



## Mr. Romolo Richard Befacchia

September 21, 1927 - April 6, 2020

Romolo Richard Befacchia, a longtime resident of Columbia, in Howard County, Maryland, passed peacefully on Monday, April 6, 2020 at the age of 92 following complications from diabetes. He will now join his wife of 65 years, Mary Joan (Christoph) Befacchia whom he greatly missed since her passing in March of 2018. Romolo leaves behind his daughter Joan Catherine Befacchia and her husband Leslie Lepore, son David Bartholomew Befacchia, and daughter Christine Therese Befacchia. Romolo will also be forever remembered by his granddaughter Destiny Cochrane, grandson Nicholas Romolo Lepore and his wife Sarah and great granddaughter Gracelyn Lepore, and his extended family and dear friends.

A native of Boston, Massachusetts. Romolo is predeceased by his father Bartholomew Befacchia of Teramo, Abruzzo, Italy (1892-1949), his mother Savina Lucia (Ribolzi) Befacchia of Olginasio di Besozzo, Varese, Italy (1899-2007), and his brother Florangelo Joseph Befacchia, of Queens, New York, USA (1923-1998).

After serving in the Army during WWII, Romolo attended Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. where he earned a BS in foreign affairs. Upon graduation, Romolo eagerly applied to work at the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Intelligence and Research, but he was told that since his family immigrated from Italy, he was barred during that WW-II era, which was a great

disappointment to him but it led him to work for The Department of the Navy in Washington, D.C. as a budget analyst until his retirement.

Romolo was passionate about family, friends, had a wonderful sense of humor, was an avid reader, and was very engaged with international politics and enjoyed telling stories reflecting on historical events. Romolo a lifelong, devote Catholic and was also a devoted member of the Knights of Columbus – Columbia Council #7559 and was a Sir Knight with the St. Agnes Assembly.

Romolo, along with his wife Mary, are to be scheduled for internment at the Eastern Shore Veterans Cemetery in Hurlock, Maryland. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the current restrictions surrounding social distancing standards, a memorial mass will be held at a later date at St. John The Evangelist Catholic Church in Columbia, Maryland. A complete notice will follow.

In lieu of gifts or flowers, the family requests that you consider honoring his memory by donating to The American Diabetes Association at: <http://www.diabetes.org/donate> or by mail at: P.O. Box 15829, Arlington, VA 22215  
Memories, condolences and photos can be shared with the family on his tribute wall at Fleegle and Helfenbein Funeral Home at: [www.fleegleandhelfenbein.com](http://www.fleegleandhelfenbein.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Eastern Shore Veteran's Cemetery

6827 East New Market Ellwood Road  
Hurlock, MD 21643

# Events

**Details are pending.**

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Romolo Richard Befacchia*

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October 08, 2023 at 03:21 PM



“ *Mr. Romolo Richard Befacchia*

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October 06, 2023 at 10:39 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



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**Christine Befacchia** - July 31, 2020 at 11:01 AM



Christine  
Befacchia

“ *Passing of Romolo Befacchia*

*Thank you to PGK James Mahoney for sharing this tribute and photos of our brother SK Romolo Befacchia.*

*We were saddened to learn earlier this week that Brother Romolo Befacchia, a member of our Council since its inception in 1980, has gone to his Savior. He was also a 4th Degree Sir Knight and member of St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton Assembly #1620. His home was on Macomber Lane in Oakland Mills where he and his wife, Mary, raised their two daughters. He became a very active member of our Council through the years. Romolo celebrated his 92nd birthday last September in an assisted living center in Denton, Md. where he and his deceased wife, Mary, resided after they left Charlestown in Catonsville. Romolo was compassionate, religious, had a wonderfully dry sense of humor, and was very engaged with international politics. He loved to tell stories and reflect on historical events. Following his graduation from Georgetown, he had applied to work for the State Department in Intelligence, but was barred during that WW-II era because he came from Italy, a very big letdown to him. His mother lived to be one of the oldest persons in Italy before she passed a few years ago at well over 105. Romolo, into his eighties, would go to visit her and say she still got on his case and scolded him for his smoking. God Bless Him!*

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

*Fraternally,*

*Alan Pultyniewicz, PGK  
Communications Committee*

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**Christine Befacchia** - April 26, 2020 at 12:02 AM



“ 6 files added to the album Memories Album



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**Fleagle and Helfenbein Funeral Home - April 23, 2020 at 01:01 PM**