



Joseph J. DiGrazia

September 9, 1917 - May 15, 2009

Joseph J. DiGrazia, born September 9, 1917 to Bartolomea and Gaetano DiGrazia in Chicago, Illinois, passed away peacefully at his Idaho home May 15, 2009. Joe Di, as his late wife Bernice fondly called him, was a WWII Air Force Veteran, successful Real Estate Broker, and thoroughbred horse owner and breeder. While residing primarily in Summit, IL, he was affectionately known in Chicago thoroughbred racing circles as Papa Joe, racing and breeding such notables as JRÆs Petö û Arkansas Derby Winner and Kentucky Derby 4th Place Winner; Illinois Stakes Winners Mardi Graziaö and Ambivalent Force,ö to name a few. Visitation Tuesday, May 26, 8:30am until time of prayers at 10:30am. Foran Funeral Home, 7300 W. Archer Ave. (55th St just West of Harlem) Summit, Illinois. 11 A.M. Mass of Christian Burial at St. JosephÆs Church, 7240 W. 57th Street, Summit, Illinois. Interment at St. MaryÆs Cemetery, W. 87th & Hamlin Ave, Evergreen Park, Illinois. Preceded in death by his wife Bernice (nee Mietkiewicz) and step-daughter Dolores Dollyö (Richard) Korczyk. Beloved Father of Annette (J. Richard) Allison, Palm Beach FL; Thomas (Ina), Albion ID; Michele (Smith) Townsend, Dallas TX; Bartolomea Bartö (Howard) Hershman, Los Angeles CA. Grandfather of Richard, John, Robert, Joseph, Stephanie and Zack. Step-Grandfather of Kathryn, Michael and Susan. Great Grandfather of Zachary, Jake, Emma, and Lauren; Step-Great Grandfather of Taylor, Adam, Michael Jr., Richard Jr., Kelli, Alexandra, and David.