



Mr. Angelo Militello

March 30, 1939 - December 27, 2020

Angelo Militello, of Skokie, December 27, 2020. Born March 30, 1939, the eldest son of Jack and Lena (nee Cicero) Militello. Angelo was raised on the northwest side of Chicago with his siblings Regina (Scott) Gregory, John, and the late Stephen and Michael Militello. Angelo attended Steinmetz High School and in 1956 met his future wife Francine nee Vitacco through mutual friends. They were married for 58 years and together raised three children Deanne (Frank) McCannon and the late Gregory and Lisa Militello. Angelo was the proud Papa of two granddaughters, Helina and Jada McCannon, who miss him very much. Angelo will be most fondly remembered for being a father figure, mentor, role model and ear to countless nieces, nephews and family friends.

Angelo attended Notre Dame University, graduating in 1961 with a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering and in 1966 earned a Master's in Education in Supervision and Administration from Loyola University. He worked as a teacher and school administrator at Ridgewood High School for 33 years where he touched the lives of too many young people to count. Following his retirement from Ridgewood, Angelo was an educational consultant and advocate for teens and young adults. He spent 10 years on staff at Jewish Children and Family Services. Over the years he was involved with many nonprofit organizations such as the Cancer Wellness Center and The Compassionate Friends and most recently served on the Commission of

Family Services for the Village of Skokie.

Due to these unprecedented times, the visitation and funeral will be private.

The family is planning a celebration of life service at a later date. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to one of the organizations important to Angelo: Compassionate Friends Northwest Suburban Chapter, c/o Debbie Rose, 2105 First Street, Glenview, IL 60025,

Jewish Children and Family Services <https://www.jcfs.org/donate/make-gift> or
Queen of All Saints Basilica <https://www.qasparish.org/donate>

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Angelo Militello*

October 05, 2023 at 03:04 AM



“ *Mr. Angelo Militello*

September 08, 2022 at 03:08 AM



“ *I'm so sorry to hear about Angelo, albeit almost two years later. But I just happened to think about where I grew up and he popped into my head. I am Sandy Field, and lived across the street from him on Mulligan Avenue. We all had great times back then.*

Sandy Field Horeis

Sandy Field Horeis - February 09, 2022 at 10:02 PM



“ *"MONKEY". Sending me to REAL was the best thing that ever happened to me. He sent all of me and my friends to REAL. We're all still best friends and family for ever!*

John Springer - August 11, 2021 at 07:32 AM

KC

“*Fran and family -- sincere condolences to you. Ang was such a special guy who spent his life helping others -- both educationally and otherwise. It is a privilege to have known and worked with him back in the 60s at Ridgewood -- a place we both loved. Take comfort in the goodness he shared with all in his world. Take care of yourselves as you know he would want you to do. Warmest wishes, Karen Connell*

Karen Connell - January 29, 2021 at 02:04 PM

SA

“*Angelo was my Chemistry teacher back in 65-66. What a good guy. I got to really know him quite well thru Compassionate Friends in the late 90's. We both lost daughters. My first group meeting I saw and recognized Angelo. He was such a great help to my wife and I during those early days. Sincerest Sympathies*

Steve Anzalone - January 17, 2021 at 02:55 PM

JN

“*I am saddened to hear of Angelo's passing. I worked closely with Angelo In the Skokie Local Area Network to improve the lives of at risk children and their families. Angelo was a caring, compassionate man with a wealth of experience and wisdom. He truly made our world a better place. My heart goes out to his family whom he often proudly spoke of.*

Joanne Nett

Joanne Nett - January 06, 2021 at 09:33 AM

NC

He was my science teacher when I attended Ridgewood 62-66. My parents were friends with his parents.

norman cecchin - January 06, 2021 at 08:42 PM

SA

“ My deepest condolences to Angelo's family and friends. His memory will be a blessing. I was fortunate to work in the same Skokie JCFS building as Angelo. What a great guy who told amazing stories, was fiercely positive and a teacher to everyone he encountered.

Sandee - January 05, 2021 at 05:56 PM

MB

“ Angelo will certainly be missed by many. One would be hard pressed to find anyone more dedicated to his work on behalf of children and families. I am grateful for the opportunity to have worked closely with him through the Local Area Network (LANs) and the Permanency Enhancement Project (PEP). I am a retired employer from DCFS and in my role as Chairman of the DCFS African American Advisory Council, I was thrilled to give Angelo the Council's Chairman Outstanding Achievement Award. I will always remember Angelo and his wife driving to Illinois State University in Bloomington, Illinois to receive the award at the Council's Annual Conference.

My condolences to the Militello

Michael Burns

Michael Burns - January 05, 2021 at 03:56 PM

ME

“ Angelo was an amazing individual that inspired many to get involved in the community and truly make a difference. It was wonderful working with him through the NTYC and hearing his insight and his experiences helping at-risk youth. He was always very kind and caring, and he was a great advocate for youth. He truly was an inspiration and he will be greatly missed. My deepest condolences to the Militello family.

Mary Elston

Mary Elston - January 04, 2021 at 06:35 PM

HP

“ My condolences to the Militello family. Angelo's passing was a great loss to the community. Angelo was a valuable member of our Skokie Commission of Family Services. He was our liaison to the Niles Township Youth Coalition and the Local Area Network. He was dedicated to helping at-risk teens in District 219. He brought his vast experience to our commission meetings where his insights were most valuable. He will be missed.

Harold Primack
Chair, Skokie Commission of Family Services

Harold Primack - January 04, 2021 at 05:50 PM

BW

“ My condolences to the Militello family. I worked with Angelo on the commission of Family Services and the NTYC. He was a force for change.

Brian Williams - January 04, 2021 at 01:35 PM

MR

“ *My deepest condolences, Fran, to you and your family. Angelo was one of my favorite people I worked with in Skokie. He was smart, kind, caring, and so great at what he did! We are all better for having known him. I will always carry him with me in my heart.*
Sincerely,
Mary Rose

Mary Rose - January 03, 2021 at 08:52 PM

AM

“His life was gentle, and
the elements
So mix'd in him that
Nature might stand up
And say to all the world
'This was a man.'”

Ange Militello was a talented educator, and a great friend. I met Ange when I was a 15 year old junior at Ridgewood. That was his first year as a teacher. He was no nonsense, but he was cool. And, a very, very good guy. When I joined the Ridgewood faculty in 1966, Ange was one of the administrators who made the decision to hire me. It was quite a decision as I was the first Ridgewood graduate to return as a teacher. In the three years I taught at Ridgewood, Ange was a friend and a mentor. In the years that followed, we stayed in touch and had plenty of conversations about life, about politics, and about education. When I was made a member of the Ridgewood Alumni Hall of Fame in 2016, it was Ange who introduced me at the award ceremony. After the ceremony my wife Barbara and I had a memorable dinner with he and Fran. We treasured Ange and Fran's visits to our cottage in Door County. The last time I saw Ange was this autumn when we had a virtual wine and cheese party with he and Fran. The conversation flowed easily and so did the laughter. Barbara often commented that she felt as if she had know Ange and Fran all her life, too. Their warmth and kindness was their treasure and they shared it freely. I'm grateful to have had Ange in my life all these years. He was one of those remarkable people who are touch stones that help you navigate life's joys and tragedies. A rock solid friend. We have lost a wonderful man.

Alex Molnar (class of 1963) and Barbara Lindquist

Alex Molnar - December 31, 2020 at 04:49 PM

DM

Thank you Alex ❤️

Deanne McCannon - January 01, 2021 at 02:25 PM

JK

“ My deepest sympathies and condolences. Angelo was a wonderful man, a supremely decent person (a Mensch!), and a dear heart. He has been a father figure for me, through my Best Friend Lisa, and particularly since the passing of my own father many years ago. I am honored to have known him, to have learned so much from his example, and to have shared this journey of life with him and his beloved family.

I believe he has now been reunited with Lisa, Greg, and many other dearly departed friends and family. I imagine my own dad and brother were there to greet him, as well.

My heart is heavy for Francine, Deeann, Frank, Helina, Jada, and Aunt Regina, as well as all others whose lives he touched, influenced, and improved.

May his soul be included in the bouquet of life. May his memory be a blessing. May he rest in peace.

May we always live his truth. May we carry on his legacy of humility, kindness, and service to others. May we love each other better and more (especially when it doesn't come easy) in his honor.

With abiding love, gratitude, and reverence,

Joanne Keane

Madison, Wisconsin

Joanne Keane - December 31, 2020 at 12:31 PM

PF

“ *Dear Francine:
Our thoughts and prayers are with you today and for as long as we live. I have had Angelo as a friend since kindergarten days at Burbank School, through Steinmetz High School, and to this day. He was a true friend, a quiet and intelligent man, and a person I have always admired. We (and I especially) will miss him greatly. Our only comfort is to know that we will meet him again, in heaven, and spend eternity with him.
God bless you, dear Francine, and may He comfort you.
Love, Patrick and Patricia Ferreri*

Patrick Ferreri - December 30, 2020 at 09:06 PM

JK

Amen. How beautiful. ❤️

Joanne Keane - December 31, 2020 at 12:32 PM

ET

“ *Francine, my most wholehearted condolences. From kindergarten at Burbank School to Steinmetz High and then to renew acquaintances at Kenny's picnics every year, the years have slipped away. I thought I would always see him at the picnic forever and each year to come. I will miss seeing Angelo and talking to him. He was always one of my favorite classmates. I'm so, so sorry!*

Elaine Tejcek - December 30, 2020 at 08:26 PM

JK

I should not be surprised that Angelo has friends from kindergarten!

Joanne Keane - December 31, 2020 at 12:34 PM

WB

“ Angelo hired me fresh out of college as a first-year science teacher at Ridgewood in 1971. He assigned Murray Williams to mentor me as I faced all the trials a rookie teacher will confront. His counsel and his confidence in me (and Murray!) helped me to become a better teacher and a better man. I could not have asked for a better mentor than Murray, nor a better supervisor than Angelo Militello. Angelo was a caring and compassionate boss who still challenged us to think about what we were doing and ask the important question, “Is it good for the kids?” He gave me good advice when I had a problem and he always had high expectations for all his staff. The lessons I learned at RHS were the foundation of my 34-year career in teaching. When I left Ridgewood in 1982, Angelo gave me a hand-written note in which he expressed pride in my accomplishments at RHS and extended his best wishes for my future. I still have that note, and I will keep it forever. Thanks Ange. May you rest in peace and your family take comfort knowing you had a positive influence on so many people.

Warren Bjork - December 30, 2020 at 04:27 PM

CK

“ Carole K lit a candle in memory of Mr. Angelo Militello



carole k - December 30, 2020 at 12:16 PM

RA

“ I am yet another alum of Ridgewood High with fond memories of Mr. Militello. He was always a giving and thoughtful man in everyway. I am so glad he was able to continue his contribution to yet another generation of teens after his retirement. My prayers and condolences to the family who should be so proud knowing he touched many lives. *Ralph Alberto - (class of 1977)*

Ralph Alberto - December 30, 2020 at 09:57 AM

FP

Mr. Militello was my chemistry teacher. He was demanding of his students to perform to the best of their ability. That's what makes a great teacher. What I also remember is that he loved clothes and always wanted to be in style. I would often see him in local men's clothing stores shopping for the latest fashions. RIP Angelo, your were awesome.

Fred Pasquesi - December 30, 2020 at 04:55 PM

SN

“ *Mr. Militello was my chemistry teacher. He was a great teacher and if I hadn't become a first grade teacher, I would have been a chemist. So sad to hear of his passing.*

Susan Novak Laurence (Class of 1968)

Susan N Novak-Laurence - December 30, 2020 at 03:41 AM

SK

“ A lot of students, for whatever reasons at the time, despised Mr Militello including myself. Was in my junior year (1973) that i finally realized that this gentleman was not mean at all, was only doing his job and actually was a down to earth man that went far out of his way trying to help students excel !! As for myself, i always felt bad not taking advantage of the expertise that Mr Militello was trying to offer !! RIP Mr Militello, i'm sure the majority of the student body feels the same as i do !! You truly will be missed !! Condolences to the family and friends !! God love you ❤️!! You're a hell of a guy👍 !!!

Steven Kalck - December 30, 2020 at 12:47 AM

FJ

“ Mr. Militello was a great Dean! Class of 85! He helped push my music to places I never thought I'd go to and he never gave up on me! He encouraged me to join the talent show at Ridgewood H.S. and to enter a talent show for the Park Districts of Chicago which I won first place. He was stern but kind and always made me feel like a son than a student. I will ALWAYS remember him for that! My prayers go to his family for peace and encouragement in this time of loss. You will be missed!

Frank Strmic Jr - December 30, 2020 at 12:08 AM

NC

“ Dear Fran and Deanne,
I'm so very sorry for your loss. Angelo was always one of my favorite people as a child. I remember him as being so kind and gentle. My heart broke when I heard the news and reading the post here he obviously continued to make a great impression on so many. I wish nothing but peace and joy in these transition times.
Much love!
Nancy (Hayford) Cappello

Nancy Cappello - December 29, 2020 at 11:28 PM

JG

“ Our prayers are with you at this very saf



jackie gregorio - December 29, 2020 at 09:04 PM

JG

Our prayers are with you at this sad time. Memories of our Parents Club fundraisers at Ridgewood will always be happily remembered. God rest you Angelo in peace. 🙏❤️

Jackie Gregorio - December 29, 2020 at 09:39 PM

JS

Angelo was a wonderful person! Had a heart of gold, and shared that with who ever he was with! He was my teacher at RHS and taught my sons also, and when I worked at RHS he bacame my friend. And a good one! I am so sorry for your loss Fran & family. The world lost an angel on earth. God bless all of you!

JUDITH Spychalski - January 01, 2021 at 10:13 AM

RI

Angelo, a beautiful and powerful servant leader whose gifts blessed his community. May God rest his soul.

Robert Blackwell, IDCFS - January 05, 2021 at 11:22 AM

J(

“ A great teacher one could never forget. May he remain in our hearts forever 🙏🙏

joan M Foster (Kasdorf) - December 29, 2020 at 09:04 PM

GD

“ One of the best guys a lost kid could have for a teacher! He really knew how to help someone and keep them in check. Was a great influence and a wonderful man.

gayle davis - December 29, 2020 at 08:51 PM

DD

“ Class of 80. Many good memories of Ang...mom worked with him as well so I get to call him that. Rest In Peace kind man.

David DiCorpo - December 29, 2020 at 08:42 PM

BS

“ I am a graduate class of 1989 of ridgewood high school. I was honored to have Angelo Militello for a teacher and also a dean. I will never forget him. RIP

Brian styka - December 29, 2020 at 08:33 PM

SS

“ I have so many great memories and he was truthfully like a dad to me on many occasions. I only had a couple of amazing friends growing up, with Lisa being one of them. My prayers go out to all of you as I know he will be surely missed.



Sonia Schmidt - December 29, 2020 at 07:17 PM

KG

“ My favorite part of family gatherings was another chance to chew the fat with Angelo. I will truly miss his humility, curiosity and genuine interest in other people's thoughts. To know him was to love him!

Ken Gallas

Ken Gallas - December 29, 2020 at 06:50 PM

JR

“ I was a terrible student but he never gave up on me. He cut me countless breaks when others would have just been done with me. I wish he could have seen that his persistence had paid off. He is one of many from Ridgewood that I think of often and will miss.

jason ryan - December 29, 2020 at 06:25 PM

PS

“ It was an honor having served on the Ridgewood school board during the time Angelo was part of the administration at Ridgewood .
My thoughts & prayers are with your family.

PAUL R Schmitt - December 29, 2020 at 01:11 PM

LG

“ Our deepest sympathy. Angelo was a fine man with a big heart. Prayers and love at this sad time.

Len & Catherine Gassmann - December 29, 2020 at 09:52 AM

JL

“ It is with great sadness that I heard of the death of Angelo, my boss at Ridgewood High School for 21 years. As a beginning English teacher, he provided me with support, guidance and many opportunities to learn the craft of teaching many students over many years. Our young staff had long meetings and hours of discussion, and Ange was often the one who challenged us and allowed us to do our best. My sympathies to all his family, including the RHS family. A life well lived. Thank you.

Jan Larson (Australia)

Jan Larson - December 29, 2020 at 12:47 AM

KC

“ So sorry to hear this news. I always appreciated Mr. Militello's commitment to helping students be their best self. As our class of 1975 advisor he encouraged us to chart our own paths and provided just the right dose of guidance to help us stay on track. I always appreciated his extra effort to attend our reunions. It was so special to be able to talk with him and catch up on life as an adult. Angelo Militello most definitely left an important imprint in our lives as we grew up at RHS. Deepest sympathies to his family. He will be missed though not forgotten.

Kris Cichowski - December 28, 2020 at 10:31 PM

DM

It is with sadness that I hear of this, Mr Militello was my dean at Ridgewood High School, he was a tough one but he was also fair, my condolences to the Militello family on your loss.

Denise Mende

Denise Mende - December 29, 2020 at 11:25 AM

DA

I taught social studies at Ridgewood from 1964 to 1971, years in which Ange and Tom Giles played a major role in holding Ridgewood together during some of its most creative years when it had a national reputation for educational innovation. I always hoped we might connect again at one of Ridgewood's reunions but unhappily it never happened. I am much saddened by his passing.

David Adams - December 29, 2020 at 04:04 PM

BC

Good guy

bob carey - December 29, 2020 at 04:16 PM

GN

Sorry to hear of his passing a great teacher . Class of 1968

Gary Niederkorn - December 29, 2020 at 08:53 PM

RS

Mr. Militello was my high school chemistry teacher. He was an inspiration to me and many other students. I began my college years as a chemistry major because of Mr. Militello. During my 35 year career as a teacher and school administrator, his example was often in my mind. Condolences to his family and all who loved and miss him. - Robert Sandberg, Ridgewood High School, Class of 1968.

Robert Sandberg - December 30, 2020 at 01:52 PM

ML

Ange was a good man. Ridgewood during the late 60's was caught up in the times and was also recognized as one of the best public high schools in the nation. He navigated some very rough waters with class and grace. He left a great imprint on a multitude of students and teachers. A good man who lived a good life. Rest in heaven and fly high sir.

Michael Lesniak - December 30, 2020 at 05:54 PM

EH

I was so very sorry to see this death notice in today's paper. Angelo attended the monthly YWCA racial justice lunch discussions I led at Skokie Village Hall (and then online), and was someone I greatly respected and enjoyed. His compassion and empathy were evident always, and his dedication influenced members of our monthly group to become attendees of the monthly Court Call in support of the youth of our community. He talked fondly of conversations he would have with younger family members about the issues the world has been facing, and I always thought how lucky those young people were to be in conversation with such a wonderful guide/mentor. My heart goes out to all who loved him. Our community has lost a good soul. Eileen Hogan Heineman

Eileen Hogan Heineman - January 03, 2021 at 01:20 PM

BB

I also attended the monthly racial justice meetings in Skokie where I met Angelo. I was so impressed with his caring personality. He made the conversation so easy. His influence led me to attend the Youth Court Calls at the Skokie courthouse where he informed me of what was taking place. I was even introduced to one of the judges that he talked to. This is such a loss for this community if not the world. I too am so grateful to have met him. May he rest in peace. My condolences to the family.

Burt Burdeen - January 04, 2021 at 01:12 PM