



Patrick Fred Farace

March 5, 1933 - April 7, 2021

Patrick Fred Farace, 88, a resident of Bonita Springs, FL, passed away at Naples Hospital on April 7, 2021 after surgery to repair a fractured hip sustained during a fall at home a couple days prior.

Patrick or “Pat” as he was known to most, was born on March 5, 1933 in Hazleton, Pennsylvania. He was the first born of Pasquale F. and Mary Wassel Farace.

Young Pat was educated by Catholic nuns in parochial school and learned to play basketball on the back alley courts of his Italian neighborhood. After leading Hazleton High School to a league championship, he was recruited to Saint Francis College by legendary coach, Dr. Skip Hughes, DDS (all scholarship offers included a dental plan).

Pat’s four years in Loretto, PA culminated in back-to-back invitations to the “Big Dance” of the era, the National Invitation Tournament (NIT) at Madison Square Garden. Pat was captain of a team that included future NBA Rookie of the Year and HOF member, Maurice Stokes.

Upon graduating with a teaching degree, Pat found his first job in Bridgeton, NJ — teaching history and coaching freshmen basketball. Two years later, he was referred for a head coaching position in Port Jervis, NY. One week before

the beginning of the school year, Pat and his young bride, Anne, would load their car and drive a couple hours north where they would settle into the Tri-State Community. Pat would coach a talented PJHS varsity basketball team to a league championship in his very first season. With that successful beginning, they would settle into a community and, over the next three decades, build a family, a business, and a life.

By the fall of 1962, Pat would become a father of four young boys; a successful basketball coach; a demanding, if not respected teacher; and a partner in Candy Cane Nursery School — a small business founded and operated by his lifelong love and partner, Anne.

Pat's nine months in the Geisinger Medical Center and near death experience — his discharge in the spring of 1963 almost 58 years to the day of his fall, would shape the next six decades of his life. His priorities would become clearer, his appreciation for the gift of life greater, his Catholic faith, stronger.

Pat gave up the demands of coaching as his toddlers turned into boys. When he earned a graduate degree in educational administration a few years later, he moved from classroom to front office. He gained valuable experience as an assistant principal and athletic director before spending the last decade of his career in education as the principal of Port Jervis High School.

When asked recently about his brightest moments — his highest achievements, his fondest roles and strongest associations, his smile broadened while his eyes watered and he replied with as little a hesitation as a lump in the throat allows, "Supporting actor — the husband half of a rewarding, enjoyable, and memorable marriage; father and mentor to four boys; point guard (assist leader) to talented teammates; coach to some fine young men (some of whom also became coaches); leader of a professional, dedicated, loyal and caring staff and faculty; and member of the Spanish

Wells Men's Tennis and Sailing Teams.”

He was proud of his contribution to the long and storied basketball program at Saint Francis College — especially of his recognition in the Red Flash Hall of Fame. He was proud of his service to PJHS — especially of his role in opening more sports to young women during the implementation phase of Title IX. He was proud of the support he provided to his wife as she earned her degree in education while mothering four, teaching thirty, and serving the community. And, he was proud of the introduction and foundation he provided to his sons — both in academics and in athletics; and, of course, how the family —with the love and support of the community, endured the tragic loss of their oldest son.

The time in his life that he most enjoyed was three decades of active retirement with his lifelong companion, Anne, in their south Florida home. Whether it was time together on the tennis court, watching the sun set over the Gulf, traveling, or simply enjoying time at the beach with their five grandchildren.

When asked about his many blessings — he simply pointed toward the kitchen. In there, of course, was the pretty girl he had known since high school. Then he indicated how grateful he was for her delicious meals — especially the way she “doctored” leftovers (a mutual appreciation resulting from their depression era and wartime upbringing); their shared cocktail hour — a family favorite (initially inspired by a next door neighbor — a well to do banker, and developed by a circle of PJ friends); her ability to plan and organize any kind of party — from tailgate to tuxedo; her willingness to travel near and far, and on short notice, too; and the exercise they enjoyed together while on long bike rides, swimming in their pool or the ocean, and on the tennis court as mixed doubles partners.

Pat was predeceased by his parents, an infant sister (Joan Mary, 1936), and first born teenage son, Barry (1973).

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Anne Sotack Farace; Bonita Springs, FL; his sons, Lt Col (US Army, retired) David (Linda), USMA 1981, Colorado Springs, CO; Rick (Britt), Moravian 1983, Annapolis, MD; Franklyn (Kim), Cornell 1985, Laguna Hills, CA; his grandchildren, Jaclyn (Jeff) Vangordan, Whispering Pines, NC; Jonathan, Arlington, VA; Kenley, Toronto, CAN; Kole and Abby, Laguna Hills, CA; and great granddaughter, Avery Vangordon.

Pat is also survived by his brother, Joseph P. Farace (Elaine), his sister, Cynthia (Jimmy) Orlando, and brother-in-law, Robert J. Sotack, all of Hazleton, PA; along with several cousins, nieces and nephews.

Friends will be received from 9:30 AM to 10:00 AM followed by a Mass of Christian Burial celebrated at St. Leo the Great Catholic Church, Bonita Springs, FL 34134 at 10:00 AM on Thursday, April 15, 2021. A Memorial Mass is being planned to take place in Port Jervis, NY later this year. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the donor's charity of one's choice.

We enjoyed 88 wonderful years with Pat, Pop, and Pop-Pop. In the last eight weeks of his life, he received a Covid19 vaccine (JnJ); hosted his sister and brother-in-law on a two week winter getaway in Florida; embraced his granddaughter and great granddaughter; celebrated his wife's 87th birthday, his own 88th BD (photo), his oldest grandson's 31st BD, his own 65th Wedding Anniversary, and, the day before his fall, The Resurrection of the Lord. Our brother, husband, father and grandfather did not leave anything on the table. We are grateful for a long life well lived.

To sign his guest book or to leave online condolences, please visit www.Shika

nyFuneralHome.com

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home Family
Owned and Operated Since 1978

Previous Events

Family Greeting

APR 15. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

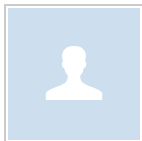
St. Leo the Great Catholic Church
28290 Beaumont Road
Bonita Springs, FL 34134

Funeral Mass

APR 15. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Leo the Great Catholic Church
28290 Beaumont Road
Bonita Springs, FL 34134

Tribute Wall



“ *Patrick Fred Farace*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *Dear Ann and Family,*

I was very sad to hear about Patrick's passing. However, I am very fortunate to have met the both of you and your wonderful family over the years. Working as the tennis pro and living in Spanish Wells, I've truly cherished the time I spent with members.

Patrick and you were particularly special, not only because of the times spent together on the court but also, the relationship you had with my parents, Chandan, and myself as friends.

Everyone had a good time then and I have plenty of great memories.

I will always remember Pat's enthusiasm as he told a story...the glimmer in his eye, the bright smile, and his voice. Your sons own that same wonderful attribute...they remind me of him.

Ann, I know you have a strong family who will be there for you, please realize you have many friends here to support you as well.

Don't hesitate to call and ask.

Sincerely, Christian and Chandan



Christian Abele - April 18, 2021 at 02:42 PM

VB

“ *It was such a pleasure meeting Pat and Ann at our local C and Cs in Spanish Wells. I remember him for his gentleness which always stood out when in conversation with him. He was always so attentive like he was really listening to what you had to say.*

Ann, you and your family are in my prayers. Rest in peace, Pat.

Valerie Bee

Valerie a Bee - April 15, 2021 at 09:02 AM

PF

“ *I got to know Pat while I was writing a book about his former Saint Francis basketball teammate, Maurice Stokes. I enjoyed listening to the stories he shared with me about his time at Saint Francis College, his teammates and his recollections from those four years.*

He had a joy and energy that rubbed off on those around him. I feel blessed to have gotten to know him. RIP, Pat. You and your family are in my family's prayers.

Pat Farabaugh

Pat Farabaugh - April 15, 2021 at 06:06 AM

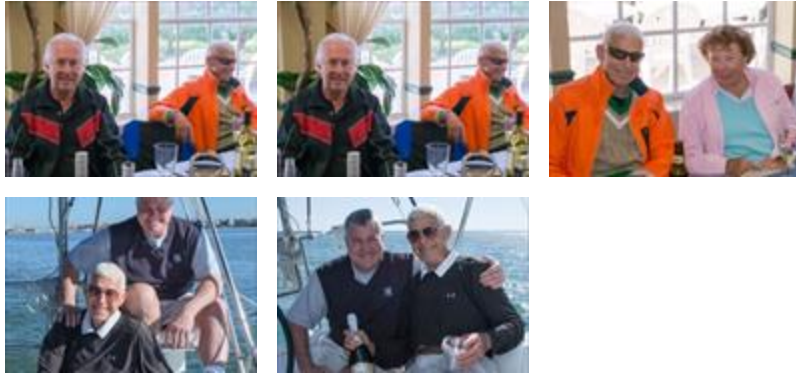
PA

“ *Mr Farace was my History teacher at PJHS and he was a great one. Prayers and and blessing for his family.*

peter atellato - April 15, 2021 at 01:47 AM

TA

“ 6 files added to the album Family Memory



Tom Abele - April 14, 2021 at 10:05 PM

TA

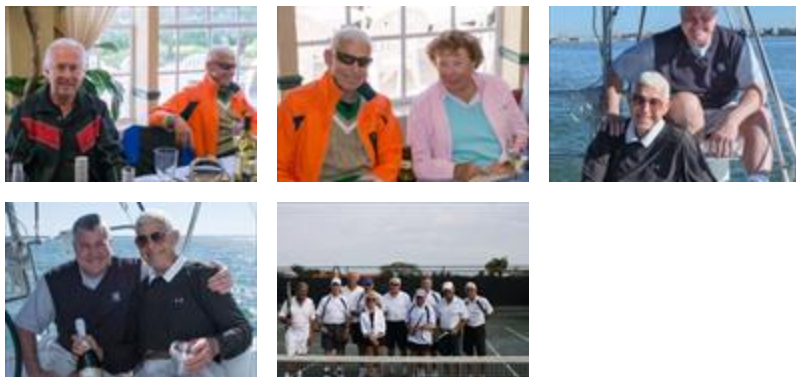
“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Tom Abele - April 14, 2021 at 10:00 PM

TA

“ 5 files added to the album Memories Album



Tom Abele - April 14, 2021 at 09:57 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Patrick Fred Farace.*



April 14, 2021 at 12:19 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Patrick Fred Farace.*



April 13, 2021 at 04:53 PM



“ *To The Family I simply say, "RIP Pat". I am glad you were there for Ed, Lou, and Steve.*

-Rev. Thomas D. "Banach" Vance

thomas vance - April 13, 2021 at 02:12 PM

CW

“ It’s with heartfelt sadness and sympathy that I am writing this today to Anne and your wonderful family that I watched grow up. Pat was the finest Athletic Director I have ever worked with. His contributions to the Port Jervis wrestling program are innumerable. The Port Jervis Junior Varsity Tournament and the Port Jervis Novice Wrestling Tournament to name two. You never had to find Pat, he would find you, with the same question (how may I help you?) It was Pat Farace who helped place Port Jervis wrestling on the road to success which it still enjoys today. Because of you Pat I have many, many great and fond memories. Thank you and may you Rest In Peace. Coach Al Wilgard

Coach Al Wilgard - April 13, 2021 at 01:16 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Patrick Fred Farace.



April 13, 2021 at 10:58 AM

CW

“ It doesn't seem possible that such an active and kind man is gone. Al and I always had a wonderful time with you two. Long bike rides, tennis, the beach, dinners out and in our homes. The list goes on and on of sweet memories shared! Anne, you made such a beautiful couple. The love and respect you had for each other shined like the brightest star. Pat will be missed and my heart goes out to you and your entire family.

Cindy Warner

Cynthia Warner - April 13, 2021 at 09:52 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Patrick Fred Farace.*



April 12, 2021 at 12:33 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Family Memory*



Joe Yurasek - April 12, 2021 at 11:50 AM



We are saddened to hear of Pat's passing and will always remember him as a warm and caring friend and next door neighbour in Spanish Wells. René and Donna Ouellet.

Donna Ouellet - April 12, 2021 at 03:21 PM



“ *Pat was a very good and generous man and we will never forget him. It is an honor to have known him. We are sure the Lord has a place prepared for him.*

Ulla and Tom Abele

Thomas A Abele - April 12, 2021 at 11:36 AM

CJ

“ We met Pat shortly after moving to Spanish Wells in 2005. We had the pleasure of playing tennis (both doubles and mixed doubles), playing bocce, and best of all socializing with Pat and Anne. Carl and Pat just had a wonderful "laugh filled" lunch last week. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Anne and the entire family. . We will miss Pat very much. Carl and Eileen Jiencke

Carl and Eileen Jiencke - April 12, 2021 at 10:56 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Patrick Fred Farace.



April 12, 2021 at 10:51 AM

DV

“ My deepest condolences to the Farace family. I didn't know Pat well but Anne is the sweetest person. You are all in my prayers.



Debbie Volk - April 12, 2021 at 10:21 AM

ES

“ Mr Farace was a good man and always welcomed me when ever I stayed over. In a time when I needed some good solid role models in my life the Farace family welcomed me. I even spent a week in Jekyll Island with them and saw a solid family unit in practice. Only now will Mr Farace truly know how many lives he impacted (Great is your reward). May God continue to bless the Farace family.

Eric Savacool - April 12, 2021 at 09:53 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Patrick Fred Farace.*



April 12, 2021 at 08:55 AM



“ *Pat was my Spanish Wells Tennis Team teammate and I learned a lot from his grit I am sorry to see him pass but wherever he might be he is spreading joy and laughter.*



Selwyn A DelHomme - April 11, 2021 at 07:45 PM



“ *Mr Farace will always hold a special place in my heart. Many say he was tough and he was but in a good way. He was always so kind to me but never held back the truth or his opinion. RIP Mr. Farace. You were one of the greats in my middle and high school education.*

penny faiello walcher - April 11, 2021 at 07:30 PM

JS

“ Pat, Mr. Farace, was my boss. I was his secretary at the Port Jervis HS. Pat had many accomplishments in life. His family, his sports and his academic career. He taught me many things. One of them was the use of profanity when it was needed. This is not a put down in any way. I always found it funny. If you were close to Pat you know he could cuss with the best of them. He could also pray with the best of them. He was a kind and fair administrator. He had us girls to his home in Montague for wonderful lunches that his beautiful and generous Anne would skillfully prepare. He and Anne lived life. He always tried to instill in others that life is to be lived to the fullest. I remember his dad coming to the office and telling me their name was Farace (Fa ra che) if it were pronounced correctly. He drove his Cadillac to Port Jervis many times to visit Pat. What a great life they lived, Pat and Anne. I know Anne will continue living hers in respect to Pat. What a pair. I am blessed to have known them.

So sorry to hear this news.

Jan Stevenson - April 11, 2021 at 06:02 PM

LC

“ I am saddened to read of Pat's passing on the Friends of PJHS Facebook page. I was a faculty member from 1976-1983, and for a portion of that time Pat served as my principal, leading by example, and always with good humor.

My condolences to the Farace family, and may he rest in peace.

Lisa Calapa

Lisa Calapa - April 11, 2021 at 04:04 PM

SG

“ I remember Mr Farace as a wonderful principal. He once drove me home to pick up my baby sister who was my show n tell for the day lol and he drove us both home. He will be remembered as a fair man with a beautiful smile who loved the kids that came across his path. My prayers and thoughts to Franklin (classmate of 1981) and the entire Farace family.

sue garrison - April 11, 2021 at 03:40 PM

BS

“ I am so sorry Anne. Working with Mr. Farace was a real pleasure. My 13 years at the Port Jervis Middle School was wonderful. He was the Assistant Principal at the time. My best to you and your family.



Barbara J. Sutton - April 11, 2021 at 01:51 PM

AS

“ Armando Santiago lit a candle in memory of Patrick Fred Farace



Armando Santiago - April 11, 2021 at 12:18 PM

KB

“ Anne & Family, I remember that you two would ride your bikes past my house on your way home from tennis. With deepest sympathy for your loss.
Karen Barba

Karen Barba - April 11, 2021 at 10:18 AM

SD

“ I remember playing tennis with Pat on the Spanish Wells 3.0 league tennis team.

Pat was an outstanding athlete and a great person.

Wish we all could have his attitude.

Tony DelHomme

Selwyn DelHome - April 10, 2021 at 01:31 PM

DD

“ Pat would pick me up every Saturday morning and we would drive to the Dunes to play tennis. It was always the highlight of the week.

Pat is one of the greatest and I'll miss my friend. Duke Dempsey

Duke Dempsey - April 10, 2021 at 10:54 AM

AC

The best boss I ever worked with; a great principal and man. My prayers for Anne and the entire family.

anne corcoran - April 11, 2021 at 10:37 PM

CW

My Sincere Condolences To You Anne And Family. Pat Was Principal In 1986 When I was Hired For The Special Ed Dept. I Am Sure He Was Responsible For Me Being Hired. Always Was Concerned About His Students. He Was Always Proud Of You And His Boys. I Will Always Remember This. God's Blessings To You And The Family. You All Are In My Prayers. Please Take Care And Stay Well. ❤️🙏🌸

Catherine Westfall - April 12, 2021 at 03:12 PM

EQ

Condolences to Anne and your Family, Mr Farace was an amazing Principal for PJHS and you knew he truly cared about you. He was a positive man with great energy and always wanted everyone to do their best. A role model and one of PJ's finest. Thinking of you all.

Elena Quinn - April 14, 2021 at 06:52 PM

ST

Deepest thoughts and prayers for Mrs.Farace and the family,Mr.Farace(we would never think of calling him Pat)was vice principal when I was in middle school was tough but fair. He was a very good influence on a lot of young people's lives .

R.I.P.

Scott Taylor

Scott Taylor - April 26, 2021 at 04:37 PM