

CONDOLENCE MOTION

Moved by: Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam

Seconded by: Councillor Maria Augimeri

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Joseph (Giuseppe) Caliendo on April 3, 2015. Joseph was cherished by family and friends not only for his perseverance, but for his passion for life and the time he spent making Canada home for himself and his family.

Born in Napoli, Italy on June 29, 1920, Joseph was recruited as a young man in 1939 into the Carabinieri. He served honourably in Sicily and later in Dalmatia and Zara. Following the armistice of September 1943, he briefly served with the Allies. In 1944, he found his way home on foot with the singular idea of marrying a young girl he first met in 1937.

In 1952, on a dare, Joseph attended a job fair in Naples organized by the Canadian Pacific Railway and he decided to immigrate to Canada, soon finding himself laying rail in Northern Manitoba. In 1954, he sponsored the immigration to Canada of his wife and two daughters. Soon after, he started a long and successful career as an aircraft machinist, first with de Havilland Aircraft and later with McDonnell Douglas. In time, he sponsored multiple family members to immigrate to Canada.

Joseph's loyalty to Canada was paramount. His pride was the education and success of his children and grandchildren since he had set for them an example of a strong work ethic. His second great passion in life was his vegetable garden, which he attended to with devoted diligence into his 93rd year.

Joseph leaves behind his beloved wife of 67 years, Rosa Maria (Spiezia), his daughters Josephine and Anna Maria, his son John (Angela Richardson) and his grandsons Michaelangelo Joseph and John Joseph Bartello (Olga Ten).

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to the dear family and friends of Joseph (Guiseppe) Caliendo.

May 5, 2015