



## Richard J. Ottalagano Sr.

March 5, 1943 - February 13, 2015

Richard J. Ottalagano Sr., 71, of Gloversville, NY, died Friday, February 13, 2015 surrounded by his loving family. Richard is the son of Teresa and the late Gregory Ottalagano. Dick attended Mt. Carmel School, and Gloversville High School. He was a proud member of the Class of 1961. Richard joined the United States Navy, after four years and seeing much of the world and taking part in the Cuban Missile Crisis, he came home and made his roots in Gloversville. Richard was employed with General Electric for 35 years as a machinist. During his 35 years he held many positions within the Union as a Shop Stewart, and delegate to the Schenectady Area Labor Council AFL/CIO. One of the fondest duties Dick had was as a Shop Ambassador, taking visitors from all over the world through the GE Facility.

Upon retirement Richard became a Civil Service Commissioner for the City of Gloversville, then was elected to serve as a Fulton County Supervisor representing the Sixth Ward of Gloversville for 12 years. Richard was fond of telling people that the 6th Ward people to him were friends and neighbors, not voters or constituents. Richard and many people worked together to bring the retired military aircraft A3D Skywarrior to the Fulton County Airport. The A3D Skywarrior serves as an example of what people can do working together. Richard also brought the VITA Program to this area, in which people who wouldn't have filed taxes received earned income credit, therefore bringing millions to people in this area.

The Fulton County Museum, ASAPP's Promise, Fulmont Community Action Agency and the First Congregational United Church of Christ all had Richard serving them in some way. Time permitting Richard found time to enjoy his membership at the Pine Tree Rifle Club, and to read adventure stories.

Richard is survived by his loving wife Sharon (Moore), his children Michelle Hinze (Michael), Lanette Vinci (David) and Richard Jr., (Amanda); also many grandchildren and great grandchildren; his mother Teresa; his brother Vincent and several nieces and nephews.

Calling hours will be held on Sunday, February 15, 2015 from 4-8:00 pm at the Amico Funeral Home, 150 South Main Street, Gloversville. A funeral service will be held on Monday, February 16 at 11:00 am at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 31 E. Fulton Street, Gloversville, NY. Burial will take place on Tuesday, February 17 at 12:30 pm at Saratoga National Cemetery, Schuylerville, NY.

Memorial contributions may be made to Fulton County Museum, 237 Kingsboro Avenue, Gloversville, NY 12078. On line condolences may be made at [www.amicofuneralhome.com](http://www.amicofuneralhome.com)

# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

FEB **15**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Amico Funeral Home  
150 S Main St  
Gloversville, NY 12078  
(518) 725-8916  
<https://www.amicofuneralhome.com>

## Service

FEB **16**. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Congregational United Church of Christ  
31 E. Fulton Street  
Gloversville, NY 12078

## Burial

FEB **17**. 10:30 PM (ET)

Gerald B. H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery  
200 Duell Road  
Schuylerville, NY

# Tribute Wall



“ *Starbucks Coffee Condolences was purchased for the family of Richard J. Ottalagano Sr..*



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February 17, 2015 at 06:28 PM



“ *My condolences. Dick was such an inspiration and to be respected for his dedication to the community. Whenever he called me for "one quick question," it always turned into a multi-subject conversation. (never quick, but always interesting). I will miss his good humor and interest in everything.*

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**Dianne Woske** - February 17, 2015 at 02:58 PM



“ *Sharon and Family - Dick was a remarkable person and his loss will be felt by many. Please know you all are in our thoughts and prayers!*

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**Sue Cridland** - February 17, 2015 at 06:28 AM



“ *Sharon and family,*

*Dick was a wonderful man who cared about people and his community. I hope your memories of him will help you in this difficult time.*

*Tom Roehl*

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**Tom Roehl** - February 17, 2015 at 05:58 AM

VR

“ Vicki Rumrll lit a candle in memory of Richard J. Ottalagano Sr.



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**Vicki Rumrll** - February 16, 2015 at 10:09 PM

TF

“ Richard was a great man and will be missed. Sending prayers of strength to the family.



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**Tachana Frye** - February 16, 2015 at 06:48 PM

MJ

“ Marj Jones lit a candle in memory of Richard J. Ottalagano Sr.



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**Marj Jones** - February 16, 2015 at 01:19 PM

MJ

“ *Sharron and family: We were sadden to read that Dick passed away. He was a great man who was devoted too his family, friends, church and community.*

*Dick will be sadly missed by all who knew him.*

*May your many happy memories give all of you strength and comfort during this time. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.*

*Bill, Marj and Abby Jones*

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**Marj Jones** - February 16, 2015 at 01:19 PM

EG

“ *Richard was my friend, my mentor and I miss him already. I have known many people in public service in my life. He was the best of them. He worked for his community, not party or ego or power. He was what we should aspire to be, selfless and hardworking. Heaven will be a better place with him in it. We are poorer for heavens gain .*  
*Ed Green*

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**Ed Green** - February 16, 2015 at 01:07 PM

DP

“ *Rick. So sorry to hear about your dad. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

*Denise (D) Pillsbury*

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**denise pillsbury** - February 16, 2015 at 09:15 AM

JE

“ My condolences to the family but to Rick the most, your dad back in the day got me into computers and set me on a path that made a career for me to support my family. .... thank you Richard for changing my life and thank you Rick for introducing me to your loving family..... jde

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**jared eggleston** - February 15, 2015 at 10:41 PM

MS

“ Sharon . My prayers and thoughts are with you and the family .. Dick will surely be missed .. He was a Great Friend and Best neighbor one could ask for .. Hugs Love Mary Kay

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**Mary Kay Snell** - February 15, 2015 at 04:26 PM

MH

“ Sharon and family my thoughts and prayers are with you. I know God will give you strength and remember the footprints in the sand. Your dear friend, Maryann Walker Hall

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**Maryann Walker Hall** - February 15, 2015 at 03:56 PM

DM

“ Sharon, I am so sorry for the loss of Richard. He was a great man that lived his life so admirably. His legacy is large, we will long hold his memory with smiles and respect.

*Dottie MacVean*

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**Dottie MacVean** - February 15, 2015 at 03:41 PM

DD

“ So sorry to Sharon and family and Vince. Dick was such a kind hearted person and he loved Sharon. Sharon, I wish I could physically be there to give you a hug and say till we meet again to Dick, but distance and physical condition does not allow. Thus, I send prayers for strength during this time, and know that I will remember Dick and miss his comments and chats on facebook. May the Lord Jesus wrap all of you in his arms and lift you all up in comfort.

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**Debra Degner** - February 15, 2015 at 03:26 PM

EB

“ Our condolences to Sharon and to the entire family. He was a wonderful family person, community leader, a soldier who fought not only for his country, but also against an insidious enemy that stole his life but not his valiant spirit. That remarkable spirit will remain a beacon of strength to those who fight disease. May he rest in peace. Ellen Bernstein Bildersee, GHS Class of '61.

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**Ellen Bildersee** - February 15, 2015 at 12:49 PM

BS

“ Sharon and family; I am saddened to hear of Dick's death. For those of us in the GHS Class of '61. it is like losing a brother. I am so glad that he was able to meet with some of us last June at the lake when we were all there. You certainly have all fought a great fight, and we are all encouraged by the fine example you, as a family, have set for all of us who will be confronted with this life event that we must all go through at some time. Dick will certainly be missed by many. Barbara & Jack Sullivan

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**Barbara Baird Sullivan** - February 15, 2015 at 12:48 PM



“ Sharon and family, I am sorry to see that Richard had passed. I want you to know that you and your family are in my prayers and hope you find the peace and comfort you will need now and future. Losing your spouse is like losing a part of your self and it is not easy. Linda Cintula

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**Linda Cintula** - February 15, 2015 at 11:23 AM

LK

“ Sharon and family, So saddened by Dick's passing. He fought a tough battle but always had a smile on his face and such a positive outlook. I first met him as a fellow supervisor on the County Board of Supervisors in 2006 and we attended many public events, he was truly such a special friend and dear to my heart. He will be missed dearly by all those whose lives he touched. We always joked and before every meeting I would kiss his balding head and rub my elbow to shine his head.....he loved it and always made him laugh, Sharon, I'm so glad had so much precious time together. He loved life and adored his family and was so proud of them. He is flying high with the angels now as he begins yet another journey. God Bless and prayers be with you during this difficult time.



*Linda Kemper*

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**Linda Kemper** - February 15, 2015 at 09:58 AM

BR

“ Sharon, I was very sorry to learn of Dick's passing. As a member of the class of '61 I always enjoyed his thoughts and insights. I'll always remember his wonderful smile. May God bless and comfort you and your family at this time.

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**Bob Ruller** - February 15, 2015 at 09:14 AM

MV

“ Sharon  
*We are so sorry to hear about Dick's passing. He was a wonderful man. We always enjoyed talking to him at the dinners at the Pine Tree. He will surely be missed. Are thoughts and prayers will be with you through this difficult time.*  
*Nick and Margaret Valachovic*

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**margaret valachovic** - February 15, 2015 at 08:39 AM

DI

“ To Sharon and family. Sharon I am so sorry to hear of Dick's passing. May God Bless you and your family in this time. Diane Lymn

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**Diane** - February 15, 2015 at 08:37 AM

JY

“ Ottalagano family,  
  
*I am very saddened to hear of Dick's passing. He is a life long friend and classmate of mine. I was so glad to see him last June when I visited. He was a very committed man to any endeavor he attempted in his life. I know he will be missed by many. My sincere condolences at this sad time. Jack A. Yanno*

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**jack yanno** - February 15, 2015 at 08:04 AM

MM

“ We are keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers at this most difficult time. Michele and Dan Miller

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**Michele Miller** - February 15, 2015 at 07:50 AM

LC

*Sharon, so sorry to hear of Dick's passing. When I moved here he came to my door and introduced himself to me. He was the first person to welcome me to the neighborhood. How nice it was to have a friend around the corner.*

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**Leah Crannell** - February 15, 2015 at 01:28 PM

CR

*A former classmate of '61 and friends Sharon and Dick which I shall always cherish. Know you will be in my thoughts and prayers big time and that Dick is well now. And probably with Bob making plans for pranks! He was a remarkable person, family man and community role model. And you did a phenomenal job. Claudia Gisondi Reed*

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**Claudia Gisondi Reed** - February 15, 2015 at 04:44 PM

JD

*Sharon, so sorry to hear of Dick's passing..He will be missed by so many & believe me, I feel your pain. I hope you can find peace. You will be in my thoughts & prayers. Judy Davis*

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**Judith Davis** - February 15, 2015 at 11:55 PM

JB

*Sharon and family, Dick fought the battle more fiercely than anyone else that I know. He loved all of you and he will be missed by many. He is now at peace and I wish the same for all of you. My sincere sympathy to all of you. Peace! Jo Ann Izzo Bussman, Class of '61 and childhood neighbor.*

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**Jo Ann Bussman** - February 16, 2015 at 05:35 AM

LF

*So sorry to be unable to join in the celebration of Dick's life. Please know that you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers! You and Dick have been an inspiration to all of us!!*

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**Lynda Ficili** - February 16, 2015 at 08:13 AM

MT

*Sorry for your loss Dick and I joined the Navy on 5 July 1961 (just after our graduating from GHS and were in Company 268. He will be missed*

*Mike Teetz*

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**Mike Teetz** - February 16, 2015 at 04:36 PM

RS

*My sincere condolences to Dick's family. You are in my thoughts & prayers. Our community is better for all of his efforts and he will be sorely missed. I always remember his presence at foster parent dinners and his continued support for crime victims. May he rest in peace knowing his work was well done.*

*Randy Smith*

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**Randy Smith** - March 11, 2015 at 03:22 PM