

## Funeral Service for Armando Odorico – 140208

### Thoughts from the Heart by Vicki Odorico, his Daughter

At times it was definitely a challenge being my dad's daughter. He never made it easy for us - but in a strange way, I am grateful for this because it has made me strong, resilient and determined. I am proud to be these things - although at times it might make me a bit of a pain. So I started thinking about what else my dad has given me.

He instilled his love for music in me - especially music from the 50's and 60's. When my sister and I were young, I remember him playing his vinyl records - sometimes he'd play them a little too late and too loud - but you could tell that he really felt the music - it was a part of him and a part of our household (so much so that until I started high school - the only radio station I listened to was Oldies 990). This love for music has stayed with me and I hope to pass this on to my son Alerio.

I am grateful to him for the countless hours he spent in our home helping paint, hang stuff on walls (although at times it was a challenge because my dad and I are both perfectionists so it often got a little crazy), he installed fans and light fixture, he fixed plumbing and electrical issues, and I could go on and on (in every room - he is a part of the house that we live in). And as we worked, he taught me to use tools and to work with my hands and because of him, I can take care of my house.

I am thankful that he did not hold a grudge. There were times when I crossed a line and said things in anger- but we would talk the following day as if nothing had happened.

My dad always welcomed people with open arms - he was incredibly accepting, inclusive and non-judgmental. I am grateful that he loved the people in my life (Franco, Justice, Luka, and Alerio) and made them feel like family immediately.

Je suis si heureuse d'avoir ma sœur. Je ne sais pas qu'est-ce je ferais sans elle. Et à cause qu'elle est dans ma vie - ça me permet de sympathiser avec mes tantes et oncles qui ont perdu un frère.

Lastly, I am so grateful that he met my wonderful son Alerio and spent time with him. My dad loved him so incredibly and was so good with him. He loved to make him smile and laugh and he loved to hold him. I think that Alerio's innocence and vulnerability really touched my dad. He was gentle around Alerio (which was nice to see) and he genuinely wanted to be better for him.

I will miss him - and I hope he's found the peace that eluded him here.