

# Class of '58



## ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CHURCH AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Fourth Avenue, Seventh to Ninth Streets, Brooklyn, NY 11215



*e-newsletter dedicated to you*

Vol. 1 6th. Ed.

September/October 2007

1-718-871-2919

### FIRST UP

#### CLASS PRAYER

Merciful and Mighty God,  
From all eternity you knew the  
circumstances of our birth.  
In our mother's womb, you formed us  
and gave us life.

At our Baptism, you called us by  
name into the family of God.  
Together, at St. Thomas Aquinas,  
we received the foundations of our faith.

Forgive us for the sins we  
have committed against you  
and each other.

Heal the wounds of our heart,  
and help us to forgive  
those who have hurt us.

Renew the gift of faith that  
united us as children,  
that we may be a blessing  
and an encouragement to one another.

We thank you Lord for leading us  
safely through this world,  
and for the promise of everlasting  
joy with you in heaven.

Contributed by our DOROTHY HODGENS

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Henry Skowronski ssgraphics@cfl.rr.com  
Neil Craffey ntcraffe@bechtel.com

### FRONT AND CENTER

#### Celebrated Events



Tentative date for next reunion is:  
**OUR 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY YEAR**  
Saturday OCT. 11, 2008

#### ANNIVERSARIES

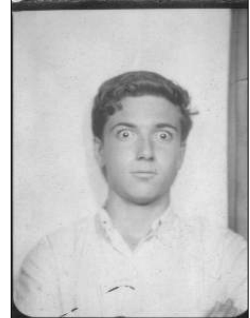
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Maureen/John April 12 1969  
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John/Jacquelyn Oct 30 1971  
MaryAnn/Cookie May 10 1964  
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Angela/James May 1965  
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**ANTHONY VENTURELLI**  
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Woodbridge NJ 07095  
732.634.7355

**MARY ELIZABETH MCNIFF**  
Brooklyn, NY 11215

### THE BROOKLYN BEAT

#### WELCOME





LennySTAClass58@aol.com

This is a Polaroid picture of me from about half my life ago. I remember the man, I remember the shirt, but not exactly sure where or when.

Before I break out here into a song, tell me your 'wedding song' or, 'our song'. 'Ours' was 'This moment in Time' by ENGELBERT HUMPERDINCK. Remember him? Remember the song? So write me and tell me your song. With marriages spanning 35 years, from 1964 for the PADURANO-CASALE'S, to 1999 for the COSTER-ZIMMERMAN'S. Should be interesting. I can list them here in some future edition. Hey, we can even distribute our own Wedding Songs CD 😊

Very special in this edition to introduce you all to STA Class of '57's JEANETTE AVALLONE-NEWBERRY and her beautiful daughter Holly. Jeanette, is all-at-once, Class of 58 JOHN NEWBERRY'S widow, and Class of 59 DANIEL AVALLONE'S sister. Holly is John's surviving daughter..

You will be moved and inspired by her story here in the middle aisle. Photo appears here and full size on page 10. Thank you Kathy Kelsch for putting me in contact with Jeanette.

Look below for great pictures from Maryann Padurano-Casale and Cookie and Family.



Daughter Amanda is doing fine. Thank you CarolAnn, Dorothy and their families for the beautiful flowers. See p11 for large photo



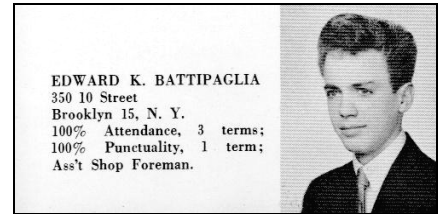
Jeanette Avallone-Newberry, and Holly "Hi Lenny, thanks for contacting me. I have some beautiful memories of STA and my friends in those days and it's always nice to hear from a schoolmate. I am in touch with Kathy(Kelsch) for a few years now. We sometimes meet for dinner and talk quite a bit on the phone.

I was engaged to JOHN NEWBERRY, who was my neighbor all my life, 1965. John was an iron-worker and worked on the Verrazano Bridge. As a matter of fact, Gay Talese wrote a book "The Bridge" about the building of the bridge and John is on the front cover. And there is a story in it about how he narrowly escaped being killed when a wheel broke loose from it's mooring and bounced onto the catwalk where he was working. He loved his work.

We were married in 1966 and had our Holly at Christmas 1971. Unfortunately, John got sick when Holly was 03 months old and died by the time she was 16 months old at the age of 28. I am sad when I think of all that he missed; she is a wonderful girl, a registered nurse in the Emergency Room of Staten Island University North, is married to a great guy and has two really beautiful children. She is my blessing.

I never remarried. Survived two bouts with cancer, and am living my life to the fullest, enjoying every minute! I was a legal secretary for 40 years and retired 3 years ago.

Danny(Avallone, Class of '59)God bless him, is alive and well and living in San Diego has had a successful career after being in a terrible accident when a boiler in the engine of his ship exploded. He suffered but recovered, and went on to have a successful career in civilian life. He is happily married and has 3 children. With his children all married, he and his wife travel all over the country in their home on wheels. He expects to come to NY in November to work on a project for the Empire State Bldg. and I am looking forward to seeing him. So there you have it." JEANETTE AVALLONE-NEWBERRY.



Edw. Battipaglia , STA Class of '58 graduate, seen here as NY School of Printing graduate. Class of '62 yearbook photo.



Thursday, April 26, 2007

### McFeeley says he's ready to solve problems in Wrentham



Ready to take on challenges

WRENTHAM, MA

Town Administrator **Jack McFeeley** says he is turning his attention to solving the town's long-term problems, now that selectmen have removed the "interim" from his title.

McFeeley had served in an interim capacity since November, when Steven C. Boudreau left for a position in Ware.

Selectmen unanimously voted last week to give the permanent slot to McFeeley, choosing him over Sutton Town Administrator Joshua Handverger and a former Wareham town administrator, Michael Hartman.

McFeeley said one of his first priorities will be to create a five-year budget plan that includes ways to increase revenue, such as encouraging business development and selling off surplus town land.

-- by Calvin Hennick

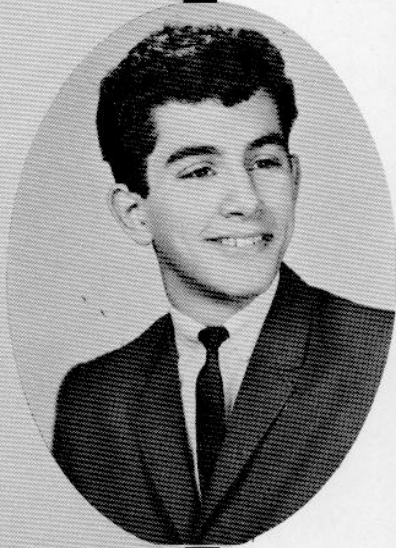
Posted by the Boston Globe City & Region Desk

Nice to keep up with you Jack in the news.

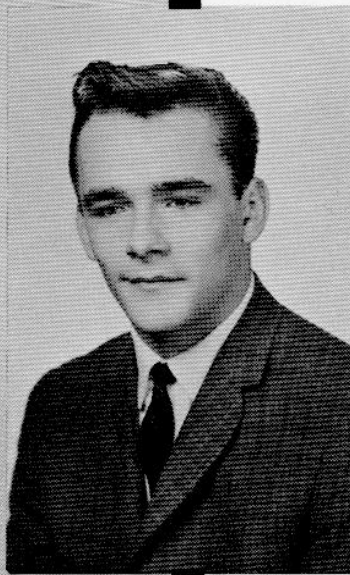




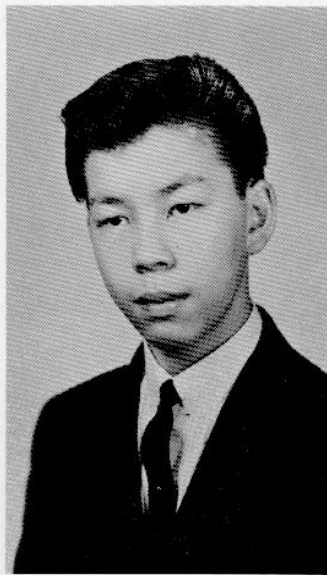
# SENIOR OFFICERS June, 1962



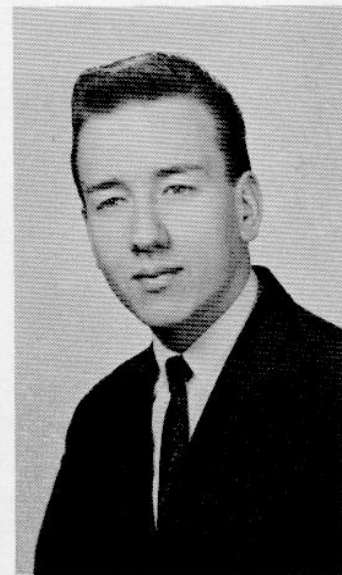
ROBERT J. IANNIZZOTTO  
*President*



HENRY SKOWRONSKI  
*Vice-President*



LAMBERT DIN  
*Treasurer*



GEORGE J. PFAFF  
*Secretary*

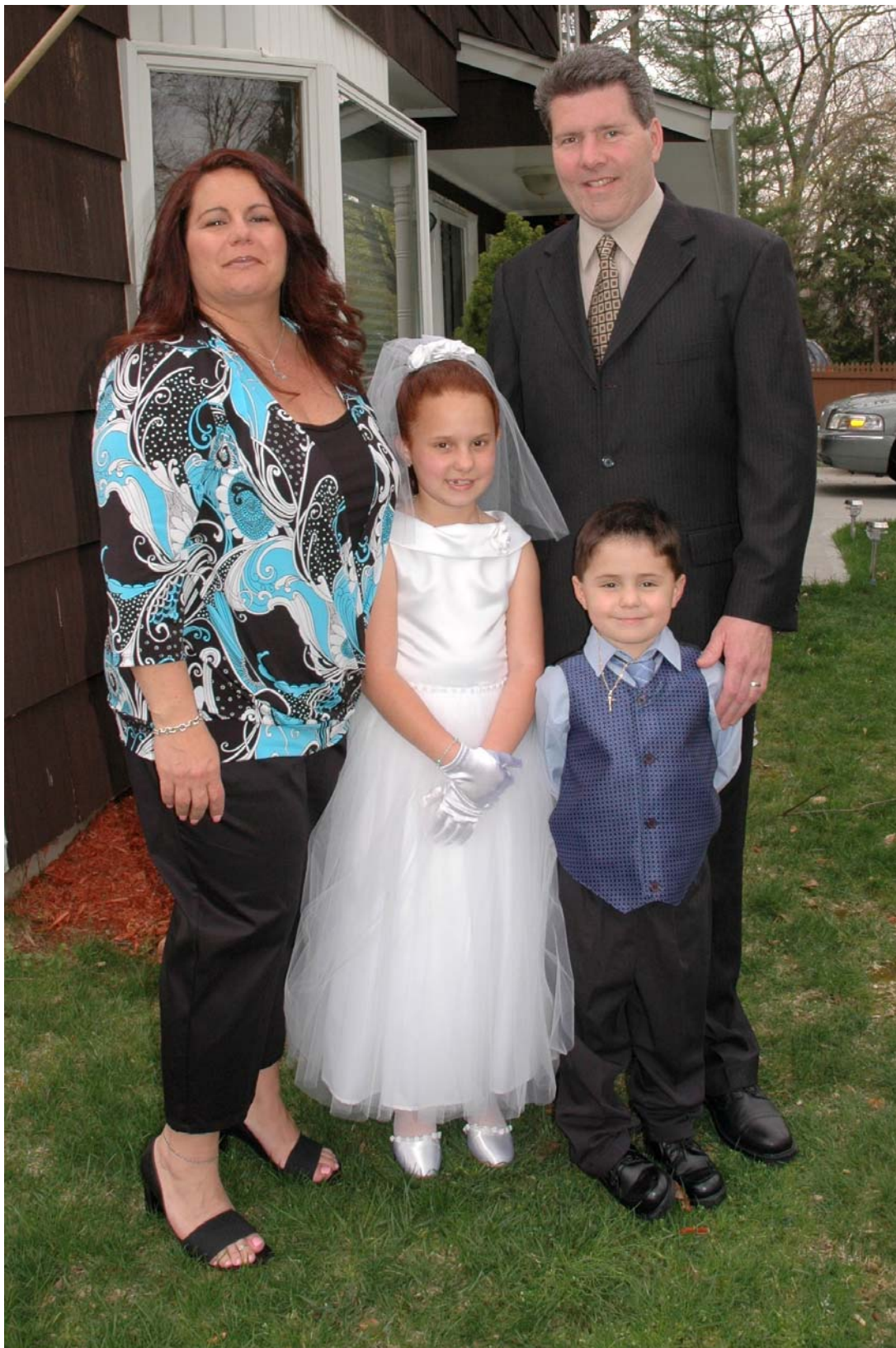
### New York School of Printing

Class of '58 Bob Iannizzotto and Henry(Hank) Skowronski distinguished themselves amongst my High School Class of 1962. They served as Class President and Vice-President respectively. Handsome dudes aren't they? Lambert Din and George Pfaff were not among our STA Class of '58.



Grandma, Maryann Padurano-Casale and Grandpa, Saverio(Cookie).....  
with granddaughter, *Marisa-Dawn*, 8, with beautiful hair and a beautiful smile.  
Great to finally see you Cookie.....you have that Bogart persona.





**Mary Ann and Cookie's daughter Denise, *oh so pretty* Marisa, Charles and son Charlie**  
(All pictures outside Denise and Charles's home in North Babylon, Long Island, NY)





Steve, holding Steven, with *Marisa*, Julia, and Mary Ann and Cookie's daughter Jayme



Son, Brother and Uncle Louis, his son Louis, daughter Francesca, *Marisa-Dawn*, daughter Alexa and Louis's wife Deanne





Son, Brother and Uncle Stephen, holding Olivia, Marisa, Sophia, and Stephen's wife Tracey Louis in previous photo above, and Stephen here, are *twin* sons to MaryAnn and Cookie.



**Angela Ricardelli-Wynne and husband James of Staten Island New York. A rare sighting indeed. Haven't seen or heard from you since Kathy Kelsch's 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party. Glad to show you both off. Angela you married a handsome guy.**







**Class of '57 Jeanette Avallone-Newberry and her daughter Holly**





Daughter Amanda and Lenny

*Thank you*

Daughter: Amanda Massab 22 years of age, some of you may not know, was born deaf. She has worn two hearing-aids since she was 8 months old.

She had elective Cochlear Implant Surgery Aug 16 at NYU, 400 E34th Street NYC. It was a two hour operation with only an overnight stay.

It will take some work on Amanda's part to distinguish the new auditory speech information from ambient environmental noises we all hear and tune out.

This operation is not a cure for deafness, and is not reversible. This is one brave little lady. Recovery is progressing. The unit will be turned on Sep. 5 and 6.



Jo and Lenny

*Saturday, October 27, 1979*



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Vol. 1 5th. Ed.

July/August 2007

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**FIRST UP**  
**HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES**  
Mary Ann Padurano –  
July 19, 1945  
Neil Craffey –  
August 26, 1944



**Jack(John) McFeeley** August 15, 1945  
(youngest boy)  
Seen here above,  
with wife Jackie.

**Maureen Spruyt-Kaseta** July 24, 1945.  
with husband John  
(and still youngest girl)  
More pictures below.

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Neil Craffey [ntcraffe@bechte1.com](mailto:ntcraffe@bechte1.com)

**FRONT AND CENTER**  
Celebrated Events –



INDEPENDENCE DAY

Tentative date for next reunion is:  
**OUR 50th ANNIVERSARY YEAR**  
**Saturday OCT. 11, 2008**

And let's try for a Class of '58 Dinner Friday Oct. 10.

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Lenny/Josephine Oct 27 1979  
Maureen/John April 12 1969  
CarolAnn/Fred June 1965  
Dorothy/Richard May 1965  
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**THE BROOKLYN BEAT**  
WELCOME

We've got some great pictures here of The Spruyt-Kaseta's. Also we have pix of Helen Lake-Weinberg(Class of '58) and her sister Patricia Lake-Escalante (Class of '57). And some pictures from Jack McFeeley that will bring you down memory lane. Enjoy. Send me pictures of *you*. [LennySTAClass58@aol.com](mailto:LennySTAClass58@aol.com)

**Class Prayer**

*Merciful and Mighty God,  
From all eternity you knew the  
circumstances of our birth.*

*In our mother's womb, you formed us  
and gave us life.*

*At our Baptism, you called us by  
name into the family of God.*

*Together, at St. Thomas Aquinas,  
we received the foundations of our faith.*

*Forgive us for the sins we  
have committed against you  
and each other.*

*Heal the wounds of our heart,  
and help us to forgive  
those who have hurt us.  
Renew the gift of faith that  
united us as children,  
that we may be a blessing  
and an encouragement to one another.*

*We thank you Lord for leading us  
safely through this world,  
and for the promise of everlasting  
joy with you in heaven.*

CONTRIBUTED BY OUR DOROTHY HODGENS



George Van Buskirk and Maureen Spruyt, Junior Prom - All Saints High School January 1961





Maureen Spruyt and Mary Ann Villano, June 1962 High School Graduation Day









*Baptism of Delaney-Shea -*

Maureen and John with their grandchildren: Delaney-Shea, now 15 months; Kerry 9, Patrick 6, Mary Jane 5  
All so very cute. Thank you Maureen and John for these pictures.

And from August birthday boy John(Jackie)McFeeley.....



John Cuthbertson, Mary Ann Villano, Fr. Edward O'Conner and Jack McFeeley. c. 1958



Sister Karen



Sister Mary Lolita



Sister Regina Kathleen





From RIGHT to LEFT: Patricia Lake-Escalante', Class of '57; Helen Lake-Weinberg, (the other)Class of '58; and Patricia's daughter, Christina.

I lived at 390- 5<sup>th</sup> street during the years I/we attended St. Thomas Aquinas. Pat and Helen, and their brother Jeff(Class of '59) lived at 400 - 5<sup>th</sup>. I know them as long as I know all of you. Pat and Christina made a visit to New York along with a couple of other women not pictured here, from Utah, where they've lived for 23 years. I, being the soul that I am, easy and available, prefer the company of women (there were five of them in this party) to sitting at a nearby pub with my elbow on the bar. This day, June 19, we dined in parts of Nassau County. Great time had by all –

Helen and her husband Harvey live in Roslyn, Long Island. They have two grown sons, David and Brian, no longer living at home. Pat and her husband Rubin live in Salt Lake City, Utah. Their grown children's names are Keith, Helena, Christina (above) and Erica. Grandchildren: Shantee, Heather, Joshua, Allie, and Maddie.

# Class of '58



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Fourth Avenue, Seventh to Ninth Streets, Brooklyn 15, New York



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Vol. 1 4<sup>th</sup> Ed.

May/June 2007

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## FIRST UP

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES

Mary E. McNiff	May 14
Dennis Irvin	May 25
Louis D'Amico	May 27
CarolAnn Stone	May 30
Bob Iannizzotto	May 02
Lenny Massab	June 16



Mary



Den



Lou

## FRONT AND CENTER

Upcoming Events –

Mother's Day – May 13



Memorial Day – May 28



Flag Day -- June 14



Father's Day – June 17



Tentative date for next reunion is:  
**OUR 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY YEAR**  
**Saturday OCTOBER 11, 2008**  
And let's try for a Class of '58 Dinner Friday Oct. 10.

## THE BROOKLYN BEAT

This newsletter can also be viewed  
on the STA Reunion website:  
[www.stareunion.com](http://www.stareunion.com)



[LennySTAClass58@aol.com](mailto:LennySTAClass58@aol.com)

### WELCOME

Yep, it's me. I was just seventeen and in my first year at NYC Community College the annex at Franklin and Flushing Aves. In the years after I was in school with you all, I stopped using the greasy kid stuff, my hair appeared lighter, because it was really medium brown not dark, and sometimes with golden highlights in summer – and of course, as you see here, it waved, and then as you know, it waved goodbye.

### BELATED BIRTHDAY WISHES

Hank Skowronski April 20





Lenny CarolAnn



Bob

**Jack(John) McFeeley** –  
August 15, 1945(youngest boy)  
**Maureen Spruyt** –  
July 24, 1945(and still, the youngest girl)

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- Angela/James
- Neil/ Patsy Nov 09 1971

Obviously, because of the timing of our births amidst the closing hours of WW2 our fathers were nearby in the hood. I'll be asking you all to contribute stories about them in the near future.



**BOB IANNIZZOTTO** born month of May.  
Lived on 6<sup>th</sup> street between 5<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> aves.  
Resides in Staten Island with his wife Pat.  
Seen here with his dimples.

**THE FOLLOWING SPACES RESERVED FOR YOU.**



KATHY KELSCH



MARY ANN COSTER



ANGELA RICCARDELLI



WALTER CONNOLLY



NEIL CRAFFEY

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**MARY ELIZABETH MCNIFF**  
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Useful Search Sites  
for Classmates-  
(please add to the list)  
[www.zabasearch.com](http://www.zabasearch.com)  
[www.superpages.com](http://www.superpages.com)  
[www.classmates.com](http://www.classmates.com)  
[www.stareunion.com](http://www.stareunion.com) \*

(\*other students other years before / after us may be able to help us locate our 'mates).

If at times when I look at you and you see a small smile on my face, it is just one of those times I see you as the six year old you once were.

My claim to fame, daughter **AMANDA**, graduates from R.I.T. May 26



No winners to name-spelling-backwards contest.

We got some great pictures of the **HANK SKOWRONSKI'S** & **MARYANN P.** and **GRAND-CHILDREN** Take a look/see on **P3** and **7**

And from the Louis and Denise D'Amico Family Archive, we have some clear and crisp photos from way-back-when that will interest you all. **Pages 4 -5 -6.**

**The list keeps growing -**

More of what I may have in common with your grandchildren:

- \* I go to bed early. In the winter sometimes as early as 8PM.
- \* I won't share my ice-cream.
- \* I lose a tooth once in a while.
- \* To be a good boy, I'll take a nap
- \* I stay close to the breast.
- \* I cry when I don't get my way.



One more of Little Old Me.



Betty Addeo Skowronski and Hank – 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Aug.'05



Hank and Betty and Grandchildren!!!

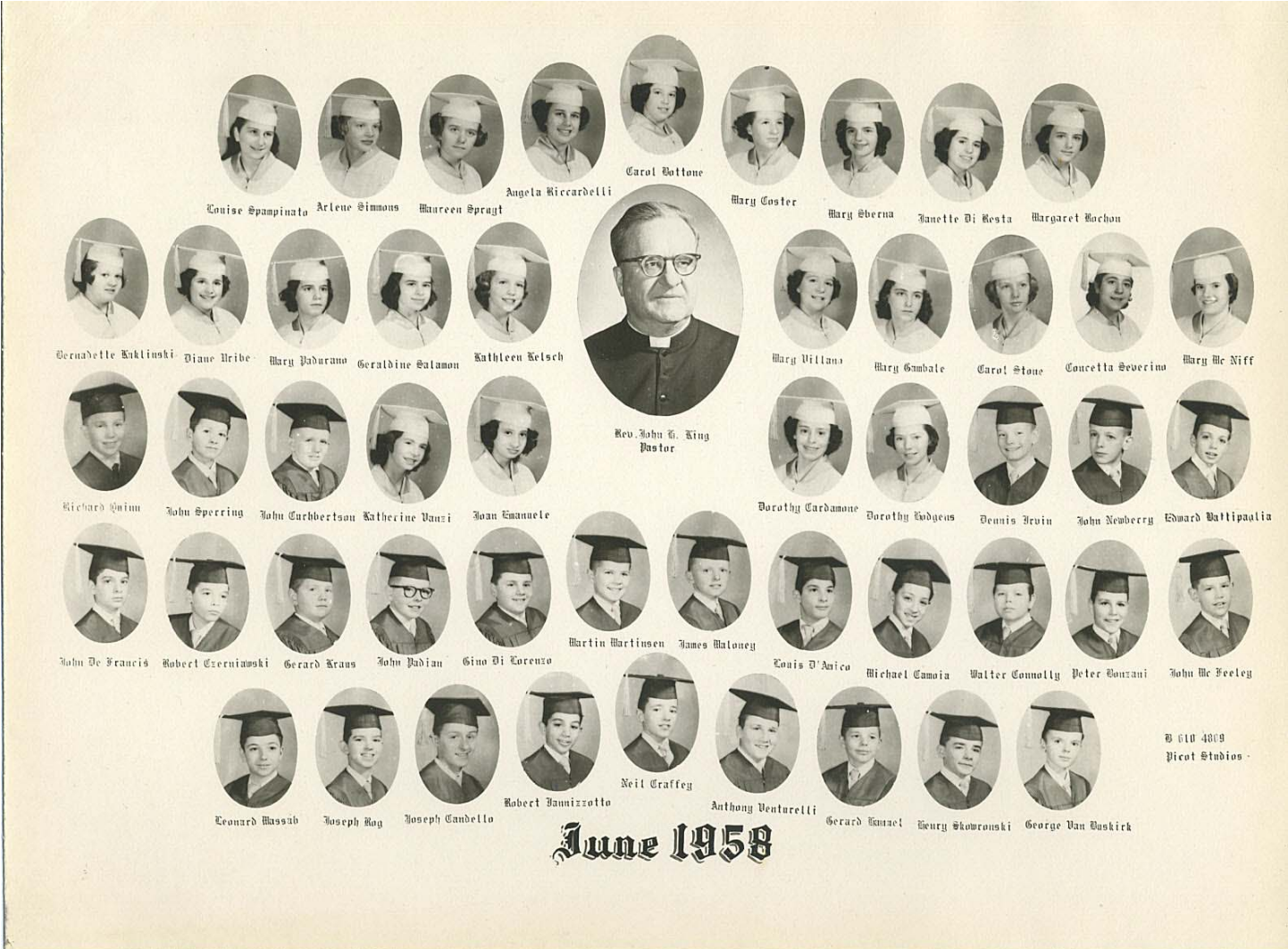


Betty and Hank and Grandchildren and More! God bless you all!





Clear Crisp Photos & Documents Courtesy of Louis and Denise D'Amico Family Archive



Document / Photo Courtesy of Louis and Denise D'Amico Family Archive





THIS CERTIFIES THAT

Louis D. D'Amico

*Pupil of St. Thomas Aquinas School, in Brooklyn  
has satisfactorily completed the prescribed eight-year elementary school  
course, furthermore, has given evidence of a good Catholic character  
and of true citizenship, and has therefore been awarded*

**The Honors of Graduation**

*Henry M. Hald*  
Diocesan Superintendent

*Bryan J. McEtegar*  
President School Board

*In Witness Whereof this diploma  
is issued June 22 1958*

l. S.

*Sister M. Grace Vincent*  
Principal

*John H. King*  
Rector



**Maryann Padurano-Casalle and her 9, NINE!! Grandchildren. You've made me an uncle many times over.**



## *Class Prayer*

*Merciful and Mighty God,  
From all eternity you knew the circumstances of our birth.  
In our mother's womb, you formed us and gave us life.  
At our Baptism, you called us by name into the family of  
God.*

\*

*Together, at St. Thomas Aquinas, we received the  
foundations of our faith.  
Forgive us for the sins we have committed against  
you and each other.  
Heal the wounds of our heart, and help us to forgive  
those who have hurt us.*

\*

*Renew the gift of faith that united us as children,  
that we may be a blessing and an encouragement  
to one another.*

\*

*We thank you Lord for leading us safely through this world,  
and for the promise of everlasting joy with you in heaven.*

**CONTRIBUTED BY OUR DOROTHY HODGENS**

This prayer or any revision by Dorothy will appear in each and every e-newsletter edition