



Thomas A. Fabiano, Ph.D.

March 15, 1923 - January 14, 2012

After a distinguished teaching career which spanned fifty years in education passed away on January 14, 2012. He completed and received his law degree from the University of Naples, Italy in 1948. He came to the United States as a student and in 1953 earned a Master of Arts degree from the University of Rochester. In 1967, he obtained his Ph. D. from Syracuse University with honors. During WWII he was employed by the U.S. Government as an Interpreter for the Office of Strategic Services. In 1945 he was promoted to the position of Official Translator and Liaison Officer for the U.S. and Italy until 1947. He was a correspondent for the Italian Touring Club Magazine writing numerous articles on U.S. cultural life and its institutions. He reviewed many history books for publishers and wrote two text books and many articles on the condition of the Jews in Italy during WWII which have been published in various journals. As a Professor of Monroe Community College since 1963, he was the recipient of the first established Chancellor's Award from the State University of New York and another from the Rochester Institute of Technology. He was given the distinction of being one of the first professors from a Community College to ever receive a Fellowship from the National Foundation of the Arts and the Humanities since it was established in 1965. The grants have been one of the most coveted scholarly prizes of Historians, Artists and Humanists. Throughout his career he received two Humanities for the Arts and one Fulbright Grant. He was a member of many academic organizations and particularly proud to have received the "WHO'S WHO" among American Teachers for the best teacher award selected by the Best Students of merit as a teacher who "MADE A DIFFERENCE" in the life of that student and therefore was acknowledged for excellence as a distinguished educator. Among his civic and community endeavors was the raising of funds from the community to purchase a bronze sculpture from Italian artist Antonio Cervellino entitled "The Immigrants" which was placed in the lobby of Rochester Riverside Convention Center in homage to all immigrants coming to our shores. The dedication of the statue was attended by the Public, State and Local Dignitaries. Dr. Fabiano's final words at a retirement reception were that "I hope I have contributed to the educational growth of many of our students by opening for them the door to knowledge and by awakening in them an appreciation for education as a guide to personal fulfillment and future success. "The hope

that I may have succeeded with some of our students is a very sustaining reward".

Dr Fabiano is survived by his wife Lena, his children Teresita Guillemine Laborne, Erica Favalaro, Thomas R. Fabiano, grandchildren Ilia Guillemine Laborne, Julianna Favalaro, son's in law Jean Michel Guillemine Laborne, Michael Favalaro, brothers Carl Fabiano, and wife Catherine and their children, brother Ennio and his children in Italy, sister Lea and husband Pino and children and many other relatives here and abroad.

A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Thursday January 19th, 2012 at 11am at St. Louis Church, 60 South Main St, Pittsford, NY. Entombment at Maple Wood Court Mausoleum White Haven Memorial Park. If you wish to make a donation in memory of Dr. Fabiano please consider Nazareth College Casa Italiana, 4245 East Avenue, Rochester 14618 to further the cultural programs of his beloved Italy. To share a memory or photo of Dr. Fabiano visit www.anthonychapels.com.

Comments



“ Dr. Fabiano may not be in this world right now (God bless his soul and his family), but his efforts to support MCC during his lifetime continue to benefit students who take the extraordinary quality of education at MCC for granted today.

Dan - November 20, 2015 at 07:18 PM



“ I only became aware of Dr. Fabiano's passing last year (2013) and kept his obituary in a file near my desk all this time. Now having read the shared memories of so many at the website I have a fuller appreciation for how many students like myself that he influenced in a most positive and lasting way. I took two world history courses with Dr. Fabiano at MCC in '66 and now some 45 years later I still recall the excitement I felt in anticipation of every class he taught. His devotion to detail and his ability to humanize history with personal stories and insights ("...you must dig into the archives in order to have a full appreciation of history! ") helped guide me to a fuller, meaningful understanding of not only history, but of the sciences in which I ultimately majored. He will always be remembered one of the most influential teachers and persons in my life. God bless Dr. Fabiano and all his family.

Tim Roy, Ph.D
USC Beaufort, SC

Tim Roy - November 02, 2014 at 08:16 AM



“ I took four courses with Dr. Fabiano at MCC in the early 1980s. He introduced me to an entirely different approach to reading and interpreting history. I've thought of him often in the ensuing years; his vast compendium of historical and cultural knowledge and appreciation as well as his humor and aphorisms. He taught me much and I have great warmth and appreciation for him, and his abilities, dedication and achievements.

My best to his entire family,

With sincerity,

Jason L. Brown

Jason L. Brown - July 10, 2012 at 06:03 AM



“ Dearest Aunt Lena, Teresita, Erica, Tom, and family,

I send you my loving thoughts and healing prayers. I, too, echo my brother Raffaele's sentiments when I say I wish I had been able to spend more time with Uncle Nino in recent years, something that became difficult when I relocated to Boston.

My memories of Uncle Nino always had something to do with learning. He would always engage me in conversations about what I was studying in school. When I was 13 and had discovered chemistry, he sat at our kitchen table one summer night, writing out long chemistry equations for me to solve. I remember the pride I felt when Uncle Nino told me that I had correctly solved them all!

When he visited Rome—to which my family had relocated—with Teresita in the summer of 1975, I remember being tutored in ancient Roman history as he brought us both on a sightseeing tour, the climax of which was a visit to St. Peter's Basilica, a precarious climb to the top of the cupola—and the most breathtaking view of Rome.

I vividly remember Uncle Nino at nonna's dinner table in Rome, the laughter and Neapolitan dialect flying, as he, sisters Antonella and Clara, and my father Carlo reminisced. And, of course, there were always those lively political (Italian and domestic!) discussions over coffee and pastries at your house ...

I will always remember Uncle Nino as a gentiluomo and a brilliant man whom I admired immensely. Carissimo zio, I'll never forget your kindness and affection. Thank you for encouraging me—in my studies and in life.

With all my love,
Julia

Julia Campeti - February 02, 2012 at 04:03 PM



“ Dr. Fabiano will always be remembered as MY professor. His strength of character and dedication to learning and teaching will always be with me. His belief in me in that I could somehow make a difference was a gift that I will never forget.

Stephen Glanville

stephen glanville - January 19, 2012 at 08:46 AM



“ I wish I could have spent more time with my uncle growing up. I had the blessing of being a student of his three times in my college years. He was the best professor I had in all my years, hands down. He always treated me like a student not his nephew while in his class. He treated all of us students with respect and professionalism. I remember the first class I had with him, Modern Russian History, I did not tell him I

signed up for that class. I feared others would think he would show favoritism, he did not. In fact sometimes I feel I had to put forth more because he would expect it of me. He was one of the most influential role models in my college years. Many will say he was a role model to all of his students. I miss you dearly Zio. I Love you.
Raffaele Fabiano

rfabiano - January 18, 2012 at 03:50 PM



“ hello thomas fabiano is my grandpa i miss him soooo much . i dont remember you im ilia
ilia gui - January 19, 2012 at 02:17 PM



“ hello, im ilia i dont remeber you raffaele thomas fabiano was my grandpa i miss him
ilia gui - January 19, 2012 at 02:19 PM



“ I also had Dr. Fabiano as a teacher at Monroe High School in 1963. He imbued in me a lifelong love of philosophy - Plato, among others - I am truly saddened by his passing but feel lucky to have experienced his incredible teaching. My sympathies to his family.
Barrie Locke

Barrie Locke - January 18, 2012 at 02:14 PM



“ With love Lynn & Erica Rivers purchased the Teleflora's Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet for the family of Thomas A. Fabiano,Ph.D..



With love Lynn & Erica Rivers - January 18, 2012 at 02:06 PM



“ I attended MCC 1989-1992 and took several of Dr. Fabiano's classes. Dr Fabiano could have taught anywhere in the world but choose MCC. When asked why he said "Because even the poor deserve to have an education." I have never forgotten that.

Not only did he teach history, but about the modern world and helped his young students gain an appreciation and understanding of the events occurring around them.

I have always thought of Dr. Fabiano as 'my professor' - he made each of his

students feel valued and took the time to help them become better people and better students.

A wonderful example in life and a person to be admired. THANK YOU for caring and for all of your efforts-they were appreciated and will be remembered for a lifetime.

My best to you and your family. God BLESS YOU!
Jonathan Haug

Jonathan Haug - January 18, 2012 at 11:35 AM



“ I attended Monroe High from 1953-1957. At some point I was lucky enough to have Mr. Fabiano as my teacher. I wasn't that great of a student, but he had a way of keeping me interested. Maybe it was his accent. I'll always remember his pronunciation of Massachusetts. Just use your imagination. My sincere sympathy to his family. Dick Meyer

Richard M Meyer - January 18, 2012 at 09:18 AM



“ Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Thomas A. Fabiano, Ph.D..



January 17, 2012 at 10:58 PM



“ I had the honor and pleasure to take two history classes with Dr. Fabiano at MCC in 2002 and 2003 during my Sophomore year. I will always remember Dr. Fabiano as a brilliant historian who challenged and inspired his students to be the best they can be. He definitely made you earn your grade and I wore the B 's I got in his classes like a badge of honor. Perhaps my fondest memory of Dr. Fabiano stems from his passion to help students. For my very first big college paper he gave me a "no grade" because I wrote incorrect citations. Rather than fail me for plagiarism, he pulled me aside and showed me how to do things correctly. He told me to come back to his office the next day with the paper properly cited, and he gave me an A-. To this day I always go overboard with my citations. Thank you Dr. Fabiano for making me a better student of history. You will be missed.

-Justin Boggess



“ Mr. Fabiano was a great man. He was my parents' neighbor. He was so good to my dad after my father had a stroke. My dad was unable to speak after the stroke yet Mr. Fabiano would stop by and chat with dad. That was not easy but Mr. Fabiano did it regularly. Also Mr. Fabiano included us on two of his trips. He led a group to Italy and another group to Russia. Both trips were great but we never would have had the opportunity for the trip to Russia without Mr. Fabiano. I always think fondly of Mr. Fabiano.

Kathy DellaPorta

Kathy DellaPorta - January 17, 2012 at 04:39 PM



“ Dear Lena, children and grandchildren,

I am so sad to hear of Nino's death. My memoires of him go back to my childhood when he came over to America from Caserta, Italy, and became a close friend of my father, Attilio Iacelli, who hailed from the same city. There would be many happy times and laughter when Nino, who spoke proper Italian perfectly, would also treat us to stories in the Neopolitan dialect that he and my dad shared. At my last visit to Nino and Lena I played a tape of a tribute he had offered my father for an anniversary broadcast of Dad's radio show, Italian Musicale. Nino's voice was so young and vibrant. That is how I will remember him.

Sending you my love and sympathy,
Linda Iacelli

Linda Iacelli - January 17, 2012 at 03:41 PM



“ My memories of Mr. Fabiano go back the the late 1950's. He was my World History teacher in my junior year at Monroe High School in the city of Rochester. A very memorable gentleman who inspired my life long interest in the subject. He was always a gentleman who would seldom lose patience with sometimes less than academically interested teenage students. His love of the subject and his ability to communicate that was not always appreciated at the time, however, as the years past and so many teachers faded from memory, Mr Fabiano's regal bearing and unflappable personality has remained in my memory for over 50 years. He was "one of these teachers you will never forget". I do regret not knowing he remained in the Rochester area, as I would have have liked thank him in retrospect. Please forward my condolences to Mrs. Fabiano and his family

Norman J. Dandurand



“ I was very fortunate to be a history student at MCC in the early 1980's and participate in Dr. Fabiano's European History class. He always exhibited a keen passion for the subject matter and brought it to life for us students. I also developed a friendly relationship with Dr. Fabiano outside of the classroom as a result of our shared interest in tennis. He and I played several spirited matches, and I will always remember how appropriate it was that someone who was so learned and trained as a lawyer could constantly devise innovative interpretations of the rules of the game when the score started to weigh against him. Perhaps that is just my bias. Suffice to say, I enjoyed his company a great deal and he will be missed.

Paul Micciche - January 17, 2012 at 09:56 AM



“ Dear Erica and Family,
I was so sorry to read in the paper today about the passing of your beloved Dad. I know what a very close family you were, and always LOVED hearing about your trips to Italy. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.
Fondly,
Mary Reilley

Mary Reilley - January 17, 2012 at 09:28 AM



“ Mary Reilley lit a candle in memory of Thomas A. Fabiano,Ph.D.



Mary Reilley - January 17, 2012 at 09:25 AM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Krissie Kuper - January 17, 2012 at 08:28 AM



“ Tom loved his soccer, his wine and bike riding but most of all, loved his beautiful wife and family. I feel so privileged and fortunate to have known him and been his neighbor all these years.



Krissie Kuper - January 17, 2012 at 07:55 AM



“ 2 files added to the album Tom and Lena Fabiano - the most inspirational couple I've ever met.



Krissie Kuper - January 17, 2012 at 07:47 AM



“ 2 files added to the album New Album Name



Krissie Kuper - January 17, 2012 at 07:43 AM