



Michael P. Vanacore, Jr.

August 10, 1932 - December 22, 2023

Michael P. Vanacore, Jr., 91, of South Amboy, NJ, and an icon in the cosmetology school industry, passed away peacefully on Friday December 22, 2023.

He was born on August 10, 1932 in Brooklyn, NY, grew up, along with his brothers, Anthony, Fred and John, in the Red Hook section of Brooklyn, and was the youngest son of the late Michael and Anna Vanacore. Michael graduated from George Westinghouse Vocational High School in 1950, served his country in the United States Army and graduated from the Queens Beauty Institute for Cosmetology which began his lifelong career in the cosmetology industry. He opened his first salon, Mona Lisa Beauty Salon, in 1960 and went on to become a licensed cosmetology school teacher & director with multiple licenses & certifications.

He was a Regional Director for Queens Beauty Institute and Wilfred Beauty Academy, Vice President of Ultissima Beauty Institute and Learning Institute for Beauty Sciences, was a State Board exam supervisor, was appointed to the Advisory Committee for the State of NY, organized & conducted Teacher Training Seminars around the country, served on the Board of Directors & Executive Board for the A.A.C.S. (American Association of Cosmetology Schools), was President of the NYS Beauty School Association, was a Special School Examiner for N.A.C.C.A.S. (the National Accrediting

Commission of Cosmetology Arts & Sciences), was appointed to the Advisory Committee for the NYS Education Department, held the position of Commissioner of N.A.C.C.A.S. and received many awards for his lifetime achievements such as the A.A.C.S. Director of the Year and the Nicolas Cimaglia Lifetime Achievement award.

Over the years, Michael was an active member of the Italian Club of Staten Island, serving on the Board of Directors and as First Vice President. He dedicated a lot of his time to fundraising, serving as Chairman for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, the Special Olympics, and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

He enjoyed traveling, dancing, double stuffed Oreos, anything chocolate, gambling in Vegas & Atlantic City and spending time with his family, his children, granddaughters and great granddaughter. He had a presence and smile that was as bright as the sun and was always the best dressed person in the room.

Michael is survived by his beloved daughters Christine Tumminaro and her husband Joseph, and Lisa Erickson and her husband Kenneth, by his adoring granddaughters Kristin Leonardis and her husband Thomas, and Brianna Baals and her husband George, by his cherished great granddaughter Hailey, and by his loving nephew and niece Michael and Toni Ann Vanacore.

The family will receive friends from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM on Wednesday, December 27, 2023, at Michael Hegarty & John Vincent Scalia Home For Funerals and Cremation Service, 3377 US Highway 9, Old Bridge, New Jersey.

A Funeral service will be at 7:00 PM on Wednesday at Michael Hegarty & John Vincent Scalia Home For Funerals and Cremation Service located at

3377 US Highway 9 Old Bridge, New Jersey 08857.

The family will gather on Thursday morning at 10:30 am at the funeral home before departing for Resurrection Cemetery, Staten Island, NY.

At the families request, in lieu of flowers please consider donating to The St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital in Michael's memory: <https://www.stjude.org/donate>

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.HegartyScaliaFuneralHome.com

Cemetery Details

Resurrection Cemetery

361 Sharrot Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10309

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 27. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Michael Hegarty & John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals and Cremation Service
3377 US Highway 9
Old Bridge, NJ 08857
(732) 679-4422
hegartyfh@scaliahome.com
<https://www.hegartyscaliafuneralhome.com>

Visitation

DEC 27. 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Michael Hegarty & John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals and Cremation Service
3377 US Highway 9
Old Bridge, NJ 08857
(732) 679-4422
hegartyfh@scaliahome.com
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Service

DEC **27**. 7:00 PM (ET)

Michael Hegarty & John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals and Cremation Service
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Service

DEC **28** (ET)

Resurrection Cemetery
361 Sharrot Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10309

Tribute Wall



“ *Michael Hegarty & John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals and Cremation Services created a Webcast in memory of Michael P. Vanacore, Jr.*



Michael Hegarty & John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals and Cremation Service - December 27, 2023 at 09:57 AM



“ *MR. V !! The pleasure was all mine he was my principal at LIBS in 2002 . With much love and respect I extend my deepest heartfelt condolences to his entire family. Legendary man May he rest in peace.*

janine lindo - August 11, 2025 at 04:54 AM



“ *Just found out about Michael's passing. I'm saddened to hear this news. He was a pleasure to work with and a wonderful resident at Chelsea at Manalapan. My deepest condolences to his family. Rest in Eternal Peace Michael. You'll be missed by many people.*



Amanda C - March 06, 2024 at 08:02 AM

DW

I knew Mike for many years. My condolences to his family and Randee.

Debra J Windus - April 10, 2024 at 12:04 PM

RT

“ *I met Mike at a conference in the early 70's in Atlantic City of course. We became thick as thieves instantly and worked in our industry as volunteers ever since. He was one incredible man from the boardroom to the casino, we laughed, worked and cried over lost friends. I hope he has found all of them again. Rest in peace my friend.*

Ray Testa - December 23, 2023 at 04:43 PM



“ *I am so saddened by the news of my Uncle Mike's passing yesterday. He was my favorite uncle and I loved him very much. He was my dad's youngest sibling and, because he lived nearby, we spent quite a lot of time together. I would cook Sunday dinner every week and he would join me and my dad for dinner. We always had a great time and lots of laughs. I enjoyed his stories and am happy that we got to spend that time together. After my father passed, I moved away and was unable to see him like I did before. I will miss him and the time we shared together. Rest in peace Uncle Mike and I hope you're sitting down with your three brothers sharing stories.*



Toni Vanacore - December 23, 2023 at 04:23 PM

FL

“ *It is with a heavy heart that I hear of Mike’s passing. I will never forget the time we stood together at a table and after his role of over an hour they shut the table down. I am sure he is now rolling in heaven.*

Fredrick Laurino - December 23, 2023 at 12:50 PM