



## Antonio P. Cosenze

January 13, 1931 - March 6, 2022

SHIRLEY: Antonio Phillip Cosenze, 91, of Shirley, passed away Sunday, March 6, 2022 surrounded by his loving family.

He is survived by his children, Carolyn LaRoche of Shirley, John Cosenze of Ijamsville, MD, Michael Cosenze of Shirley, his daughter Camille Farrar and son-in-law Cory Farrar of Shirley, his grandchildren; Anthony Cosenze and his wife Claire of Framingham, Michael Laroche and his wife Lauren of Princeton, Lauren LaRoche of Shirley, Michelle Toomey and her husband Steve Toomey of Lunenburg, Alex Cosenze and husband John Harvey of Ft. Washington, MD; Nicholas Cosenze of Shirley, Zackary Cosenze of Hampstead, NC; Ashley Farrar of Pepperell, Jillian Farrar of Shirley, Ryan Farrar of Shirley and Sean Farrar also of Shirley; his great grandchildren; Collin Toomey of Lunenburg, Brooklyn Hamblin of Princeton, Theodore Cosenze of Framingham, Scarlet Toomey of Lunenburg, Eleanore Cosenze of Framingham, Jackson LaRoche of Princeton and Reagan Dufresne of Pepperell; his sister Anna CoWallis and her husband Bob CoWallis of Bangor, Maine, his brother-in-law Albert Deveau Sr. of E. Millinocket Maine, his sister-in-law Cathy Cosenze of Old Town, Maine, his brother-in-law Georg Wollenschlager and his wife Helga and his brother-in-law Peter Wollenschlager and his cousin Nevia Wollenschlager, all of Nurenburg, Germany. He also leaves many nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews.

He is predeceased by his loving wife of 62 years, Kathe (Wollenschlager) Cosenze, his son-in-law Raymond LaRoche Jr, his sisters Loretta Deveau and Flora Cosenza and his brother Rudy Cosenze.

Tony was born and raised in Millinocket, Maine, the son of Italian immigrants Gabriel Cosenza and Maria (Maione) Cosenza. Tony attended Stearns High School Class of 1950 where he lettered in football, basketball, wrestling and baseball. After graduation, Tony attended the University of Maine from 1951-1953.

He joined the US Army in 1954 and was assigned to the 101st Airborne Rangers and was eventually transferred to Merrill Barracks in Nurenburg, Germany where he met the love of his life, Kathe. Tony is a decorated veteran of the Vietnam War, having received many Medals including the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry Medal and Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Upon retiring from the US Army in 1976, Tony and his family moved to Shirley where he was an active member in Shirley community. He was a very active member of the American Legion Post 183, where he served as Commander twice and Executive Board member for many years.

He was also an avid gardener and was somewhat famous for his tomatoes and also his ability to diagnose and fix any issues with any plant he saw. He was also an avid pistol shooter and held the title of Marksman. He was also famous for his perfect 300 scores at Wii Bowling at the Shirley Senior Center.

Mr. Cosenze's family will receive relatives and friends at calling hours from 4-7 PM Monday, March 14, 2022 at the Anderson Funeral Home, 25 Fitchburg

Road, (Rte 2A) Ayer. For additional information or to leave an online condolence, please visit their website at [www.andersonfuneral.com](http://www.andersonfuneral.com).

A funeral Mass will be celebrated 11 AM Tuesday, March 15th at St. Anthony's Church, 14 Phoenix Street, Shirley. Spring burial will be in Village Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations should be made to St. Elizabeth's Medical Center, 5th Floor ICU, American Legion Post 183, Shirley, MA or the Shirley Senior Center, 9 Parker Road, Shirley, MA 01464.

# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

MAR **14.** 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Anderson Funeral Home - Ayer  
25 Fitchburg Road ~ Route 2A  
Ayer, MA 01432  
(978) 772-2355

## Funeral Mass

MAR **15.** 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Anthony's Church  
14 Phoenix Street  
Shirley, MA 01464

# Tribute Wall

JC

“ *This makes me so sad. Tony was one of the best people I was lucky enough to know. I will miss our chats when he would come in to Tinys for his seafood. He will be greatly missed by everyone there. My condolences to the family. You are all in our thoughts at this difficult time.*

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**Jessica Callahan** - March 15, 2022 at 04:11 PM

SC

“ *Shirley E Cosenze purchased the Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket for the family of Antonio P. Cosenze.*



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**Shirley E Cosenze** - March 13, 2022 at 03:05 PM

CR

“ My condolences to Carolyn, John, Mike, Camille, Anthony, Claire and everyone else in the Cosenze family. Tony was such a warm man....a gentle giant. One of my first thoughts was, " Who is in charge of the tomatoes?"

*Memory...Shared by Tony to me. When Jaclyn and Anthony were in day care together in Shirley, Joanne and I both had help from the grandparents and one day Tony was picking up Anthony and Jaclyn hugged Tony's legs and said..."Take me too Gramps." Always smile when I picture that.*

*I wish I had the opportunity to have played some bridge with him, we spoke of that happening.*

*He now has joined Kathy...I hope that brings some peace to this family.*

*I am sorry to miss the service, but we needed to see Doug's Dad before we head off to a 2 week vacation in Mexico.*

*Hugs to all of you.*

*Cheryl Landry Ross...and Doug*

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**cheryl ross** - March 12, 2022 at 05:34 PM

DE

“ Tony was an old school guy and never needed to be anything but himself. He was a class, class, act who always let you know what was in his heart and how he felt. He exuded courage throughout his military and civilian life. If he made a mistake, he was strong enough to apologize and step up and accept responsibility. He could be humble and repentant. He had an amazing and unshakeable sense of justice in every area of his life. He was born and raised with a innate sense of doing the ethical and moral way. Never afraid to step forward and lead others or any project but one of the most honest men and natural leaders I have ever met. I feel a great loss of a friend who I truly respected not only for his outstanding military service but how he lived a life of honesty, fairness, respect, and openness. A genuine example of an American soldier hero who stepped up and met the challenge in all the areas of life that he cherished. Thank you Tony for being an honest and humble friend loaded with a keen sense of justice, fairness, and Service. America desperately needs more men like you!

Dr. Eddy - March 11, 2022 at 10:40 PM

LA



Lauren - March 12, 2022 at 07:41 AM



“ Healing Tears - All White was purchased for the family of Antonio P. Cosenze.



March 11, 2022 at 05:33 PM

LZ

“ Love, Chris and Zack purchased the *Cherished Memories - All White* for the family of Antonio P. Cosenze.



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**Love, Chris and Zack** - March 11, 2022 at 04:41 PM

JB

“ Jenn Brehm purchased the [Memorial Trees](https://www.andersonfuneral.com/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) for the family of Antonio P. Cosenze.

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**Jenn Brehm** - March 11, 2022 at 11:48 AM



“ Peace, Prayers & Blessings - *Blue and White* was purchased for the family of Antonio P. Cosenze.

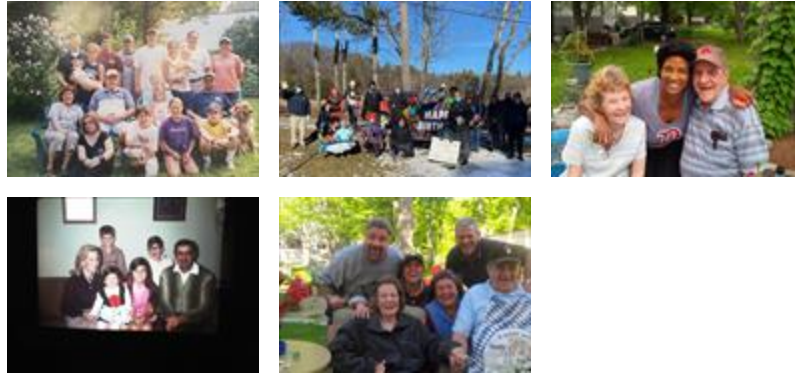


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March 10, 2022 at 04:05 PM

JF

“ 12 files added to the tribute wall



Jillian Farrar - March 10, 2022 at 12:22 PM

AF

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Ashley Farrar - March 09, 2022 at 03:12 PM

AF

“ 8 files added to the tribute wall



Ashley Farrar - March 09, 2022 at 03:09 PM

LA

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Lauren** - March 09, 2022 at 08:57 AM

JC

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



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**John Cosenze** - March 09, 2022 at 08:43 AM

BT

“ *The world is a little less courageous, sensible and loving without “Bumpy.” His wisdom shined through and it was obvious that he cared for his friends and community and loved his family very much. We are honored to have made his acquaintance as in-laws and always enjoyed his company and we are grateful for the fine example of love and caring he set for our daughter-in-law, son and grandchildren’s lives. He had a beautiful way of making everyone feel welcome and special. We will miss him. With heartfelt condolences, Steve and Bonnie Toomey*

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**Bonnie Toomey** - March 09, 2022 at 07:38 AM



“ *Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Antonio P. Cosenze.*



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March 09, 2022 at 07:18 AM



“ *8 files added to the tribute wall*



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**Lauren LaRoche** - March 09, 2022 at 06:45 AM



“ *6 files added to the tribute wall*



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**Jillian Farrar** - March 08, 2022 at 08:14 PM



“ *Red, White & Blue Large Sympathy Vase Arrangement was purchased for the family of Antonio P. Cosenze.*



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March 08, 2022 at 07:06 PM