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The Flagship

Santa Maria Council, No. 1443

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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April 2020, Vol. 26 No. 4

www.santamariacouncil1443.org / www.facebook.com/santamaria1443



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Grand Knight's Message: Tribute to Walt Heim and Rich Lipko

Brother Knights,

I have been truly saddened by the news that Walt Heim and Rich Lipko have passed away. These men were exemplary in their dedication to the Knights of Columbus. More than that, they were just great guys

Walt Heim and I had worked together on the Columbus Days Social, our Memorial Breakfast and the Pasta Dinner. Walt had a natural way of keeping things in perspective when I would order for these events. He had all the numbers and he knew what we needed.

He kept me calm with his demeanor, and knowledge.

Walt seemed most at home in our Council Home Kitchen. When I would watch him making dinner for the Chapter Christmas party, or the Columbus Day Social, he was in the best spirits. He was even present in our hoagie sales where the meat would be delivered from his shop.

But his love was Sister's Night. He was so happy on those occasions. Working with Dan Olivieri, Dan McNamara, Paul Dugan, and a Manhattan, they made a great meal. It was almost as if the

camaraderie they shared was cooked into the meal. And I have to say watching Walt carve was like watching an artist paint or a sculptor model something.

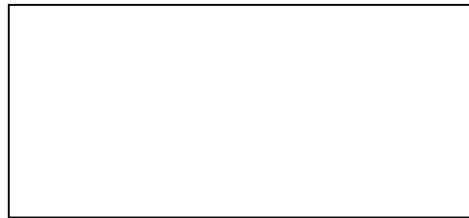
I always wanted to cook with him. He looked like he was having so much fun, and since I know my way around a kitchen, I knew I would learn something, and have a good time.

Walt also had words of advice and praise. He was always telling me to take the time to spend with my kids. He would remind me that family comes first, and he was right. I never walked out of a Mass where my kids served that he did not compliment them. I am willing to bet that this was not just special to me; rather, any one of you could tell similar stories or pay better tribute.

Rich Lipko and I took our First Degree together. In the years that followed, he worked behind the scenes fixing things, and trying



(Cont'd on page 2)



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 John A. Helferty - 1921
 James W. Kelley - 1922
 Charles V. Lynch - 1924
 Peter J. Lyons - 1925
 Robert H. Rabe - 1926
 James E. Bateson - 1930
 James P. Green - 1932
 William P. Breen - 1933
 Thomas Scattergood - 1936
 Daniel W. Riley - 1938
 Edward F. McLarney - 1940
 Joseph A. Discher - 1941
 Joseph E. Gilson - 1944
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 James J. Burns - 1948
 Edward A. Rodig - 1950
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 John D. Pojawis Jr. - 2014
 James J. Horan Jr. - 2016
 Gerald P. Burke Esq. - 2017



Grand Knight's message

(Cont'd from page 1)

to keep the Council Home in good shape. With an engineering background, he was able to make repairs and suggest others who could help for bigger jobs. It was not unusual to find him and Former Vice Supreme Master Reggie Becket fixing something.

Rich also had other skills.

He was a part-time sign maker. He had all the tools, paints, and stencils to create anything. If you want to see a sample of his work, take look at the sign over the Council Chamber. While he did not create it, he did freshen it up and resized it when the ceiling was repaired and dropped.



Rich and Rolland Coutinho made a formidable pair. They co-chaired the "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster program and the annual Spelling Bee. Working behind the scenes, Rich would gather the art submissions and judge them for the Christmas program. As for the Spelling Bee, he would send out the announcements to the schools, and he would deliver the trophy. I had the honor of judging the "Keep Christ in Christ-



mas" contest with him last December. I will never forget the insight he had with the art. He noted subtleties that I overlooked. It was clear to me that he took this job seriously.

Rich was there for the hoagie sales. He would tell jokes and had interesting stories. I rarely left a hoagie sale without learning some piece of history that had been forgotten by the Audubon and Haddon Heights communities.



Because of the Corona Virus, there will be no ability for us to honor these men at their funerals. However, I hope that when this passes, we will have the opportunity to express our admiration and solidarity to their families.

These two brothers did so much, and so selflessly, that it is easy to understand that they were great Knights. They will be missed, and they should be missed. Yet I hope there are some men out there who are willing to help fill the void their absences create. I am not suggesting Walt and Rich will be replaced, but I am hopeful their examples will inspire others to live full life as a Knight of Columbus.

Vivat Jesus!

[Adam Elgart, GK](#)

Council cancellations

We are publishing a digital-only version of this month's Flagship due to orders by the Supreme and State to cancel all activities and Gov. Phil Murphy's order to close businesses. No print edition will be mailed. Hope to resume printing in May. The **4th Degree Exemplification** scheduled for April 18th has been canceled.

However, the spring **Charity Raffle** is going forward with tickets being mailed to past supporters. Drawings will be held with only essential crew present, and win-

ners will be notified. Please support our main fundraiser for the Council's charitable works. For info contact Terr Strupczewski at 856-397-4463 or tstrup@verizon.net.

We have tentatively kept **hoagie sales** on the calendar for April 25th and May 2nd, 16th and 30th. However, they may be canceled depending on the coronavirus situation. Watch your email for updates.

Know a brother in need of food, supplies or support? Contact any of the officers at the numbers on the Flagship masthead on page 1.

April 2020 Fraternal Report

Ailing Brothers: Joe Tanzi, Mike Meo, Chuck Guidotti, Paul Campana, Steve Quigley, Ed Eissing, Walt Eife, Don Wilson, Charlie Cunane, Mike Kirby, Dave Grayce, John P. Welsh, Chris Gaj, Bob McCann, Michael Weiglein, Hank Keating, Bob Wilson, Daniel, McShane, Father Walter Norris, Fr. Frederick Link, John Colarullo, Michael Conway, Edward Bowe, Robert Hensler, Dave Grayce, Father Al,

Deceased Brothers: William Middleton, Lelio Ciccotelli, Mike Sharp, Joe Santarlas, Mike Grande, James Cunning, John E. Kappel, Fred Guarnieri, Frank Maimone, William Schmidt, Rick Taylor Benjamin Meo, Rich Angelino, Aux. Bishop McDonnall of Arch Diocese of Newark Former Chaplain Emeritus, Anthony L. Cerone, Rich W. Lipko, Walt L. Heim Jr.

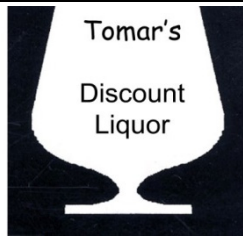
Ailing Family: Space in this abbreviated Flagship does not permit listing the names of ailing family. Please pray for all family members on the list as our prayers are still needed and will send God's grace to our loved ones.

Deceased Family: Maria Montagnaro mother-in-law of Bro John Erwin, Vincent DeMatteo relative of Bro T. Strupczewski & (wife), Mort Corman father Bro Michael, Tessie Gaj mother of Bro Chris Gaj, Benjamin Meo father Bro Mike Meo / father-in-law of Amy Meo, George G. Barrett father of George E. Barrett, Vincent Lazzaro father of Mark Lazzaro, Aunt of John Schiavo, Kieran Kenny cousin of Sal Catania, Robert J. Oldrati uncle of Mike Meo, Family of Rich Lipko, Family of Walt Heim .Lalithia Alexander mother of Vani Elgart and mother-in-law of Adam.



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