



Pete Antonacci

August 21, 1948 - September 23, 2022

Peter Antonacci, age 74, died on September 23, 2022, in Tallahassee, Florida. He was born on August 21, 1948, at a marine base in Quantico, Virginia, the second child of the late Peter Victor and Josephine Licciardello Antonacci. Raised primarily in Hialeah, Florida, with his older sister and younger brother, he had colorful tales of his Catholic primary schooling, and some of his fondest childhood memories were of summers spent in New York City with his Italian extended family.

An intellectual from the start, as a child he could be found reading encyclopedias by flashlight under his bedcovers. But as the son of immigrants, he always understood the rewards of hard work. He began his extensive professional career as a paperboy, Boy Scout, altar boy (head altar boy, of course), bus-bench maintenance man, thoroughbred hot walker, student bus driver, airplane refuse technician, and all-around bushy-haired agitator.

His formal education would eventually take him from Immaculate Conception School to Hialeah High to Miami Dade Junior College, and on to Florida State University for a bachelor's in History and master's in Urban and Regional Planning. During this time, he also received further education in the ways of the world, as a schoolteacher in rural Georgia, a health planner in Miami, and hitch-hiking to his summer job in New Hampshire.

In 1976, he returned to Florida State University to attend law school. As a cigarette-smoking, back of the classroom student, he was quickly captivated by a quiet woman commanding attention from the front row. This would be the start of a 45-year relationship with his wife, Anne. Although an unlikely match that often confounded even their closest friends and family, they formed a truly equal partnership built on a fierce mutual respect for each other's very different intellects. They had both grown up in South Florida, but built their legal careers, family, and home in Tallahassee, always with a beloved cat or two. Together, they took on the adventures of life with curiosity about everything.

Pete's professional work in public and private practice was a source of passion, pride, and constant motivation – as a prosecutor, an advocate for his clients, and a dedicated public servant who simply would not say no. His involvement was rarely quiet, with his Sicilian temper, Pete was famous for his willingness to turn over tables and unusual turns of phrase (“Pete-isms.”). In any event, his commitment was steadfast - countless men and women across the state benefitted from his counsel, mentorship, and tireless encouragement.

As a father to his two daughters, Pete was a rare combination—providing unconditional support and cheerleader services, while simultaneously instilling high standards and a strong work ethic. He was the retriever of breakfast, airport taxi service, late-night greeter, and, eventually, professional confidant and trusted sounding board. For his four grandchildren, he was the donut-man, poker dealer, baby-whisperer, and inciter of playful chaos.

Although ambitious, Pete was never motivated by money. The only toy he needed was a two-seater rag top, manual transmission required, and he was just as happy with a burger and milkshake as at a five-star restaurant. He

loved to travel and could be counted on to grab a nap on any horizontal surface along the way. He was a master in the kitchen, famous for his red sauce, and always eager to try a new recipe or dream up his own culinary concoctions. On weekends, he could be seen relaxing in the sun by the pool, reading an impossibly long book on any period of history while chewing gum, a cherry pit, and a toothpick—all at the same time. He was a man of many talents.

Pete is survived by his wife, Anne Longman; his daughters Alexis Lambert (Matt) of Tallahassee; and Claudia Hadjigeorgiou (Pete) of Charlottesville, Virginia; as well as his four grandchildren whom he adored: Georgia, Evelyn, Christos, and Josephine. He is also survived by his sister Margaret Brickman (Pat) of Cullman, Alabama; and much-loved nieces, nephews, and extended family. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, David Antonacci.

A celebration of Pete's life will take place at the Florida State University Alumni Center, 1030 West Tennessee St., Tallahassee, Florida, on Monday, October 3, at 3:00 p.m.

Rocky Bevis and Breanna Green of Bevis Funeral Home are assisting the family with their arrangements. (850-385-2193 or www.bevisfh.com)

Cemetery Details

Roselawn Cemetery

815 West Piedmont Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

OCT 3. 3:00 PM (ET)

Florida State University Alumni Center
030 W Tennessee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32304

Tribute Wall

MI

“ *May he rot in hell.* ”



Mindurz - March 13, 2023 at 04:17 PM

B
BEVIS

“ *1 file added to the album Service 10-3-2022* ”



Bevis Funeral Home - October 04, 2022 at 11:01 AM

PS

“ *It was truly an honor to have met and worked with Mr. Antonacci (Pete). I have so many good memories of him during his time as Broward SOE. He was a great example of leadership. He cared for what he did, was always friendly, willing to share his wisdom and had a good sense of humor. My deepest condolences to his family. Pete will be greatly missed.* ”

Patricia Santiago - October 04, 2022 at 08:43 AM

NK

“Pete started out as a client (a difficult one at times), but quickly became a mentor and a friend. My only regret is that I only met him in December 2018 when I was asked to represent him and the Broward SOE. There was nobody who worked harder. He showed me what being a true public servant means. I will miss our frequent phone calls and texts, catching up on local political gossip, and laughing at the absurdities of the world we both lived in. I am so glad that I was able to see him on our recent trip to Tally with my wife and daughter so they could meet my friend Pete. As always, he was generous with his time and very unfiltered with his humor. He had a large presence, and there is now a huge hole in so many of our lives because of his absence. May his memory be a blessing to all of those who knew and loved him.

Nathaniel Klitsberg - October 03, 2022 at 10:48 PM

RS

“Mr. Difference Maker

For the time you spent at the Broward County S.O.E. you in stilled alot of values and changes which we cherish and keep. Always pushing that mailroom door "Rupert do you need anything, is everything ok" . I am happy I had the chance to say thank you and tell you what a difference you made before you left. You will surely be missed and forever in our memories..

Rupert Simpson - October 03, 2022 at 02:29 PM

MB

“ It was a privilege and an honor to have met and worked with Pete. He was a beautiful soul, even at his toughest moments. His presence was always known because he made it a point to say hello to everyone as he walked in; and his laugh transcended throughout the office. His stories made you laugh and learn all at the same time. I will always remember him sitting in his office, shoes kicked off, eating cherries, working away...but always having time to talk to his staff whenever they needed it. "Don't send me an email, just call me" he would say. So many wonderful memories and tributes being shared is a true testament to the person he was. Heartfelt condolences and prayers to his family. We all celebrate him today as he rests in peace.

Manisha Ball - October 03, 2022 at 11:54 AM

JJ

“ Johnny Jallad purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Pete Antonacci.



Johnny Jallad - October 03, 2022 at 07:20 AM

DT

“ Pete was well respected & beloved by many. I was honored to have met him along the way as he became a 'Beacon of Light' to Broward County. He was a dedicated servant to our State of Florida. Condolences to family & friends.

Diana L Taub - October 02, 2022 at 01:17 AM

RD

“Pete was one of the brightest, most accomplished, and most committed professionals I have ever known. It was a true joy to get to know him, Anne, and their beautiful family. RIP Pete.

Ralph DeMeo - September 30, 2022 at 08:51 PM



“Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Pete Antonacci.



September 30, 2022 at 08:48 PM

MG

“Pete and I got to share time at Enterprise Florida. I will always remember our long chats sitting in his office talking politics as that is how we found our common ground. I was lucky enough to continue our check ins after our time at EFI and his text welcoming my so. To the world is something I will always look back on and grin.

Mike Grissom - September 30, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Pete Antonacci.



September 30, 2022 at 08:20 PM

BB

“ *Such a loss for the state of Florida and the World, Pete was a trusted friend, reliable and dedicated public servant, I will miss him in a very big way.*

Bob Butterworth

Bob Butterworth - September 30, 2022 at 12:15 PM

NC

I could not agree more with Gen Butterworth. Pete gave this State his all and we are all lessened by his loss. Brilliant, dedicated, an honest gentleman, and a friend. i was better to knowing Pete. Peace my friend! Nick Cox

Nick Cox - October 01, 2022 at 07:40 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Pete Antonacci.*



September 30, 2022 at 11:50 AM

YW

“ *Your family at Lewis, Longman & Walker purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Pete Antonacci.*



Your family at Lewis, Longman & Walker - September 30, 2022 at 10:05 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Pete Antonacci.*



September 28, 2022 at 09:20 AM



“ *Pete was a mentor and a friend, both at the AG's office and later at Grey Robinson. I will raise a glass of fine rum to his memory.*

Edwin Bayo - September 27, 2022 at 02:12 PM



“ *Pete was a mentor, a bright light, a dedicated servant, a renaissance man, and an absolute force to be reckoned with. My heart is broken. I am so grateful I have the opportunity to know this extraordinary man. He will be deeply missed. Love and prayers to the precious family that is left behind.*

Kathy Mears - September 27, 2022 at 01:32 PM



“ *Dear Anne and Family, so very sorry to hear about Pete. We just pray for God to comfort you and give you strength. Steve and Teresa Sarbeck*

teresa sarbeck - September 26, 2022 at 07:00 PM

JS

“ Anne and Alexis, I just learned about Peter’s passing. I am so very sorry. He was such a wonderful, stately gentleman. I don’t think I’ve seen him since you were in second grade, Alexis. Of course, recently I’ve read about him in the paper. May God grant you peace and comfort during this difficult time.
In Sympathy and Love,
June Stivers. ❤️🙏

June Stivers - September 26, 2022 at 01:14 PM

Arthur Love

“ 1 file added to the album Wall



Arthur Love - September 25, 2022 at 03:33 PM

Arthur Love

Pete Antonacci...8th grade, top row 5th from the left.

Arthur Love - September 25, 2022 at 07:36 PM

CM

Pete lived life big. I admire that. He will be greatly missed.

Cindy Miller - September 27, 2022 at 04:06 PM

RG

Pete, may his soul thru the Mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

Ralph Geronimo - October 05, 2022 at 09:47 PM