



George E. Rossi
1943-2023

A Generous Man, Mentor, Husband, Family Guy,
Fisherman, and Shooter

Dear Friend,

I'm sad to relay that we have lost a wonderful supporter who gave us great joy. So

many people had similar descriptions and superlatives for George Rossi. Everyone said he was bigger than life, and not only in his stature. He was generous, fun, engaging, selfless, interesting, and interested. He was a wise mentor and a teacher.

The adage that first impressions are important was not lost on George; he was not only tall but big - really big. He had a deep bass voice and knew how to use it. His signature, "Hey kid, how are you doing?" was lost on no one. He made everyone feel like a kid again because he dwarfed them in so many ways.

George could engage anyone in conversation, and you wanted to share with and listen to him. He had charisma! He was a story teller, and evidently his grandchildren heard many of the same tales over and over again. But for me and my husband Peter each one was new and we would laugh until our sides hurt.

Peter and I became friendly with George in the late 80s or early 90s, since we shared a similar interest in shotgun target shooting, especially sporting clays. George was very good; he was also the only person I have ever seen whose body didn't move at all when firing a shotgun. Peter and I used to say he was like a turret.

He would pull up to a shooting station in his listing golf cart, get out, and the cart would rise up four inches. He would greet you with, "How you hitting 'em, kid?" Everyone loved it when George arrived; he made it clear that you were there to have fun.

At a meal if you asked George if he wanted a particular dish passed his reply would be, "I didn't get this way by being picky." Among many other things George and I had a love of food in common. In fact his close friend Harry Hearing used to say, "You know, your brother from a different mother," whenever he mentioned George to me.

Over the years Peter and I shot less but George plugged on. One holiday morning we read in the newspaper that a shooting club had held a fundraiser: a "fruit cake shoot." That in itself seemed funny enough. Then the story went on to relay an interview with George. He was quoted as saying, "I couldn't bring myself to shoot a fruit cake." Oh my gosh, that was vintage George. That is where our culinary interests could diverge; I could shoot a fruit cake, but I never told George.

George knew the value of laughter and no one laughed like George; his whole body shook when he chuckled. And for those who visited him during his final days he was never maudlin; he told stories about how he hoped he had taught his children, grandchildren, and friends' children well. He thanked us for our efforts. That was George thinking of others. He kept his wit, engagement, and stayed sharp as a tack with visitors. He told them that if God wanted him he was ready to go.

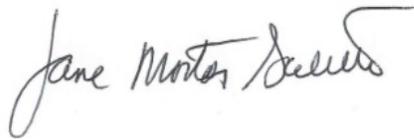
He always spoke of Betsey and "the kids." He was crazy in love with his family and was so proud of Betsey's work with the Red Cross. I remember often she would be away at an emergency outpost. Our sincerest condolences go to Betsey, their daughters Nancy and Brenda, and their families. He will be missed by everyone who knew him.

As we are coming up on the Chili Bowl I want to relay that George was one of our regular attendees. His generosity also launched the Connie Jost Memorial Art Scholarship. He enjoyed fishing with the Jost family and Connie was like a daughter to him. He bought all kinds of articles and objects to support the scholarship. And he donated to it outright. Many young artists, from the Barn Studio and elsewhere, have benefited from his kindness.

One year I got the bright idea of letting people donate to do absolutely nothing with me! I thought it would be a flop. But George bellowed from his table, "I ain't doin' nottin' with Jane, NOTTIN'!" He even punctuated it with a wave of his hand, to denote he was done with me. And it took off from there. One after another people shouted out an amount and their bidder number. Last year it raised \$11K to help fund our education programs. That was George, always giving and mentoring.

Well, George, I guess I won't be doin' nottin' with you for hopefully many years. But I do look forward to the laughs we will have when I join you.

Sincerely,



Jane Morton Galetto
CU Maurice River Board President

Jane relays a grandson's recollection:

Grandson Trevor Biglin shared a priceless George Rossi story at his funeral service, which I shall do my best to relay.

George took his grandsons Trevor and Josh Noll to Crystal Cave in PA where they learned all about stalactites and stalagmites. Trevor indicated that both were of little interest to him and his cousin. It turned out that George also had an ulterior motive; he actually wanted to visit the new Cabela's store.

This was prior to GPS and cell phone guidance. So he stopped at an ice cream stand and asked the server how to get there. She responded that she didn't know the route from the stand, but she knew the directions from her home. George, true to form, asked, "Well, how do we get to your house and we'll take it from there!"

And as always he accomplished his goal.

George E. Rossi 1943-2023 Obituary

George Edward Rossi, 79, of Vineland passed away at home on Wednesday, February 22, 2023, with his family by his side. George had been under Bayada Hospice Care for the last seven weeks.

He was born in Vineland to the late Antoinette (Raimbault) and George A .Rossi. A graduate of Vineland High School Class of 1961, George attended Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, PA for two years and then joined his father at Rossi Oil Company.

As a young child, George was introduced to fishing by a neighbor and it became a lifelong passion. George would go fishing every chance he had. He was a member of the Highland Anglers Fishing Club for over 31 years, acting as treasurer for 27 of those years.

As a teen, George worked at Rossi Oil doing odd jobs. One Saturday after scraping paint off windows his father gave George a few dollars and dropped him off at the bowling alley on Landis Avenue and the Boulevard there began 25 years of bowling. At one time, George bowled 6 nights a week, he joined Delsea traveling league on Saturday nights and bowled all over South Jersey, he also bowled in the National Bowling Tournaments which were held all over the US.

In his late thirty's, George began to shoot Skeet and Trap and later on Sporting Clays. For the last 40 years shooting clay Targets has been the object of his attention. George always said there were no finer friends then those he made at Quinton Gunning Club.

George would be the first to tell you that he had a wonderful life. From spending summers at his grandmother's home on Pancoast Mill Road and playing with life long friends in Vineland, to marrying Betsey and gaining a family that gave him much joy.

George is survived by his wife Elizabeth "Betsey" (Richter) Rossi, together 44 years; his daughters Nancy Noll (Joe) and Brenda Farside (Eve); grandchildren, Trevor Biglin, Joshua Noll (Alexis) and Ava Najdanovic and his great-grandson Noah Noll. George cherished his grandchildren and the time he spent with them, giving them all his wisdom even if they didn't ask for it. George is also survived by many cousins and friends.

George had the ability to make his every day experiences into a story, from his travels to people he met; well, this is the End of the Story.

A funeral home visitation will be held on Wednesday, March 1, 2023 from 10am to followed by a funeral service at 12pm from Rone Funeral Service, 1110 East Chestnut Avenue, Vineland.

Interment will follow in Siloam Cemetery, Vineland.

ARRANGEMENTS are under the supervision of Rone Funeral Service, 1110 East Chestnut Avenue, Vineland, NJ 08360

Donations in memory may be made to: Spirit and Truth Ministry, P. O. Box 89, Vineland, NJ 08362 or Bayada Hospice, 600 Jessup Road, Suite 100A, West Deptford, NJ 08066 To send online condolences please visit our website at www.RONEFUNERALSERVICE.com



George and Betsey.

CU ON THE RIVER
www.CUMauriceRiver.org

See what's happening on our social sites:

