

***Expression of Condolence for  
Joe Virgona by Toronto City Council***

**Moved by: Councillor Mike Colle**

**Seconded by: Councillor Dianne Saxe**

The Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Joe Virgona on February 5, 2023, at the age of 80.

Joe was a loving husband to his late wife, Judy, whom he was married to for 56 years, and father to his late daughter, Joey. He will be deeply missed by his children Tracey, Jason (Emma), Dino (Carla), as well as his sister, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and nieces and nephews.

In 1950, Joe immigrated to Canada at the age of seven from Sicily, and honoured his Italian roots while embracing his new home as a proud Canadian. Starting as a stock boy at a grocery store at the age of 14, Joe worked his way up the ranks in various grocery stores, becoming a store manager, and eventually fulfilling his dream of opening his own supermarket, Fiesta Farms. Over the years, Fiesta Farms became a pillar of the local community, stemming from Joe's passion and advocacy for organic and locally sustainable food. Joe's Fiesta Farms was a leader and trailblazer in making organic and natural foods available at reasonable prices with the highest quality.

Joe's great kindness, generosity, and dedication to others are a shining example to us all. He regularly opened his home on Canada Day to family and friends for a memorable celebration which included an outstanding firework display. His great love for animals was evident in his family-owned hobby farm with rescue horses, ducks, and peacocks. Joe was a proud father to his four children, and was considered a father to so many in the community.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to Joe's family.

March 29, 2023