



Domingo Martin Maffia

October 20, 1928 - August 6, 2020

Domingo "Pat" Maffia
1928 - 2020

Pat Maffia, loving husband and father of 3 children, passed away at his home in Tulare at the age of 91.

Pat was born in 1928 in Petaluma, California, to Pietro and Maria Maffia, Italian immigrants. Pat was the ninth out of eleven children and grew up on the family's dairy farm. He was raised and educated in Petaluma. In 1950 he joined the army and served in Korea. After his service in the army he returned to Petaluma and went into delivering propane.

On August 9, 1958, he married Carol Bigelow. They raised three children, Renee Avila (Fernando), Ralph (Tia), and Jeanette Freitas (Danny). In 1965 Pat and Carol started a dairy business in Santa Rosa and later that year the family and dairy moved to Sonoma. The family and dairy relocated to Tulare in 1971, and finally settled in Tipton two years later. Pat and Carol retired from the dairy business and continued to travel extensively throughout the United States. During their travels they discovered a love for the Oregon coast and spent their summers there crabbing. When he was not traveling he was in his work shop either making something out of wood or making Italian sausage, all of which he shared and gave to family and friends.

He was a member of Sons of Italy, Native Sons of the Golden West, Visalia Elks Lodge, Life Member of the Moose Lodge, numerous RV clubs, AMVETS, and the American Legion.

He is also survived by his six grandchildren: Jason, Tricia, Broc, Tyler, Tabitha, and Garrick. His nine great-grandchildren held a special place in his heart. His surviving sisters are Minnie Corda, Genny Mazzetta (Clarence), and Alice Cristani (Gene). He is also survived by his sister-in-laws Eda Maffia, Betty Bourdens (Bruce), and brother-in-law Albert Bigelow (Kathy). He was preceded in death by his grandson Kevin, his siblings Leo, John, George, Louie, Katie Fomasi, Elsie Hansen, Martha Caletti, his sister-in laws Bobbie Maffia and Ollie Maffia, and brother-in-laws John Fomasi, Glen Hansen, Alfred Caletti, and Ernie Corda.

Pat always said that he had seen all he wanted to see, done all he ever wanted to do, and had few regrets.

A celebration of life will be planned at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, Pat would hope that you do not miss the 5:00 cocktail hour in his honor.

Tribute Wall

TD

“ Gramps,

Not really sure how to put in to words just how much I already miss you.

I'm going to miss your long voicemails on my phone, I've saved half a dozen just so I can still hear your voice.

I will miss our talks, you were always so full of wisdom and unconditional love for your family.

I will miss your stories, you were seriously the best storyteller I've ever known. My favorite stories were the ones about you growing up, or maybe it was how you were such a ladies man or how you made Grandma chase you. I guess, I just loved them all!

I will miss how you would tell me every single time I saw you, just how proud you were and how much you loved my mom, your baby. I always thought it was so special how close the two of were.

I will miss seeing you in the kitchen or bringing over your latest treat. I loved that you were always trying out a new recipe and always had homemade biscottis on hand.

I will miss seeing you in your shop making something new. I now love everything you have made me even more. Just today, Lawson was pulling around one of the toys you made the boys. Such priceless treasures and a legacy you leave behind.

I will miss making homemade ravioli with you or watching you, Darren and Garrick make Italian sausage. "Nonno's sausage," as the boys call it is regularly requested for dinner and one that I never have to worry about the boys finishing even when they've put seconds on their plates.

Honestly, I could go on and on about all the things I loved about you

and am going to miss. You were one of a kind and have left us with so many cherished memories. I love you Gramps!

*Your loving granddaughter,
Tabitha*

Tabitha Dias - August 19, 2020 at 12:27 PM

TD

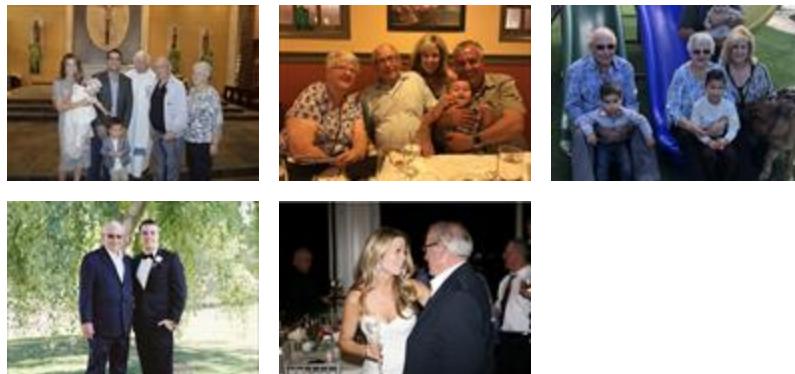
“ 24 files added to the album Dad’s tribute photo wall



Tabitha Dias - August 19, 2020 at 11:44 AM

TF

“ 11 files added to the tribute wall



Tara Freitas - August 15, 2020 at 11:55 AM

ST

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



stephanie - August 14, 2020 at 06:07 PM

LD

“ *Pat Maffia joined Roma Lodge, Order of the Sons and Daughters of Italy, in 1972. For nearly 50 years he was a proud member of the organization and always willing to support the lodge in their mission of promoting the Italian Culture in Tulare County. A few years ago, the lodge was holding a garage sale fundraiser for our lodge queen and he made a special effort to donate some wooden toys he had made in his shop to be sold at the event in support of our queen. Pat will be missed for contributions to the lodge, his friendly smile and great humor.*

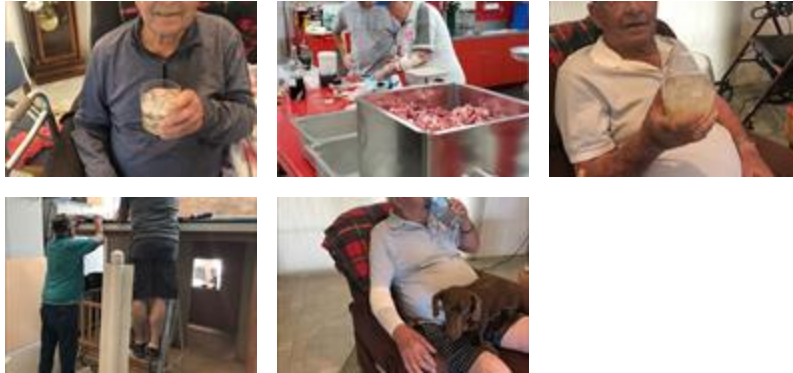
Farewell Brother Pat. May you rest in peace.

*Larry Dutto
Roma Lodge President*

Larry Dutto - August 14, 2020 at 12:11 PM

JE

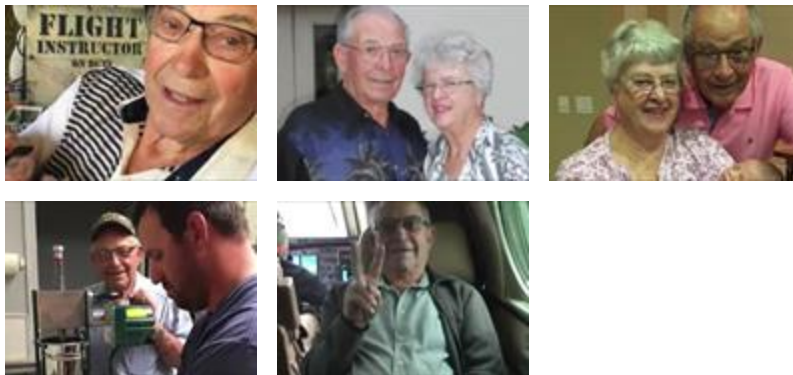
“ 22 files added to the album *Dad's tribute photo wall*



Jeanette - August 14, 2020 at 11:45 AM

JE

“ 33 files added to the album *Dad's tribute photo wall*



Jeanette - August 14, 2020 at 11:41 AM

JE

“ 10 files added to the album *Dad's tribute photo wall*



Jeanette - August 14, 2020 at 11:37 AM

JE

“ 6 files added to the album *Memories Album*



JEANETTE - August 14, 2020 at 11:17 AM

LD

“ Pat Maffia was a member of Roma Lodge, Order of the Sons and Daughters of Italy, for nearly 50 years. Joining in 1972 he was dedicated to preserving the Italian Culture in Tulare County and was always proud of his Italian heritage. A few years ago the lodge was having a garage sale to support our lodge queen and he made a special trip to the event and donated several of his handcrafted wooden toys in support of the queen. His infectious smile, good humor and willingness to help do whatever was needed will always be remembered by Roma Lodge members.

Farewell Brother Pat. May you rest in peace.

Larry Dutto-Roma Lodge President

Larry Dutto - August 14, 2020 at 09:22 AM

RC

“ Carol, Renee, Ralph, Jeanette & families so sorry to here about Pat. Loved to hear all the stories dad & mom use to tell about all your traveling. RV's, cruise or coast trips together. Love & prayers are with you all during this difficult time. Pat may you rest is peace & it's 5 o'clock some wear. Love, Rosie Aguiar Cisneros



Rosie Cisneros - August 13, 2020 at 03:21 PM

GG

“ We are going to miss you old friend and all our travels together you and Carol showed us so much it seems that no matter where we went you knew the best places to eat and between you and Carol we didn't need an atlas or GPS because you had already been there at least once (With the exception the time Carol took us on the scenic tour around Lincoln City) but I know you are in a much better place and you are the only person I have ever been around that knew it was time to go and was not afraid of death
We Love you Gary & Martha Gallian

Gary Gallian - August 12, 2020 at 10:50 PM

CM

Such a lovely statement. It's all true, we did have great travels. And you have to admit that mystery tour turned out to be interesting. We found a Elks Lodge campground.

Carol Maffia - August 13, 2020 at 10:56 AM

JF

“ Dear Dad ~ I've been so blessed to have the most incredible and wonderful dad ever. And so fortunate, at the age of 91, you were still so entertaining with your stories of years past and all your experiences in life. You've taught me so much. I've always looked up to you with admiration and gratitude. You were so kind and understanding, hardworking, generous and loving. I admired your loving relationship with Mom and all the time you spent together. You two were inseparable and great role models. I watched as she took care of you and how you worried about leaving her.

In your final few days, you had plans to get out in your shop, you needed to weld some horseshoes into your black cat sculptures, but your legs didn't have the strength anymore. It broke my heart to watch a man that was always active and on the go, whether it be wood work, welding, cooking, baking, yard work and even washing your motor home get confined to sitting in a chair, that wasn't you.

You've said many of times that you couldn't live forever, that you had a good life, you've done all that you wanted to do and seen all that you wanted to see. You were so proud of us kids and grandchildren. You knew your great grandchildren were going to be great too. The last time you told me this, I could see you were tired, getting weaker each day and needing oxygen all the time. I knew you were in pain, but didn't complain. I was able to tell you that night that it was okay to go, that I would miss you and I would be fine. Little did I know, that would be our last talk. If I only knew, I would have hugged you before I left that night, rather than just blowing kisses.

I wish I could have one more day, but that would lead to wanting another day and then there would be no end. I do truly miss you. I miss your smile, your teasing and joking around, our talks and hugs, and of course our cocktail hour.

I know you are at peace, in a better place with no pain. And I'm sure you're having a great time and enjoying happy hour with all your

family and friends that left before you. I will forever love and cherish your memories close to my heart, because you were MY BEST DAD ever.....

*Love you always
Jeanette*

Jeanette Freitas - August 12, 2020 at 04:54 PM

TK

Such a beautiful tribute to your Father ❤️

Terri Kulzer - August 12, 2020 at 11:32 PM

DL

“ *THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 785, VISALIA, SENDS THE FAMILY OF DOMINGO M. MAFFIA THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY IN HIS LOSS. ALTHOUGH, AS A RECENT TRANSFER WITH THE TULARE POST 015 GROUP AND LIFE TIME MEMBER OF AMERICAN LEGION FOR 45YRS, WE REGRET THAT WE HAVE NOT HAD THE OCCASION TO MEET HIM. WE WILL REMAIN BROTHERS IN MILITARY SERVICE WITH APPRECIATION AND CARING THOUGHTS.*

DAVID LOPEZ, POST 785 ADJUTANT

DAVID LOPEZ - August 12, 2020 at 03:26 PM