



Mr. Joseph M. Giramma

July 8, 1949 - September 8, 2022

Joseph Mario Giramma, 73, died Thursday, September 8, 2022 at his home in West Stockbridge, MA. He was born in Nocelleto, Italy to the late Sisto and Angelina Giramma, and immigrated to Providence, RI in 1960. He graduated from Cranston East H.S. in 1968 where he became the third highest ranking high school wrestler in New England. He received his Bachelor's Degree from Bard College, worked in the Netherlands for Phillips Corp., then earned a Master's in Public Administration from the University of Washington.

Joseph spent many years in San Francisco where he worked for Citigroup and Bank of America, and it was there he met and married his wife Kelly Clady-Giramma in 2002. The couple moved to Suzhou, China for 3 years, then relocated to the Berkshires in 2007. They later took a one-year sabbatical to Kunming, China, for Joseph to teach at Yunnan University. Mr. G," as he was fondly known as at Pittsfield High School where he taught, was beloved by staff and students alike.

Besides his wife Kelly of West Stockbridge, Joseph is survived by their son Robert Joseph Clady of Monument Mt. H.S., as well as his adult children Aubrey, Maximillian, Ursula, and Joseph. He is also survived by a sister, Margherita DaCosta, his brothers Giovanni and Louis Giramma, and 9 nieces and nephews. Joseph leaves behind extensive family in Italy whom he visited frequently including Antonio, Domenico, Margherita, and Maddelena

Zambuco.

Besides his parents he is pre-deceased by Giuseppe and Francesca Zambuco.

Joseph lived an incredibly passionate and adventurous life. He travelled extensively to nearly every continent on the globe, and lived abroad numerous times including in Arezzo Italy, Paris, France, and Cuernavaca Mexico. He was a prolific artist and his paintings and sculptures have sold in galleries in San Francisco, New York, and the Berkshires. He loved Giuseppe Verdi operas, the art of Vermeer, and the poetry of Walt Whitman. Joseph was a public library patron his whole life. He read voraciously and at one time had a collection of over 10,000 books.

The funeral service for Mr. Joseph M. Giramma will be held on Saturday, October 1st at 11am at the Roche Funeral Home, 120 Main Street, Lenox, MA 01240. Calling hours will begin at 9:30am. In lieu of flowers, donations to defray costs of his memorial may be made to Kelly Clady-Giramma in care of the funeral home. Alternatively, charitable donations may be made in his honor to the West Stockbridge Library <https://weststockbridgepl.org/contact-us/> or to the Art Department at Pittsfield, H.S.

<https://pittsfieldhigh.pittsfield.net/cms/one.aspx?portalId=1057223&pageId=5328330>

where some of Joseph's art will be donated.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 1. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Roche Funeral Home
120 Main Street
P.O. Box 152
Lenox, MA 01240
(413) 637-0699
eroche120fh@gmail.com

Service

OCT 1. 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM (ET)

Roche Funeral Home
120 Main Street
P.O. Box 152
Lenox, MA 01240
(413) 637-0699
eroche120fh@gmail.com

Tribute Wall

CT

“ *Coach and Mayor Michael Traficante purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mr. Joseph M. Giramma.*



Coach and Mayor Michael Traficante - October 03, 2022 at 12:14 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Joseph M. Giramma.*



September 28, 2022 at 10:18 AM

MD

“ *Our friendship began in 1965 as sophomores in high school, with so many great memories shared through the years. Reconnecting with Joseph at our 50th reunion, just illuminated his interesting life accomplishments, and just how much he had to share with his wisdom and compassion. He was an incredible athlete, and a wonderful friend and scholar. He loved life with all his being. His loss will be felt by so many.*

My deepest sympathy to his family.

Mary Lou Carlomusto

Mary Lou C Diekmann - September 24, 2022 at 01:25 PM

DS

I too share Mary Lou's sentiments. She told me today of Joe's passing. I knew him from Bain Junior High as well as Cranston East. It was such a delight to reconnect at our 50th high school reunion and was so looking forward to seeing him at our 55th next month. We will toast his memory at the reunion.

Doug Shaheen - June 21, 2023 at 07:04 PM

KO

“ *I'm so sorry to hear that Joseph has passed. My sincere condolences to his family. He would substitute at Capeless School in Pittsfield and was always so exuberant, outgoing, and kind. We enjoyed how he would give an Italian flair to some of our names. I loved our conversations in the faculty room during lunch. What a full, fabulous life he lived. He will be dearly missed by everyone he knew. I look forward to seeing some of his artwork at PHS. God bless!*

Karen O'Neill

Karen O'Neill - September 24, 2022 at 12:39 PM

JS

“ *When Joe poked his head into my Latin classroom at Pittsfield High School he brought a jolt of life. He brought the outside world: foreign cities we had visited, books we had read, ideas we could share, being of similar age and sharing similar interests. I am very sorry that I won't be seeing him again and sorry I could not say goodbye. He was a life force and a pleasure to know.*

Shalom, chever.

My condolences to his family.

John Slote

John Slote - September 24, 2022 at 10:58 AM

LM

“ Kelly and family - I was shocked and so sad to learn of Mr. G's passing. While a teacher at P.H.S., Mr. G. and I had countless engaging conversations on topics ranging from Andrea Bocelli to rafting the Grand Canyon. He was a caring and compassionate human being, and I always knew that when he was my substitute, the students were in good hands. Mr. G will be missed by all of the students and staff that had the good fortune to get to know him. He is leaving a beautiful legacy. Rest in peace Mr. G.

Lori Murphy

Lori Murphy - September 24, 2022 at 07:49 AM

MT

I was Joe's wrestling coach at Cranston High School Easthe was a dominate force on the team.....a leader, an outstanding example of sportsmanship, a force to be reckon with on the wrestling mat...a true champion.....he was always respectful, a great student and a fantastic example to follow....I am truly amazed and envious of his brilliant career and travels...I am however not surprised of his success and accomplishments.....I HAD A FANTASTIC AND REWARDING CAREER AS A COACH BECAUSE OF STUDENTS LIKE JOSEPH....please accept my sincerest condolences upon his passing....I am hopeful that the many memories shared over the years will help ease your sorrow....God bless Joseph and his beautiful family.....Mike Traficante

michael traficante - October 03, 2022 at 12:05 PM

MG

I love u and miss you, brother Joseph - your sister Margherita.

margherita Giramma - May 13 at 09:32 PM