



## Mr. Anthony "Tony" Giannone

December 28, 1932 - June 6, 2017

Anthony "Tony" Giannone, 84 of Catskill, N.Y. passed away peacefully into his Lord's presence on Tuesday, June 06, 2017 after a brief illness. He was born in Manhattan, N.Y. on December 28, 1932. Tony was predeceased by his precious mother, whom he lovingly referred to as mama, Lillian Santoro. Both Tony and Lillian had a strong faith and were devout Catholics of the Franciscan order.

A talented and gifted artist, Tony was a published poet, a novelist/play-write who also drew and painted; he especially enjoyed creating his "classy ladies who depicted persona." Furthermore, he was a musician who particularly enjoyed playing the piano. Tony also had the art of developing special relationships with almost everyone he interacted with and touched so many with his unique outlook on life. A very witty sense of humor and a bit of an eccentric character, he drew many into friendship.

Tony is survived by his many friends and community acquaintances, who will miss him dearly. The friends of Tony wish to express a special thank you to all of the caring staff of both the Town and Village of Catskill; the County of Greene; Columbia-Memorial Hospital and Barnwell Nursing Home for their many years of care and service to Tony; all were truly a blessing to him. In lieu of flowers please make donations to The Greene County Nutrition Department through The Greene County Department for the Aging.

Visiting hours will be at Richards Funeral Home, 29 Bross Street, Cairo, New York from 1-2 p.m. on Monday, June 12, 2017, Interment will immediately follow in the family plot of the Cairo Cemetery where Tony will be laid to rest next to mother Lillian.

Condolences may be made at [www.richardsfuneralhomeinc.net](http://www.richardsfuneralhomeinc.net).

# Cemetery Details

## Cairo Cemetery

County Route # 84  
Cairo, NY 12413

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 12. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Richards Funeral Home - Cairo  
P.O. Box # 383  
29 Bross Street  
Cairo, NY 12413  
(518) 622-9503  
[info@richardsbradysfh.com](mailto:info@richardsbradysfh.com)

# Tribute Wall

RS

“ Tony was one of the great ones. Like all the great ones he could be as uplifting and exasperating as they come. Anyone who had contact with him, and that was a lot of people given his special abilities at using the phone, has their own hilarious, heartwarming and heart breaking stories. But one thing people may not know is he was a great friend. One of the best my wife Susana and I ever had and, as far as I can tell, this was true for many other people. Like everything about Tony ( Who liked to call himself "Ownly Tony" because, " I am myself.) his was a special kind of friendship. Those who dealt with him in some service role know how he let them step out of their roles and feel a touch of the old life when things were more personal. But he was also one of the most Insightful people I have known. He could look deep into people's souls and get their essence in a few words. We all know how that got spun into his never ending, and always entertaining, tales of shifting landscapes of saviors and enemies, but Tony also knew when kindness was needed.

When his kindness and insight combined he could make me feel like no one else. As I made my daily rounds around Catskill I was lucky to hear from dozens of people the special way Tony touched their lives but there is only room here for the most recent anecdote. Anyone who sees me bopping around this great county of ours is free to stop me for dozens more.

There were so many loving caretakers in the twelve years I was lucky enough to be his friend but in the last year of his life it was his beloved Pam and Connie who were there for him with every call at every hour. And there were a lot of calls!!! When they could no longer keep him at the beautiful home they created for him, with broken hearts, they had to let Barnwell NH take over his care. Just a few days before his passing, when Tony was doing his Tony best, to leave this world with dignity, one of his caretakers at Barnwell saw me leaving his room. She asked if I had a moment and with tears in her eyes said, " There I was cleaning him up at 2 am and he looked in my eyes and told me things about myself I never heard before. Things I needed to know." Thankyou Tony. You were right, there is "Ownly" one you.

**Robert Spain** - June 12, 2017 at 08:12 AM

LP

“ I have only known Tony for a short while, but we were kindred spirits from the start. We shared a love for the Arts and beauty, as well as our Italian heritage. The first time I met Tony, he immediately showed me a few of his "lovely ladies", and waited eagerly for my reaction. The resemblance was uncanny! I became the proud owner of one of his "lovely ladies"...a work of art...a portrait of "myself". There will always be a place for Tony in my heart and my memories. His sense of humor, I shall never forget.

Tony, I was so happy to be able to fulfill your desire of the "Royal Purple Chair". I am sure you are enjoying an even prettier one, in your Royal Mansion, in Heaven with Mama and God. You will be missed, Tony Giannone. ❤️

"Lovely" Laura, your Italiana.

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**Laura Pisarri-Ferraro** - June 11, 2017 at 11:32 PM

DF

“ Tony was a sweet, gentle, and witty man. I enjoyed his visits to the doctors office. Holding his hand and walking him into the exam room. He was always proud of the art work he did. He was kind and shared his drawings of his ladies with me and proudly I am the owner of a picture of his. Tony was a one of a kind and always spoke of his beloved mother. Knowing he will be with her gives me peace. Tony I will miss your visits and phone calls asking if everyone is ok.

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**Dawn Finney** - June 10, 2017 at 05:25 AM

LL

“ *Linda Lawrence sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Anthony "Tony" Giannone*



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**Linda Lawrence** - June 09, 2017 at 08:44 AM

PP

“ *3 files added to the album New Album Name*



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**Pamela Pisarri-Gallagher** - June 07, 2017 at 11:07 PM

LL

*Wonderful Pictures !!*

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**Linda Lawrence** - June 09, 2017 at 08:51 AM

PP

“ This tribute is to my dear friend and tenant Tony, you are already missed and will continue to be, but I know you are at peace and at home with the Lord and mama. Knowing this gives me peace and comforts me, as I did a lot of worrying about you. I will never forget all of our good times, the laughs and adventures together - you truly are one of a kind! Your charm and wit like no other I have ever met; I am blessed to have closely spent the last year and a half of my life with you as my friend. We go back a long way, but none as close as the recent days. Thank you too for all of the very special people you brought into my life who will too be forever my friends - especially Connie and Rob. I saw something magical and miraculous happen in the days since you and I got together; acts of human kindness beyond my imagination. What an orchestration! My heart is with you and I will always think fondly and smile with the mention of your name. Thank you too for being my pianist even though I deprived you of heat - hahaha ;- ) What more can I say, I "LUV" (with no E) you with all my being you sweet nut. Your dear landlady, Pam

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**Pamela Pisarri-Gallagher** - June 07, 2017 at 09:17 PM

TB

He was a sweet man and always made us laugh at Walmart. Getting him his cab was a funny exchange.... "PRONTO.... Pharmacy side... How Long... " I will miss him showing us his art and taping his paint canvases in a plastic bag so they wouldn't get ruined. RIP dear sweet man from the associates at Walmart

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**Tammy Bernardino** - June 08, 2017 at 10:46 AM

KB

Always enjoyed having Tony in my check out line at Walmart, He always had a story to tell and always made sure I was doing his transaction correctly. I will miss looking for him in his long black jacket. RIP

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**Kirsten B** - June 08, 2017 at 07:12 PM