

In Loving Memory Of Sam Rotellini



Anselmo Antonio "Sam" Rotellini, born June 19, 1915, in the coal-mining town of Cambria, Wyoming, died peacefully on June 8, 2021, surrounded by family. He was the second son of Frank and Paudilia (Farella) Rotellini. The family lived in Cambria, WY, Bellaire, Ohio, and Los Angeles, California before settling in Sheridan where Sam attended Holy Name School and Sheridan High School, graduating with the class of 1935. As a young man, Sam worked for Pay'n Takit (later Safeway). In 1939, while working in the meat department of the Hardin, Montana, Safeway store, Sam met Clarice Koebbe (Chops) whom he married on October 6, 1940. Sam worked for Safeway in Miles City, Billings, and Red Lodge, Montana. In Red Lodge, Sam briefly worked in the county assessor's office before moving to Renton, Washington, where he was employed by Boeing on the airplane assembly line during World War II. By 1945, Sam had moved his family back to Sheridan, Wyoming where he worked in the meat market of Boyd's Super Market before taking a position as a traveling wholesale meat salesman with Wilson and Company of Omaha, Nebraska. In 1947, Sam became a State Farm Insurance agent. He represented State Farm Insurance in the Buffalo area for 25 years and in Sheridan for 50 years until he retired May 1, 1997. As a State Farm Insurance Agent, he qualified for the national President's Club 21 times.

Never forgetting his humble beginnings nor the difficulties of the Depression years, Sam served his community through many organizations. A member of Holy Name Catholic Church, Sam was a 4th Degree Knight of the Knights of Columbus and a past Grand Knight. Sam was a lifetime member of both the Eagles #186 and BPOE Elks Lodge 520, which recently recognized him as the longest serving current member at 75 years of membership. Sam was a past president of the Lions Club in Sheridan and held various other offices in the local organization. Lions Club International awarded Sam both the Silver Lion Award and the Mellon Jones Fellow for Dedicated Humanitarian Service.

Sam enjoyed golf, fly-fishing and bowling. He was city scratch bowling champion twice, in 1959-60 and in 1975. However, Sam will also be remembered for his music. Music was an integral part of his life from the time he was a small child playing the banjo in Cambria while his brother Angelo (Rody) played the saxophone. When Sam returned to Sheridan from Washington, he and Rody started a dance band, The Harmony Kings, and played in all the popular area night clubs as well as high school dances. When The Harmony Kings disbanded in the 1960s, Sam and Clarice enjoyed ballroom dancing.

Since retiring, Sam has served on the Holy Name Foundation Board and the James and Matilda Goar Foundation and volunteered at the VA greenhouse. Sam also played golf most summer days into his late 90s, playing 18 holes with Ernie as the sun rose in order to be back in their flower and vegetable gardens by 8:30. He shared his produce and his roses with family, friends, and neighbors. For several years Sam was a member of the SheridanAires and the Big Horn Mountain Polka Club.

Anselmo A. "Sam" Rotellini was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Clarice, his brother, Angelo, and a sister and brother who died in childhood, Adelgisa, and Augustino. He was also preceded in death by his uncle, Baptista Farella of Newcastle, Wyoming, and seven first cousins in the Farella family. He is survived by his five children, Diana Rotellini, Renee Meador, Loretta Rotellini, Felecia Rotellini, Samuel Rotellini, and his brother, Ernie Rotellini. Also by his grandchildren Dominico and Giustino Rotellini-Cataldi, Charles Meador and Amelia Meador Heizer, Anthony Hammond and Felecia Hammond Kutch, Gianna and Gino Rotellini, and fourteen great-grandchildren. Also surviving Sam are nephews Frank, John, and William Rotellini, niece Mary Beth Rotellini Hanlin, many cousins in the Farella families of Newcastle, Wyoming; and in-laws, nieces and nephews of the Koebbe families of Hardin, Montana.

June 19, 1915 - June 8, 2021



Together Again...

Sonnet at Sunrise©

Hush calms the heart at each new break of day.
As moon-set sheen ignites the edge of cloud,
and eastern sky, its rosy tributes pay,
my anguished core to Sovereign God is bowed.

Against the brutal pull of life's decline,
the birth of day recalls the promise true
that when at last the body shall recline
the spirit will in Christ abide anew.

I hail each dawn of crimson crown and gold,
sweet bluebird song, as eagle soars on high,
or, howling wind with bitter snow and cold.
Each in its turn is called to testify.

The blessing of the morn is mine to see
as earth proclaims the glory yet to be.

~ Renee Meador

In Loving Memory Of *Anselmo Antonio Rotellini*

MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL
Thursday, June 17, 2021 at 1:00 pm
Holy Name Catholic Church

OFFICIATING
Father Glenn Whewell

MUSIC
Amazing Grace, How Great Thou Art
Ave Maria, Morning Has Broken

MUSIC BY
Organist ~ Doreen Choong
Soloists ~ Chuck & Annie Magera

PALLBEARERS
Frank Rotellini, John Rotellini, Charles Meador
Amelia Meador Heizer, Anthony Hammond & Felecia Hammond Kutch

HONORARY PALLBEARERS
Ernie Rotellini, Dakota Meador, Ethan Meador & Declan Heizer

Interment will be in
The Sheridan Municipal Cemetery, Elks section.

A reception to follow at the Knights of Columbus.