



## Santo Palmeri

April 16, 1949 - April 3, 2026

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Santo Palmeri. He departed this world on April 3, 2026, at the age of 76. Born on April 16, 1949, in Lucca Sicula, Sicily, to the late Liberante Palmeri and Sebastiana Bessie Bellitti. He leaves behind a legacy of love and dedication that will be cherished by all who knew him.

Santo's passing leaves a void that can never be filled, but his spirit will live on in the memories of those who were fortunate enough to know him. He is survived by his devoted wife Francesca; daughters, Rita (Neil) Ohrdorf, and Claudia (Clete) Zakrzewski; grandchildren, Larissa, Kira, Dante and Danica; brother, Rosario Palmeri and Diana with their children, Dorinda (Vince), Marco and Nellie and their children, Liliana, Vincent and Kennedy. Santo is preceded in death by sister, Anna (Tony) Costanza.

While we celebrate the wonderful life and successes that Santo achieved, we must remember the hardships he endured growing up in a small village in Sicily. When Santo was just 8 years old, his father passed away. He and his siblings were sent to an orphanage, as his widowed mother was unable to support three children in the difficult conditions that existed in Sicily at the time. Later, being the eldest son, he had to work to support his mother and siblings for many years. As a young man, he stayed in Sicily until he received his welding certificate and then moved to Germany, where there were better

opportunities for work. While in Germany, he continued to send money to support his family. This theme of supporting family and striving for a better life would continue throughout his life.

In 1970, Santo married the love of his life, Francesca, with whom he shared 55 years of marriage. Together, they built a life filled with love and shared dreams. Their daughters were born in Germany, and while raising them there and in Italy, they decided to move the family to the United States. His strong belief and ambition for his children was to provide them with an opportunity to receive an education and become self-sufficient. He believed the best place to do this was the United States. In 1979, they all immigrated to Pueblo, Colorado. Starting off in a new country brought many adversities, but with Santo and Francesca's incredible work ethic and resilience, their dreams for their daughters became a reality.

Santo built a life from the ground up through determination and tireless work. While still in the trades as a welder and machinist, he saw a bigger opportunity. In 1983, he started his first investment by buying an apartment complex. He was a jack of all trades and taught himself to remodel and maintain his properties. He continued his full-time job all the while buying more investments over the years. If you saw Santo, you knew he was carrying a hammer and tools, always ready to fix anything. His passion for keeping his properties perfect was undeniable. You could say he was a carpenter, a handyman, and a genius at coming up with thoughtful and thrifty ways to fix anything. If you needed anything repaired or constructed, he would lend a hand. If you saw any of his repairs, you would see that he left a mark of pride on everything he touched.

As we say goodbye to Santo, we remember a man who lived life to the fullest, with a heart full of love and a tireless spirit that inspired everyone around him. He found joy in life's simple yet meaningful moments, watching hockey games and never missing a soccer match, especially when Italy was playing!

To his grandchildren, he was Nonno. He took great pride in attending his grandchildren's sporting events and awards assemblies, always showing up to support them and cheer them on. If you thought he went above and beyond for his own daughters, Nonno spoiled his grandchildren even more. He loved playing card games and poker with them, creating moments filled with laughter, competition, and lasting memories that his grandchildren will always carry with them. Some of the greatest memories were made on his annual trips to Glenwood Hot Springs. For anyone who truly knew Nonno, you would know that he was not fond of swimming or being cold! But for those kids, he would happily soak in the hot pools anyway.

At home, he loved gathering everyone around the table for his home-cooked meals. Cooking was one of the many ways he showed his love, bringing family together and making sure no one ever left the table hungry. He also enjoyed following the stock market, making his own trades, and keeping up with financial news as he searched for the next opportunity. He couldn't stop talking to everyone about stocks! He was a man of many interests and talents, and if you spent any time with him, he always had a story worth telling.

May his soul rest in eternal peace "Santo Angelo Mio", and may his legacy live on through all who knew and loved him. He lived a beautiful, humble, and hardworking life, built on love and endless support for his family, ultimately living the American Dream.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

MAY 9. 10:00 AM (MT)

Roselawn Funeral Home Chapel  
1706 Roselawn Rd  
Pueblo, CO 81006

# Tribute Wall



“ Renee Y. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Santo Palmeri.

Renee Y. - May 09 at 02:04 PM



“ Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Santo Palmeri.



May 08 at 11:30 AM



“ Jimmi Lynette, Rylee, and Journee purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Santo Palmeri.



Jimmi Lynette, Rylee, and Journee - May 08 at 07:50 AM



“ SANTO  
.WAS A WONDERFUL MAN,HELPED JIM WITH HIS FIG TREE.  
ALWAYS CHECKING ON HIS, WE WILL MISS HIM, MAY HE  
REST IN PEACE

JIM AND JEANNE PAGANO - May 07 at 07:27 PM

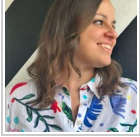
MS

“ *Martha Salvatore Noah e Leonida Sorbara purchased the Guiding Light Bouquet for the family of Santo Palmeri.*



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**Martha Salvatore Noah e Leonida Sorbara** - May 07 at 06:19 AM



“ *Caro Santo,ti abbiamo conosciuto con Francesca per caso al Centro Commerciale due giorni dopo esserci trasferiti in America... eravamo due sposini soli e impauriti dall'altra parte del mondo,voi ci avete fatto sentire subito al sicuro, a Casa!*



*Ci avete accolto e aiutato dal primo momento dandoci consigli e sicurezza, guidandoci in questo nuovo e difficile cammino.*

*Ci avete sempre consigliato e aiutato in ogni cosa, siete sempre stati al nostro fianco e per Noah e Leonida siete famiglia, quella splendida famiglia che tu e Francesca avete costruito e' un esempio di Amore puro e semplicità basata su fondamenta e valori solidi , ci avete insegnato quello che conta davvero nella vita!*

*Sei sempre stato un grande dal cuore immenso, quando ti abbiamo visto per l'ultima volta ci hai detto: "aiutate gli altri sempre!"*

*Questo fa capire quanto sei sempre stato altruista e generoso con tutti quelli che hai incontrato nella tua vita e lo si capisce anche qui , dai numerosi messaggi che popolano il tuo Memoriale.*

*Hai lasciato il segno nella vite di chiunque tu abbia incontrato :dal semplice conoscente al familiare piu' stretto, non sei mai passato inosservato proprio perche'*

*Hai vissuto la vita eccezionalmente dando sempre tutta la tua anima e purezza e consigli speciali che tu hai imparato con sacrificio ma hai sempre generosamente condiviso!*

*Abbiamo avuto il piacere e l'onore di conoscerti e ci hai cambiato la vita per sempre!*

*Ora sei un Angelo e ci guardi da lassu' con il tuo dolce sorriso!*

*Ti vogliamo tanto bene, Grazie di tutto!*

*Sarai sempre nei nostri cuori e il tuo esempio ci guiderà sempre!*

*Salvatore Martha Noah e Leonida Sorbara*

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**Martha Benzoni** - May 07 at 06:09 AM

JB

“ John and Jenny Blechar purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Santo Palmeri.



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**John and Jenny Blechar** - May 06 at 02:00 PM

MW

“ Mary & Mark Wheeler purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Santo Palmeri.



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**Mary & Mark Wheeler** - May 06 at 11:09 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Santo Palmeri.



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May 05 at 09:29 PM

LF

“ Liborio Di Forti Giarratano.  
Primo Santo hoy celebramos tu partida donde nos dejas un gran vacío en nuestros corazones, te recordaré con mucho cariño y lo importante que fuiste en mi vida y el apoyo incondicional que me diste cuando inmigre a España. Me van hacer faltas tus llamadas. Descansa en paz y vuela muy alto siempre estarás en nuestros corazones.

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**Liborio Di Forti** - May 05 at 03:11 PM

LC

“ love Zito family Paul,Antoinetta, Carlo purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Santo Palmeri.



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love Zito family Paul,Antoinetta, Carlo - May 05 at 10:07 AM

LC

“ love Zito family Paul,Antoinetta, Carlo planted a <a href="/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518">Memorial Tree</a> in honor of Santo Palmeri.

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love Zito family Paul,Antoinetta, Carlo - May 05 at 10:07 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Santo Palmeri.



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May 05 at 09:39 AM

TD

“ Santo was my very first landlord in 1986. When he came to the apartment on Devonshire to replace a washer in the faucet, I had a newborn son and had no idea how warm to keep the apartment, so I had the thermostat set at 80 degrees. He explained to me with a kind smile, that it was too warm, and that babies adapt easily to a lower temperature. I kept it at 70 degrees after that. Also, when we would go to him home to drop off the rent, he and his wife would invite us in for an espresso. I'd never had coffee before, and since then, im hooked. His girls were so young and looked so happy, and I'll never forget their kindness and hospitality.

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**Tawni Dawson** - May 04 at 09:23 PM

PZ

“ I share this as one of many memories of my cousin Santo. He was always respectful, treating me with kindness, and he gave time to my daughter, who adored him. One time she kept pestering him to play, and the word “mafiosa” came out, we all started laughing until our stomachs hurt.



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**Paul Zito** - May 04 at 09:03 PM

ER

“ Eileen and Rod planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Santo Palmeri.

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**Eileen and Rod** - May 04 at 09:35 AM

AG

“ Sorry for your loss. I knew Santo in the town we were born Lucca Sicula, we lived not to far from each other, time has passed and the only thing we have are the memories. Rest in peace Santo. Joe and Anna Maurello Giulitto

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**Anna Maurello Giulitto** - May 04 at 08:11 AM

AT

“ *Carissimo cugino Santino,*

*con il cuore pieno di tristezza ti diciamo addio. Sei stato una persona davvero speciale, piena di amore, calore e generosità. Hai sempre avuto un grande cuore per la tua famiglia. Non solo per la tua, ma anche per noi qui in Germania. Hai sempre mostrato rispetto e affetto per i tuoi zii e non hai mai smesso di cercare il contatto, di telefonare e di esserci vicino anche a distanza.*



*La tua presenza, la tua voce e la tua attenzione ci mancheranno immensamente. Lasci un vuoto grande, ma anche tanti ricordi preziosi che porteremo sempre con noi.*

*In questo momento così difficile siamo accanto a tua moglie, ai tuoi figli e ai tuoi nipoti. Anche se siamo lontani, ma con il cuore e con il pensiero siamo vicini nel dolore e vi abbracciamo con tutto il nostro affetto.*

*Non ti dimenticheremo mai. Continuerai a vivere nei nostri cuori, per sempre.*

*Con tanto amore ti abbracciamo. I tuoi cugini  
Anna & Giuseppe  
Paola & Lillo  
Giusi & Dirk  
con tutte le loro famiglie*

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**Anna Randese, Paola Sciacca, Giusi Tempel - May 03 at 04:06 PM**

ST

*Ciao Santo, caro cugino. E' un addio ,ma resti sempre nei nostri cuori. Eri una persona speciale,ma veramente nel vero senso della parola. Il tuo calore e la tua sincera amicizia erano unici e indimenticabili. Siamo lontani,ma vicini a voi tutti.*

*Un abbraccio.  
Salvina & Sergio  
Davide  
Maria Antonia*

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**Sergio TESTERA** - May 04 at 02:50 PM

TP

“ *The Dante Alighieri Society of Pueblo purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Santo Palmeri.*



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**The Dante Alighieri Society of Pueblo** - May 02 at 05:16 PM

BW

“ *Bruce & Suzanne Warner purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Santo Palmeri.*



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**Bruce & Suzanne Warner** - May 02 at 01:23 PM

BW

“ *Bruce & Suzanne Warner planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Santo Palmeri.*

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**Bruce & Suzanne Warner** - May 02 at 01:23 PM

LH

“ *Linda Hale purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Santo Palmeri.*



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**Linda Hale** - May 01 at 08:55 PM

LH

“ *Linda Hale planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Santo Palmeri.*

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**Linda Hale** - May 01 at 08:55 PM

MF

“ *Our deepest condolences to Santo's family. We did not know him personally, but after reading his obituary, we know we would have become good friends and might even be related, also having ancestors in Sicily. We cherish our friendship with his daughter Rita, Neil, Larissa & Kira and our deepest sympathy, thoughts and prayers are with them in their time of sadness.*  
*Carl & Josephine Fleming*



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**Mr & Mrs C Fleming** - April 30 at 08:38 PM

BG

“ I met Santo 30+ years ago, when I started dating my wife. He was then, as he will always be remembered by me as: funny, caring, passionate about his family, by far one of the best people I’ve ever had the honor of knowing. I’m struggling to find the words to express the amount of respect I have for him. I loved him like a brother and he will ALWAYS be remembered. My heart grieves for Fran, the girls, the grandchildren and his entire family. Santo, I was honored to know you.

*Ben Glessner*

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**Ben Glessner** - April 30 at 08:37 PM

FM

*Cugina Maria Bellitti e Franco Musso  
Siamo molto addolorati per la perdita prematura del caro cugino Santo.  
Era una persona speciale e sempre sorridente. La sua prematura  
scomparsa ha lasciato un grande vuoto.*

*In questo momento così difficile per tutti voi vi siamo vicini.*

*Cucina Maria Bellitti e Franco Musso*

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**Francesco Musso** - May 06 at 04:36 PM

DC

“ I enjoyed talking with Santo and sharing stories. The stories always put a smile on my face and he too was always smiling. The broken accent added even more pleasure to the stories and the "talking" hands never stopped. So happy I got to share time with him. He will be greatly missed. Hugs, thoughts and prayers to the entire family.

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**Dean Chiarito** - April 30 at 07:35 PM

PD

“ Our deepest condolences to family & friends. May Santo rest in peace. 🕊️

*I always remember his conversations while, working at King Soopers with my son & husband.*

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**Pam DiFatta** - April 30 at 01:02 PM