

Anthony Thomas Degatano

April 2, 1950 - August 5, 2022

Anthony Thomas Degatano passed away unexpectedly August 5, 2022, at the age of 72.

Tony was born to Anthony James and Leonora Degatano in Elizabeth, New Jersey.

After graduating from Roselle Catholic High School, Tony went on to graduate from Rider University in 1971 with a degree in Elementary Education. He immediately began his 40+ year career in education as an elementary classroom teacher. Always seeking to improve the learning environment of children he continued his own educational journey by receiving a M.A. in Administration and Supervision from Kean University in 1975 and an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership and Administration from Pepperdine University in 2012.

Tony served the children of New Jersey as a classroom teacher and supervisor for the Elizabeth Board of Education, Vice President of Catapult Learning, Dean of Academics/Principal of Wildwood Catholic High School, Director of the International Academy of Trenton, and Vice President of Academic Administration for PolyMath Achievement Charter School in Egg Harbor Township. During all this he started Degatano Consulting providing free services as an expert in Special Education to parents and acting as the

advocate for special needs children.

In addition to his educational administration duties, Tony was an adjunct member of the faculty and student teacher adviser at Drexel University.

Tony's profound humility shadowed his fiery pride, but ask about a kid he mentored, his Family, or a friend he loved, and that pride roared out of him in ways that would make you feel him, and the affection he had for them, in ways you would remember for the rest of your life.

A striking man, and a superior intellect - he had the looks of a movie star - he never acted the part; instead, his arms were open always to us all, with an uncanny knack of knowing what to do when challenge came, how to make it better, all the while showing us an intelligent path forward.

He listened to you - and really cared about what you carried with you.

In 1970, he met the love of his life, Jeanne, and were married on April 15, 1972, living in Linden, New Jersey until 1975 when they moved to their first home in Edison, New Jersey where they welcomed their son, David (1979). They again relocated to Cape May, New Jersey in 2011. Deeply in love and inseparable, they would actively seek out adventures and looked forward to a long and happy life together in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina in 2021.

Tony made a point to encourage and support David to follow his passions and interests. He was not only at every high school football game but cooked pregame breakfast for the team week in and week out. Tony ensured his son knew the value of putting in hard work, being loyal, extending kindness and not giving up when times were difficult.

Anyone who knew Tony knew that he was the most loving husband, father,

brother, son, nephew, and cousin, a family could ask for. He shared this same love with his community of friends, professionals, and acquaintances.

Tony is survived by his loving wife of 50 years, Jeanne (nee Stevens), and son, David and wife, Jillian (nee Winhold), his father, Anthony James, and sister, Margaret Fischer. He was predeceased by his mother, Leonora (nee Malta).

Tony's family will receive friends and visitors during a visitation on Wednesday, August 10, 2022 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM at Goldfinch Funeral Home in Conway, SC.

A funeral mass for Tony will be held on Thursday, August 11, 2022 at 9:00 AM at St. James Catholic Church in Conway, SC. Inurnment at the St. James Catholic Church Columbarium will be held privately at a later date.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **10.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Goldfinch Funeral Home
606 Beaty Street
Conway, SC 29526

Funeral Mass

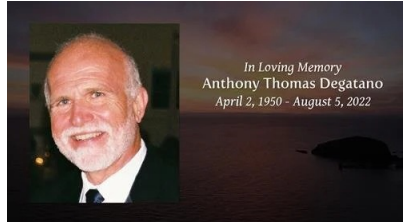
AUG **11.** 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

St James Catholic Church
1071 Academy Dr
Conway, SC 29526

Tribute Wall



“ *Goldfinch Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Anthony Thomas Degatano*



Goldfinch Funeral Home - August 22, 2022 at 02:02 PM



“ *Thank You Tony for welcoming me into your home 🙏❤️ We had the BEST talks about education. I valued your opinion and I am glad you and Jeanne came into MY Life.*

Rest Easy, My Friend

Lynda Towns

Cape May, NJ

Lynda Towns - August 16, 2022 at 05:25 PM



“ *Virginia Illig purchased the Simply Elegant Spathi phyllum for the family of Anthony Thomas Degatano.*



Virginia Illig - August 10, 2022 at 01:59 PM

SR

“ I am very sorry to hear of your loss. Trisha, my sister, told me. God Bless You. Shirley Rabon

Shirley Rabon - August 10, 2022 at 12:48 PM

LH

So sorry for your loss , a true gentleman . Jeanne may the peace of God comfort you at this time . 🙏

Larry Hume - August 14, 2022 at 12:49 PM

JK

I'm so sorry....

Jerry Kallinger - August 16, 2022 at 05:44 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Anthony Thomas Degatano.



August 10, 2022 at 11:52 AM

JL

“ I met Tony almost 10 years ago when he was Dean of Wildwood Catholic High School. He brought me in as a science teacher. He was a phenomenal mentor and educational leader who inspired many, including myself. Tony was passionate about all aspects of his life. He loved the world of education and his family. He taught me many things and showed me and my husband so much love. I'll never forget my time with Tony in Wildwood and Cape May. He left a legacy behind and he changed my life forever while doing it. Sending comfort, love, and the deepest condolences to Jeanne and the family.
All our love,
Jen Long and Jesse Stanislaw

Jen Long - August 10, 2022 at 11:01 AM



Thank you.

Jeanne Degatano - September 03, 2022 at 11:44 AM

RS

Jeanne, I did not know of his passing. I have wonderful memories of both of you. I enjoyed the 5 years I taught at Wildwood Catholic mostly because of Tony.

Robert S Sandman - September 22, 2022 at 11:12 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Anthony Thomas Degatano.



August 10, 2022 at 10:37 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Anthony Thomas Degatano.*



August 09, 2022 at 11:31 PM



“ *20 + years ago, I was a young sales rep and new to the education industry. I will always remember Tony's kindness and help as he helped me learn the "in's" and "outs" of the industry. May his memory be a blessing.*

Melissa Perlman - August 09, 2022 at 01:24 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Anthony Thomas Degatano.*



August 09, 2022 at 12:53 PM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss. Tony was larger than life. May he Rest In Peace. May you be comforted by wonderful memories.*

Mary Boyle - August 09, 2022 at 09:47 AM

PF

“ Patcy Drake & Family purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Anthony Thomas Degatano.



Patcy Drake & Family - August 09, 2022 at 09:24 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Anthony Thomas Degatano.



August 08, 2022 at 09:49 PM

KV

“ Kathy, Cheryl, Alexina, John and Val purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Anthony Thomas Degatano.



Kathy, Cheryl, Alexina, John and Val - August 08, 2022 at 06:46 PM

IW

“ *Jeanne, I am shocked and so sorry to hear about Tony's death. He was a wonderful man and so full of life. My latest memory is last year when I visited you before you moved into your new home. Tony and I walked a few times around your apartment complex and had wonderful discussions about so many things. He was animated in his talks about his life and his career over the years and he expressed his love and devotion to you. It was and is rare to see a man who had been married for as many years as the two of you to still be so much in love with his "bride". The way he would smile when he saw you and the twinkle in his eyes when he was around you convinced me that love can last many years. Again, my best to you and your family Jeanne.*

ilene wolff - August 08, 2022 at 04:45 PM

RP

“ *Russ and Phyllis purchased the Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet for the family of Anthony Thomas Degatano.*



Russ and Phyllis - August 08, 2022 at 03:53 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Anthony Thomas Degatano.*



August 08, 2022 at 03:38 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Anthony Thomas Degatano.



August 08, 2022 at 03:23 PM