



Albert R. Russomano

October 1, 1927 - December 11, 2019

Albert R. Russomano

1 October 1927 – 11 December 2019

The second son in a family of 10, six boys and 4 girls born to Albert Alfonse and Mildred (Lemongello) Russomano, Al quickly claimed his place with his diligence and quick wit. Growing up in Newark, NJ, his favorite sport was basketball and during High School he worked at Kresge's department store packaging items for shipment and store delivery, later as a USPS seasonal mail carrier during the holidays and employee vacations.

In 1945, he began a civil service career working first at the Office of Dependency Benefits then at the VA Regional Office in Newark. Later he transferred to the Railroad Retirement office in New York. He moved back to the VA working in the dental records office in Newark.

Al was drafted into the Army in 1950, reporting to Ft. Belvoir, VA for basic training after which he was sent to Denkendorf, Bavaria, Germany to work at a food warehouse supporting the Mess Chow Hall and commissary. He completed his 2 year hitch turning down an opportunity for a promotion and possible tour in Korea.

He had a job waiting for him back in New Jersey and while working full time

he attended night school at Seaton Hall University in South Orange, NJ graduating with a BA as a member of the 101st class to graduate in 1957. A little known fact is Seaton Hall claims to be the oldest diocesan university in the country.

During a visit to his sister, Loretta, in San Antonio, Al “stopped” by the personnel office at Kelly Field and learned there were openings for which he was qualified and would even be eligible for a promotion. Thus continued his career in San Antonio, working as the Supervisor of High Valued Aircraft items such as aircraft engines and wing assemblies. In 1975, the federal government was downsizing after the Vietnam War and after 30 years of civil service, Al took an early out, thus beginning retirement at the early age of 48years.

Following retirement, he worked for Boeing taking an overseas job in Iran, writing manuals, however this job lasted only 5 months as it was the beginning of unrest there which eventually resulted in the Iran hostage crises of early 1979. Recognizing a lack of credits to qualify for Social Security, Al began a 10 year career with HR Block as a tax preparer and was later promoted to instructor.

Volunteer work as tax preparer with VITA, (Volunteer Income Tax Association), groundskeeper at Incarnate Word convent/retirement home, docent at the Institute of Texas Cultures, for 33 yrs, and assisted with the Santa Rosa Children’s Hospital. He was also an Ambassador at San Antonio International Airport, for 16 yrs, recognized as “Ambassador of the Year” in 2001 for his great passenger helpfulness and cherry nature. This and so much more kept Al busy and out of trouble.

Al had a lifetime membership in the Knights of Columbus after 60 years service with numerous councils. As of late he was a member of Council 4140

and 4th degree Knights of Columbus, Assembly 2102, and was a former Master of the Guadalupe Province of the 4th Degree.

A favorite past time during retirement, Al cruised to most of the islands in the Caribbean, Panama, Alaska, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and the St Lawrence Seaway into Quebec. Additionally he and Jo visited the Christmas Fair in Germany traveling to the Black Forest, Switzerland, Austria and France. Another “hobby” was visiting casinos in Las Vegas, Reno, Wendover and Elko Nevada, Shreveport, Coshhatta, Lake Charles, LA and Bay St. Louis and Biloxi, MS as well as Eagle Pass TX. Al called this a “fun hobby”.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Josephine M. Patino, his brothers— John, wife Lucille; Ralph; Tom, wife Patricia; and Patrick, three sisters, Mildred Manto, husband Perry; Genevieve Poisseroux, husband William; and Patricia Krebs. He was very much loved by his many nieces and nephews including many many “greats”.

His quick humor, wonderful smile and blue twinkling eyes will be missed by all.

Rosary and Funeral Mass will begin at 1:30PM on Monday, December 16, 2019 at Holy Spirit Catholic Church.

Graveside Service at 9:15AM on Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery.

In Lieu of Flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Presentation Sisters at 8931 Callaghan Road, San Antonio Texas 78230, or a charity of your choice.

Cemetery Details

Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery

1520 Harry Wurzbach
San Antonio, TX 78209

Previous Events

Rosary/Funeral Mass

DEC **16**. 1:30 PM (CT)

Holy Spirit Catholic Church
758 W. Ramsey Avenue
San Antonio, TX 78216

Graveside Service

DEC **17**. 9:15 AM (CT)

Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery
1520 Harry Wurzbach
San Antonio, TX 78209

Tribute Wall

SM

“ I so enjoyed working with Al at The Institute of Texan Cultures. I worked as an ITC staff person, in charge of the Outreach/Tex-Kit program, in which Al was very active for several years. He and a fellow docent, Bob Beaudro, were quite a team when they took the Indian, Cowboy and Pioneer Tex-Kits for presentations out to schools and places in the community. They were experts at engaging their audiences and getting them involved with the artifacts (teaching objects) used to teach a concept. I appreciated Al's good humor, pleasant demeanor and his ability to get along well with other docents. He was a very giving person. What a long, full life he led. I am so glad I got to know and for with him for a little of that life. Lucky me. RIP, Al. My deepest condolences go to Jo and his other close family and friends for this deep loss. May Al always be with you in spirit.
Sandra Merrifield

Sandra Merrifield - December 17, 2019 at 12:14 AM

SM

Excuse me, I have a correction to make. I meant to write, "I am so glad I got to know and WORK with him for a little of that life."

Sandra Merrifield - December 17, 2019 at 12:17 AM

SC

“ I enjoyed volunteering with Al at the ITC. I especially remember the beautiful calligraphy he did. He graciously volunteered many hours of his time hand lettering all the yearly certificates we received at the annual volunteer appreciation dinners/luncheons. Prior commitments prevent me from attending the funeral and/or burial service. My deepest condolences to his family. Shirley Naman Conrad (ITC Docent since 1998)

Shirley Conrad - December 16, 2019 at 01:16 PM

ES

“ I remember Uncle Al always greeting me and my family with a warm hello and a hug at family gatherings. He was always so gracious and fun loving. He will surely be missed!

Esther S - December 14, 2019 at 10:09 AM

MR

“ He really was great guy. When you talked to him you could tell he knew a lot about a lot of things. But he took time to listen to you and carry a conversation without being condescending. He spoke quietly to you and made you and everyone feel comfortable talking to him. He had sparkly blue eyes and a great sense of humor. Very quick witted and generous with his laughter which then invited everyone to join in laughter. He will be missed by all.

Mary R - December 13, 2019 at 10:03 PM

 Anna Ramirez

“ I had the pleasure of knowing Mr.Russomano for a few years and caring for him at the time of rehabilitation. He will be missed and I pray for his family and loved ones to find peace....



Anna Ramirez - December 12, 2019 at 11:04 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Albert R. Russomano.



December 12, 2019 at 04:42 PM