

Collins Funeral Home

Monsignor William A. Genuario

(January 24, 1931 - June 24, 2015)

Monsignor William A. Genuario, P. A., 84, died Wednesday, June 24th, in Queen of Clergy Residence, Stamford.

Born and raised in Norwalk, Msgr. Genuario was the son of the late Joseph (Giosue) and Antoinette Gerardi Genuario. He attended St. Marys grammar school, Fairfield Prep, and entered the minor Seminary in 1948 at St. Thomas in Bloomfield, CT.



He received an Associate in Arts degree in 1950, and was assigned to the major Seminary, St. Johns in Brighton, MA, where hereceived both a Bachelors and Masters Degree. Monsignor was ordained a priest by Bishop Laurence J. Shehan, Bishop of the newly established (1953) Diocese of Bridgeport at St. Augustine Cathedral on February 2, 1956.

Shortly after first being assigned to Sacred Heart Parish in Stamford, Father Genuario was sent to study Canon Law at the Gregorian University in Rome.

In 1958, he returned to the Diocese with a Licentiate (Masters) in Canon Law and worked in the Diocesan Tribunal with residence at St. Peters in Bridgeport. In1963 he completed his studies at the Gregorian University and was awarded a Doctorate in Canon Law (Magna Cum Laude).Subsequently, he filled the positions of Vice Chancellor, Chancellor, Director of Planning, Administration and Development, Presiding Judge, and Vicar General over a period of 29 years.

In 1963, Pope Paul VI honored him with the appointment as a Papal Chamberlain with the title of Very Revered Monsignor. Fourteen years later, Pope Paul VI named him an Honorary Prelate. Pope John Paul II

promoted him as a Protonotary Apostolic (highest rank of Monsignor), in February of 1986.

Monsignor Genuario, besides being a resident at St. Peters, Bridgeport, also lived at St. Therasas, Trumbull before becoming Pastor at Blessed Sacrament in 1968 and Pastor of St. Anthony in 1974. During his tenure as Vicar General, he was in residence at St. Ambrose, Bridgeport. Then in September 1987, Monsignor Genuario was installed as the Pastor of St. Catherine of Siena in Riverside where he remained until his retirement in 2004.

Throughout his priesthood, Monsignor Genuario has served on numerous boards and organizations such as Chaplain for Park City Council, Knights of Columbus, Chairman for Action for Bridgeport Community Development and Chairman for Sacred Heart Universitys Board of Directors, to name just a few. He has also served 24 years in the Public Defenders Services Commission for the State of Connecticut and was a member of the Greenwich Hospital Ethics Committee. He was also a member of the Canon Law Society of America and served as a Judge in the Bridgeport Diocesan Tribunal.

Since his retirement from St. Catherine's, Msgr. Genuario has been lived at Queen of the Clergy Residence for retired priests, and worked in the Diocesan Tribunal at the Catholic Center as a Judge. He served regularly in St. Philip's in Norwalk on Sundays, and also at St. Mary's in Bridgeport.

He is survived by his sister Marie Stapkowski, of Westport, and his nieces and nephew, Diane Calabro and husband David, of Cheshire, Joan Stapkowski, of Fairfield, Marion Toth and husband Imre, of Kirkland, WA, Andrea Douyard and husband Michael, of Middlebury, Sandra Knierim and husband Skip, of Dover, NH, Donna Jones, of Trumbull, Daniel Stapkowski and wife Tina, of Wilton.

Monsignor s body will be received Thursday at 4:00 P. M. into St. Catherine of Siena Church, 4 Riverside Avenue, Riverside, and family and friends may call there. The Vigil Mass for the parish will be celebrated by Msgr. William J. Scheyd, P. A., at 7:30 P.M., Thursday.

Reception into St. Catherine of Siena Church, Thursday 4:00 PM, with visitation until the Parish Mass at 7:30 PM. The Mass of Christian Burial

will be celebrated by Bishop Frank J. Caggiano, at Noon on Friday, June 26th. The homily will be preached by Msgr. Alan F. Detscher, Pastor of St. Catherine of Siena Parish. Interment will follow in St. John Cemetery, Norwalk.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Catherine of Siena Parish, 4 Riverside Avenue, Riverside, CT 06878-1693 or Queen of Clergy Residence, 274 Strawberry Hill Avenue, Stamford, CT 06902.

Wake: Reception into St. Catherine of Siena Church, Thursday 4:00 PM, with visitation until the Parish Mass at 7:30 PM. Services: The Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by Bishop Frank J. Caggiano, at Noon on Friday, June 26th. The homily will be preached by Msgr. Alan F. Detscher, Pastor of St. Catherine of Siena Parish. Burial: Interment will follow the services in St. John Cemetery, Norwalk. Donations: Memorial contributions may be made to St. Catherine of Siena Parish, 4 Riverside Avenue, Riverside, CT 06878-1693 or Queen of Clergy Residence, 274 Strawberry Hill Avenue, Stamford, CT 06902.