There are too many bad people and both of your brothers were bad and selfish and jealous of you. Your light will shine into eternity Dad and we miss you so much. We love you!
Love daughter Julia baby Julia and Chris

Julia Scalcione - January 01, 2020 at 02:24 AM



“ Dear father We shared a beautiful life together and you taught me how to take care of the people you love. You loved life and your family very much. You loved me as only a father could. You had complete trust in me and I in you.

You taught me to do the right thing always. To stand up for what is right and just To have fun and value simple things in life. But above all you showed me how to value family and I will always try my best to keep everyone together as you did.

My life has been so good because you loved me and believed in me. I will miss you for the rest of my life.

We shared so many wonderful times together. From my childhood until now. You were a steady presence in mine and your grandchildren's life always

But your enduring legacy is live life, love and protect your family be a good neighbor, value your friends, Be kind and always stand up for what is right and just. Be a good person. Tell the truth and follow the law.

Fight for what is right and condemn evil always.

You saw the beauty in the everyday sunsets, fashion language opera paintings and people.

I guess my last thought is that my father always valued life over everything. Enjoy your life take pleasure in the simple things. Love your family and friends; have fun !
Merry Christmas Folks!

Thea Maugeri - December 24, 2019 at 06:05 AM



“ Dear Dad

Our Long and wonderful life together has come to an end and I am so sad that you are not with me anymore. My faith tells me that you have reunited with the lord and are back in the arms of your mother and father. My beloved grandparents, with whom I shared many wonderful moments especially at Christmas.

I enjoyed the dinners you made and our conversations at the table which usually involved us looking up a fact in the dictionary. I enjoyed commuting to work with you on Fridays and having lunch with you in my cafeteria on the 96th floor of the World Trade Center. You enjoyed speaking with my supervisor Joe Curry. We had a lot of fun. I missed you when I got married and moved out and I know you missed me too, although you never said so.

After Cynthia and then Francis were born and you had a chance to enjoy children again. You loved being a poppy and the grandchildren always looked forward to your visits.

You watched them grow up and you became a very happy part of their life.

Then you had a stroke that changed your life. My very independent banjo playing ballroom dancer and lover of both language and women dad was unable to speak well or walk well.

The guy who taught me how to drive was no longer able to. Your whole life changed. But I never heard you complain or feel bad for yourself. You persevered and began to walk again tried to talk again. You began a new life here with me in Westchester. We were able to make new friends. We went to the Irvington Senior Citizens Center for parties and we enjoyed the music and company of friends. We we went to estate sales and the Cherry Door Thrift store in Tarrytown. We made friends with the jeweler who seemed to be the only one who could set your watch. The women in the barber shop enjoyed seeing you. We went to Apple Farm every Saturday and got clams and oysters on the half shell and some salmon or skate or porgy. We made friends with the fish people and they looked forward to seeing us.

But the place we really liked going to was the Washington Irving Boat Club on a Friday afternoon for a gin and tonic. There we found a community of people who became our friends. Pete and the people there made us feel good. You really enjoyed the view of the Hudson River and the Tappan Zee Bridge and then watching the construction of the Governor Mario Cuomo Bridge. I know that as a mechanical engineer you were fascinated by the deconstruction of the old bridge and the construction of the new one.

Thea Maugeri - December 24, 2019 at 06:00 AM



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Thea Maugeri - December 23, 2019 at 11:18 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Phil Scalcione.



December 23, 2019 at 11:07 AM



“ My earliest memory of my Dad was love and candy. He was the best father in the whole world really. He wasn't interested in accumulating money or houses he loved his family. I love you Daddy

Julia Caesar Scalcione - December 21, 2019 at 12:16 AM



“ There was never a man who lived who was as virtuous and intelligent and kind as my father. The best leader, the most educated from his family of Italian immigrants. He was a true American in the finest sense of the word. I will miss you Daddy from the bottom of my heart. I can't believe you are gone. Until we meet again in Heaven. I will pray for you every single day and defend you forever.



Julia Scalcione - December 20, 2019 at 05:06 PM



“ He was the best father God ever put on Earth. He was a true Christian family man. I love him forever. Love you Dad

Julia Caesar Scalcione - December 19, 2019 at 05:37 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Phil Scalcione.



December 18, 2019 at 06:08 PM



“ I have the best memories of the sound of uncle Philly's laugh. You could always hear the happiness. I always remember him asking my sister Linda to dance at all family gatherings. She is his God daughter. He would apologize as a gentleman to me as he approached and bent and took my sisters hand. Off they would go dancing. It was a beautiful thing every time. Thanks for the laughs. The stories and your love.

kathy casa - December 18, 2019 at 04:21 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. Your Dad was kind man and always laughing. He loved your kids and I know he loved being with you.

Sharon - December 18, 2019 at 06:08 PM



“ Funny how just his "laugh" is remembered Meanwhile, her father and step mother did not even attend his funeral, my Dad had been so outspoken about Cousin Pete and he didn't even visit the Funeral Parlor. This is why I distanced myself from all the "phony" baloney "relatives" in the end they didn't give a shit.

Anonymous - March 09, 2020 at 01:27 PM



“ 14 files added to the album Memories Album



Edwards-Dowdle Funeral Home - December 18, 2019 at 01:55 PM