



## Joseph N. DeLauro

July 11, 2006

DeLauro, Joseph Nicola age 90 of Novi, and long time resident of Plymouth and Canton, July 11, 2006.

Beloved husband of Dorothy Ann DeLauro. Dear father of Robert (Diane); Greg (Cheryl); and Kathleen Kargula (Jay.) Grandpa Magnifico to Lydia, Ashley, Joe and Kevin. He is also survived by his niece Rosa DeLauro, Congresswoman from New Haven, Connecticut.

Funeral Mass Monday 10:30 AM at Our Lady of Good Counsel, 47650 North Territorial (at Beck) Plymouth. In state at church Monday 10:00 AM. Visitation Saturday 5-9 PM and Sunday 1-4 and 6-9 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 West Ann Arbor Road (between Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth.

Joseph was born in New Haven, Connecticut in 1916. He earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at Yale University in 1941, and moved to Detroit in 1947 after two years at the University of Iowa getting his MFA on the GI bill.

Joseph was an accomplished and prolific sculptor. His artwork has lifted spirits and provided pleasure for people, not only locally but internationally. He was a dedicated teacher who through his humor, passion and creativity influenced and inspired many students at the University of Detroit, Marygrove College and the University of Windsor. At Windsor, he founded the first Art Department in the Province of Ontario, and has been named Founding Professor Emeritus of the University of Windsor. He received numerous artistic honors and awards, and was written into the United States Congressional Record for his exceptional work and dedication to the arts. He continued to create and

explore throughout his life. You are invited to explore his career and the legacy he leaves behind at the website dedicated to his work, at <http://jndelaur.com>.

Memorial contributions may be made to Michigan Parkinson Foundation, 30400 Telegraph Road, Ste. 150, Bingham Farms MI 48025-5819.

To leave a message of condolence, click on the Online Condolences link on this page.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Joseph N. DeLauro*

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December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ *Dear DeLauro family, I am saddened to hear of your loss. I enjoyed Joe's artworks and was honored to know him from my days at the Plymouth Community Arts Council. Jennifer Tobin, Canton Arts Coordinator*

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**Jennifer Tobin** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM



“ *Kathleen,  
I'm sending you and your family me deepest regards and condolences. Your father's transition is a great loss to all of you and the communities he served. I always admired the relationship you had with your father. His grace and philosophy seemed to always be mirrored through you. Peace.*

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**Gayle Brodie** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

DG

“ To Bob and Kathleen: I lived next door to your family on Strathmoor St. in Detroit back in the 50's & 60's. I remember the anguish your dad and mom went through when your brother Richard drowned in a lake in Brighton. I also had fond memories of your collie dog when we grew-up. You both have a lot to be proud of with all the accomplishments that your dad acquired. I often wondered what happened to the DeLauro family after you moved from the home in Northwest Detroit. It would be great to hear from you my friend after all these years.

*Dan Gagnon 248-320-2215*

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**Dan Gagnon** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

RC

“ My dear Professoro,  
We worked together, we laughed together.....you taught me phrases in Italian and I taught you a few in Polish. And how we all were so pleased when you come to our shop, whether it was to create some of your sculpting (with your new found media, polymer concrete) or just to kill a little time conversing with us in the office (the ladies loved you too) or in the factory with all the Italian artisans. You always carried that jovial aura which made everyone feel so happy!  
May God be with you this day!  
With much love, Richard Prusinski, Architectural Research Corp.

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**Richard Prusinski, Architectural Research Corp.** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

Jl

“ May I express my deepest condolences to you and your family. Joe DeLauro encouraged and mentored me with great care and expertise. We shared lunch on occasion during our years at the University of Windsor where I grew to know and love Joe and his work. He was always a gentleman and a true compatriot in every sense of the word. His talent, friendship and kindness will always be remembered fondly. Each time I pass St. Gabriel's church here in Windsor, I view that beautiful carving of St. Gabriel above the church entrance, I think of Joe DeLauro and the heritage he has left us all.

God is surely putting Joe to work in his kingdom of heaven mentoring others as he did on earth.

With great respect and sympathy, Josie Latessa-Iannetta

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**Josie Latessa Iannetta** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

JW

“ On behalf of the University of Windsor's Retirees' Association (WURA), I extend condolences and recognition of the valuable contribution of Joseph to the University of Windsor's community. Joseph was a longtime member of WURA and thus in memory of him, a modest contribution will be made to the WURA scholarship trust fund. May Joseph's talents and his positive shared qualities sustain us and be an example for us.

In sympathy and in celebration of his long life.

John R. Meyer, President of WURA

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**John R. Meyer, PhD., President of WURA** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

IE

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the DeLauro family. I was introduced to Joseph N. DeLauro through his web site by Kathleen Kargula. I never had an opportunity to meet Mr. DeLauro. I liked his work very much from seeing his work on his web site. I know the family will miss him and the world will miss his creativity.*

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**im Vander Eyk** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

EC

“ *Dr. Joe DeLauro was my professor. I hold his memory as a treasured part of my life. He had a white sailor cap that he wore pulled down over his hair and around his face as a shield against the marble dust in the sculpture studio. He would work there for hours. Sometimes as he was leaving the studio he would come to me and hold his face close so that I could brush the dust off his eyebrows and lashes. He would then doff his hat, whip it against a pedestal to remove the dust, and hang it up on a peg by the door. As he strode down the hall toward his office, he would unbutton his smock and run his hand through his luxurious silver hair. Inside his office, he would hang up his smock, and seat himself at his desk having the appearance of a fine well-groomed gentleman. One could not guess that 15 minutes before he had been carving a gigantic piece of cararo marble gently with a pneumatic hammer. "Look!", he would say, "No head, No heart, No hand, No Art! Art is intellectual, emotional, and technical. Art speaks." Thank you Maestro for speaking through your art. I will remember your teaching always as intellectual, humanistic, and passionate. My condolences to the family for this great loss.*

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**Eileen Courtenay** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

JS

“ Dear Wan, Kathleen and The DeLauro Family,

*Our sincere sympathy on Joe's passing. We will always remember his great warmth and love for all humanity and extraordinary artistic talent. It was always a pleasure being in his presence. We fondly recall our time spent with you, Wan, and Joe as very "special", and fondly remember our Friday seafood dinners at the Mayflower.*

*The relief of the Holy Family which Joe did while you and Joe were in Sardinia remains in our living room in a place of prominence, and is treasured by us.*

*May God comfort you all. Our prayers are with you all in your loss of a beautiful man who accomplished so much in his life, and left this world a better place.*

*Sincerely,*

*John & Christine Stopa*

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**John & Christine Stopa** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

EL

“ So sorry to hear Mr Delauro's passing. I remember him teaching life drawing and sculpturing at Marygrove College. He was a wonderful inspiration, and artist-sculptor. I had several classes with him.

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**Emily Herdell LaHood** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

JW

“ Winn and DeLauro family, Debbie and I are sorry to hear of the passing of Joe. He was a good person. His many life accomplishments will be remembered by many for years to come. All our sympathy is with you at this time of grief.

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**james and debbie wright** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

SW

“ Dear Kathleen, Our sympathy to you and your family. Your Dad was an exceptional and very talented man. You are his beautiful legacy.

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**Sue & Herb Wilson** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

JW

“ Kathleen,  
Thinking of you in your loss. Words cannot express the sympathy and hope this message brings to you and your family today.  
With caring thoughts and prayers.

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**Julie White-Horwood** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

T&

“ Greg and the rest of the DeLauro Family,  
There is never a good time to say goodbye. Losing a parent is one life's worst times. We cannot ease your pain, but we want you to know we are thinking of you. We can't do much but we can offer our love, our sympathy and our prayers to try to help you through this sad time.  
From,  
Your BCA friends

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**The Faculty and Staff of the School of Broadcast &** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

MF

“ My sincere condolences to Mrs. DeLauro, children and grandchildren. Joe DeLauro is fondly remembered as a great artist and teacher, his classes on Marygrove's 4th floor which he made so enjoyable still fresh in memory. Margaret Bartley Fuchs [class of '55]

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**Margaret Bartley Fuchs** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

JA

“ Bob, I'm very sorry to hear about the loss of your father. You and your family will be remembered in my prayers this Sunday. Please extend my condolences to your mother and Greg. Take care my brother.

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**John Abeli** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

BH

“ Mr DeLauro will be remembered in my prayers and happy memories of Marygrove's 4th floor and his energetic and expert teaching skills. How I loved his life drawing classes! I also loved peeking into his basement studio as he worked on his wonderful sculptures. My sincere sympathy to Mrs. DeLauro, children and grandchildren. What a grandpa he must have been! Barbara Frey Harry [class of '55]

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**Barbara Frey Harry** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

PD

“ Wan-- 7/14/06

*I am so sorry to hear this news. I knew Joe when he was experimenting with polymer concrete as a new sculpture-medium. Sheryl and I tried to stay in touch thereafter.*

*Everyone thinks that the discoverer of Canada was English. The Italian community knows his real name, and I love the fact that they picked Joe to make and to place the memorial statue in Windsor.*

*Many of us will grieve with you.*

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**Peter C. Bertelson, D.Sc.** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

MN

“ *May you be comforted during this sad time by the precious memories you have, by the closeness of family and friends, and the by the many expressions of sympathy for you in your sorrow to-day. (my husband Ron Nicodemo was associated with Joe at the University of Windsor)*

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**Marion Nicodemo** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

TG

“ *Bob,  
Our thoughts are with you and your family. He certainly knew about life and his way of telling it like it is. We will all miss him and remember your Dad with fondness and admiration.*

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**Todd & Mary Greenbaum** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

NH

“ Dear DeLauro family,

*I was a clueless 18 year old when I first met Mr. DeLauro in the Art Department of Marygrove College in 1956. He was my teacher for four years, and managed to tolerate me in drawing classes, sculpture and art history. Oh, once he threatened to throw me out of the 4th story window, but as it turned out, he didn't.*

*It wasn't just art that he shared with us - he had a big collection of classical music, and he introduced us to the work of many composers as we sat at our drawing boards.*

*It was a real thrill when I visited Europe a few years later and saw in person all the ageless art DeLauro had taught us about in Art History. He certainly left a lasting impression on me. I felt it was an honor to know him.*

*My condolences go out to Mrs. DeLauro and the rest of the family.*

*Nancy Henk  
Marygrove College, Class of 1956*

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**Nancy B. Henk** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

BD

“ To Ann the family and the grandchildren. Once again I find I waited too long. We have lost a giant of a person. A man who lived life more than most of us can only think about living. Professor DeLauro was a very special person to us as I have come to know him as a teacher, as an associate in art and architecture and as a man.

*For 55 years we called each other (not enough) to bring each other up to date on our careers. To talk about our common friends. We had dinner when time allowed. Fortunately his works will carry on his legacy. If you knew Joe you knew "Jackson". I hope the many, many lives he touched at the colleges and universities will remember him for all that he did for us. You were tough Joe, yes, you were tough. May you rest in peace. God be with you.*

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**Bob and Antoinette D'Alessandro** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

GL

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you.*

*Glorified and sanctified be God's great name throughout the world which He has created according to His will. May He establish His kingdom in your lifetime and during your days, and within the life of the entire House of Israel, speedily and soon; and say, Amen.*

*May His great name be blessed forever and to all eternity.*

*Blessed and praised, glorified and exalted, extolled and honored, adored and lauded be the name of the Holy One, blessed be He, beyond all the blessings and hymns, praises and consolations that are ever spoken in the world; and say, Amen.*

*May there be abundant peace from heaven, and life, for us and for all Israel; and say, Amen.*

*He who creates peace in His celestial heights, may He create peace for us and for all Israel; and say, Amen.*

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**Gary Lieberman** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

JF

“ *Dear Wan,  
My prayers are with you and your family. Don and I always enjoyed our visits with you and Joe. They were two good sailors! I know you will miss him deeply, but he will live in your cherished memories.  
Blessings, Judy*

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**Judy Francis** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

BN

“ Dear Bob, (Diane, Lydia and family)-  
We are so sorry to hear of the loss of your father, Bob. I know that your memories of him are many and you can take comfort in the fact that he will live on through his art and dedication to that and his family. I will remember him (and lobster!) fondly.  
Peace be with you all.  
Barb and Harv

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**Barb and Harvey Newell** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

BM

“ Greg and Cheryl, our thoughts, prayers, and support are with you and your family, especially as you handle all the necessary steps and emotions. Your Dad sounds like a wonderful and inspirational person, and we hope those memories help you get through everything.

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**Brian and Sandy Murphy** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

JF

“ I did not know Mr. DeLauro, but I have been a sales representative for his daughter Kathleen Kargula.

*I will say a prayer for Him.*

*Regards,*

*Jim Phalen*

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**Jim Phalen (Hines Park Ford)** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

LL

“ Bob, my prayers are with you, your dad, and your family. Your dad must have been a wonderful and interesting man. I know he will be missed.

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**Lynn Lashen** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

JA

“ Kathleen, your father sounds like an incredible man. It must have been a priviledge being his daughter. Our deepest sympathies to you and your family. Jen, Marty and Kyle

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**Jen & Marty Benke, Kyle Adams** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

JD

“ To all the DeLauro family, our prayers and deepest sympathies are with you all. Joe will be missed deeply by us and many of those he touched in all his years in Windsor.

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**Joe and Paulette DeAngelis** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

LL

“ Bob, my sincere condolences are extended to you and your family. I will keep all of you in my prayers.

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**Leslie London** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM

PG

“ Bob, Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this time. God bless you all.

*Pat and Anne*

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**Pat and Anne Gutsick** - December 12, 2014 at 10:34 AM