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Brooklyn, NY 11234  
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## Vito J. Castellano

1925 - 2019

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Major General Vito Joseph Castellano, age 94, passed away on August 28 2019 following a lingering illness. He was born in Brooklyn on May 21, 1925 to Gaetano "Tom" and Anna (Lococo) Castellano, the eldest of five children. He attended Brooklyn Tech and was a ham radio operator in high school. In 1942, at age 17, he joined the US [Army](#) Air Corps serving in [World War II](#) in North Africa and Italy and, after the Allied Victory, with the occupation forces in Vienna, Austria. His many decorations included the French Croix de Guerre with Palm and the British Order of Bath. His long military career culminated with his appointment in 1975 by Governor Hugh L. Carey as Chief of Staff to the Governor; Commander, New York Army National Guard; and State Director of Civil Defense. Vito married Dorothy Williams, a farm girl from Ohio, in 1947 with whom he had three children. After he lost Dorothy to cancer in 1987, he met and married his second soul mate, Mary McGough in 1993. Together they enjoyed the company of their burgeoning family and many good friends as they cruised the world and enjoyed the beach at Breezy Point. Vito is survived by his devoted and loving wife Mary; children Thomas (Patricia) Castellano, Linda (Richard) Cantatore and John (Theresa) Castellano; grandchildren Jeffrey (Monica) Castellano, Laura (Jeffrey) Richards, Taryn (Marc) Labgold, Julie (Jon) Francis, Alison (Robert) Zink, Michael Castellano, Jill Castellano, Celia Castellano and Tess Castellano and 13 great grandchildren; siblings Margaret Russo, Sebastian "Tom" Castellano, Ann Vurchio and Anthony Castellano; and numerous nieces and nephews. We will treasure his life and love and miss him forever. Reposing Sunday, Sept. 1 from 7:00 - 9:00 PM and Monday, Sept. 2 from 2- 5 and 7-9 PM, Marine Park Funeral Home, Brooklyn. Funeral Mass will be held 11:00 AM Tuesday, Sept. 3 at St. Thomas More R.C. Church, 204-25 Rockaway Point Blvd., Breezy Point, Queens. Burial to follow at Holy Cross Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to the Rockaway Point Volunteer Fire Department, 204-26 Rockaway Point Blvd Breezy Point, New York (718) 474-2593.

Published in the Daily News on Sept. 1, 2019

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"Tom & family, We like to send our deepest condolences to..."  
-Cindy Finan

"I wish to express my sincere condolences to Mary, her..."  
-

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