



## Mr. Ambrose Sontino Bottarini

November 1, 1923 - May 24, 2014

In the early hours of May 24, 2014, Ambrose Sontino Bottarini passed away peacefully with his loving daughter Madeline by his side

Ambrose was the devoted husband to the late Socorro (Sally) Bottarini for 39 years. Ambrose is survived by his children, Madeline (Larry) Lopez, and Al (Betty) Berg, extremely proud grandpa of Alex and Nathan Lopez, sister-in-law, Dolores (Leo) Belcher, nieces and nephews Lorraine (Ricardo) Colindres, Rita (Barry) Bottarini and Mario (Debbie) Bottarini. Ambrose is also survived by many other loving relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by Sally his devoted wife, his loving older brother Mario and sister-in-law, Leah Bottarini.

Ambrose was born and raised in San Francisco's Excelsior district on November 1, 1923, to Angelo and Maddalena Bottarini from Italy. He lived his entire 90 years in the house he was born in on Athens Street, living independently there until only recently moving to Pacifica to live with his daughter and her family. As a young boy he worked with his father at the Mission Rock Quarry on Geneva Avenue before it became Castle Lanes Bowling.

He was a proud veteran of WWII, serving as an airplane mechanic. He was 20 years old in 1943 when he joined the Army Air force branch and was a

propeller specialist working on P-38's. His given name was Ambrose, but his friends called him Amb or Blackie, the name, as the story goes was given to him by a Native American Indian girl while he was in the service stationed in Oklahoma because he got so dark working on the planes in the sun. But his favorite name to be called was grandpa. He loved his two grandchildren more than life itself and was proud of their accomplishments, big and small. Because he was such a kid at heart himself, he and the boys experienced a bond that was unmatched. The boys loved their grandpa and knew he was always there for them should they ever need anything. In return, the boys took tender and loving care of him when he lived with them before his passing.

He attended Cleveland Elementary and Balboa High School. Ambrose was a member of many organizations. He belonged to the Druids Alpine Grove #109 for over 30 years, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Improved Order of Red Men-Miantonomah Tribe #9, The PD of P #125, The Hitching Post, Marino Pieretti Group and the "SOB's" (Same Old Boys Club). He worked in the window treatment industry, crafting woven blinds for commercial use. As a young man, he loved fishing and he outdoor and bowled for many years at Castle Lanes Bowling Alley. He loved his wife Sally. They had a love and respect for each other that is rare. He was the kind of guy who remembered her for everything birthday, Valentine's Day, and Mother's Day. They took good care of each other and he greatly missed her when she passed in 1994. When his grandchildren were born he loved babysitting and playing with them. Ambrose never drove a car. He got around the city on every evolution of public transportation in San Francisco from the street cars in the 30's and 40's to muni and BART. He was a great story teller. He loved to share wonderful stories as a kid about how he and his brother Mario taking street cars and cable cars with sacks of potatoes and sleeping bags to get to the Marin Headlands to camp with their friends as young boys and all the antics he and his friends would get into. In his later years you could find him watching his beloved westerns or spending endless hours doing his word search puzzles.

He was quick to smile and always up for an adventure no matter where or with.

He will be loved and missed by many of us, but he will never be forgotten.

Friends may visit on Wednesday, May 28, 2014, after 4:00PM and are invited to attend a Vigil Service also on Wednesday at 7:00pm at Valente Marini and Perata and Co., 4840 Mission Street, S.F. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated Thursday, May 29, 2014, at 11:00 at Church of the Epiphany, 827 Vienna Street, SF. Interment to follow at the Italian Cemetery, 540 F Street, Colma.

# Cemetery Details

## Italian Cemetery

540 F Street  
Colma, CA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAY 28.** 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM (PT)

Valente Marini Perata & Company  
4840 Mission Street  
San Francisco, CA 94112  
(415) 333-0161  
[funerals@vmpandco.com](mailto:funerals@vmpandco.com)

## Vigil Service

**MAY 28.** 7:00 PM (PT)

Valente Marini Perata & Company  
4840 Mission Street  
San Francisco, CA 94112  
(415) 333-0161  
[funerals@vmpandco.com](mailto:funerals@vmpandco.com)

## Funeral Mass

MAY 29. 11:00 AM (PT)

Church of the Epiphany  
827 Vienna Street  
San Francisco, CA 94112  
(415) 333-7630

## Committal Service

MAY 29. 12:30 PM (PT)

Italian Cemetery  
540 F Street  
Colma, CA

# Tribute Wall

AL

“ Grandpa I will miss you more than you will ever know and I hope that I was able to show you how much I loved you while you were alive. I'll never forget all the school projects you helped me build in the basement or how to shoot up a can in the air with a single firecracker in your backyard. I'll never forget the love and care you showed our family and your daughter, my mom. You have been there my whole life and now your not, your not going to call me anymore asking if I knew where mom is and when she is coming home and when she gets home to tell her to call you. Your not going to tell me to call you as soon as I get home when I leave you to make sure I got home alright. I'm going to miss your constant reminders that the garbage goes out on tuesday, or to make sure all the deadbolt are locked downstairs and upstairs before I leave. I'm going to miss your high speed waddle to get in front of us just to slow down once you took the lead. I'm going to miss Vicki and I helping you with your crossword search puzzles on all the words that the "publisher" left out. I'm going to miss all the memories we're not going to be able to make; like a drink at your bar downstairs together or you coming to spend some nights over at your home with Vicki and I. I am going to miss that smile you put across your face when we would watch disney movies with the family. But the thing I will miss the most is all of your little sayings. " Ah the hell with it"; Grandpa, simply put you where the best.

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**Alex** - May 29, 2014 at 10:00 PM

MA

“ Dear Madeline,  
Your father will forever live on in your smile & kindness.....  
Love,  
Maureen Geneste

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**Maureen** - May 28, 2014 at 05:16 PM



“ *Gable Gift Box was purchased for the family of Mr. Ambrose Sontino Bottarini.*



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May 28, 2014 at 02:08 PM



“ *RON STONE purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Ambrose Sontino Bottarini.*



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**RON STONE** - May 28, 2014 at 01:08 PM

RB

“ Dear Madeline,

*We are so so sorry for your loss. Uncle Amb will live on in our hearts forever. Trust in knowing that you did everything possible for him.*

*He will be missed so very much. We have such wonderful memories of him working the Cow Palace Sportsman Show, his love of taking pictures, his holiday turkey and snowman that he made, how he went everywhere on the bus, his puzzle books and how he would call and say he couldn't find all the words, his love of watching baseball, and how he looked up to his older brother.*

*Alex and Nathan are so blessed and truly richer for having had a grandfather in their lives.*

*I will miss our daily phone conversations and our trips to Sizzler for dinner. We know he is waiting up there for his shrimp dinner that he missed for his Birthday.*

*With Our Deepest Sympathy and Love,*

*Rita & Barry Beringer*

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**Rita Beringer** - May 28, 2014 at 02:59 AM

MB

“ *Maria Dolores Belcher lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ambrose Sontino Bottarini*



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**Maria Dolores Belcher** - May 27, 2014 at 04:12 PM

AC

“ Although no words can really help to ease the loss, may the peace which comes from the memories of love shared, comfort you and your family. I recall how kind and charasmatic he was when he attended our dragonboat event, and he had a wonderful sense of humor.

*"What we have once enjoyed, we can never lose. All that we love deeply becomes part of us." With Heartfelt Condolences, my thoughts and prayers are with you.*

*Sincerely,*

*Adela Chan*

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**Adela Chan** - May 27, 2014 at 01:41 PM

LS

“ LOVE JOHN AND SANDY purchased the American Beauty for the family of Mr. Ambrose Sontino Bottarini.



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**LOVE JOHN AND SANDY** - May 27, 2014 at 10:54 AM

GV

“ Gwen Vasquez lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ambrose Sontino Bottarini



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**gwen vasquez** - May 27, 2014 at 09:58 AM

DR

“*Madeline, Ambrose could not have asked for a more dedicated daughter. With the love and support from Al, Larry, Alex and Nathan, he had all any man could be blessed with. In the end the only one that matters is the one who's hand is there for you when you reach out. How wonderful that you were able to experience that moment. He is with Sally now and they will always be with you in you heart and soul.*

*All Our Love and Support,  
The Rodriguez Family*

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**Dolores Rodriguez** - May 26, 2014 at 01:17 PM

ML

“*You have your hand on your father's as he dies. Your expert, industrious hand, a woman's, now still, just holding, being strong. You are 5, and your father's hand gloves yours as you cross a busy street on a winter morning. Your hand disappears in his, and you, all trust, prize your own smallness as he warms you and guides you forward, onward.*” -Susanna Sonneberg

*I will love you and miss you forever Dad. Thank you for always guiding me forward and onward, I will need that strength now more than ever.*

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**Madeline Lopez** - May 26, 2014 at 02:38 AM

LC

“ We all miss you so much already beloved Uncle. You were always "favorite" Uncle, and you were the best "grandpa" to my children. Our memories will last forever of you, and you will always be forever in our hearts. Your smile, your giggle, your laugh, but most importantly your huge heart. You truly treated my children as "grandchildren" because they did not have a grandpa of their own. This will forever live with us. But most importantly I can rest assured that you are now reunited with my beautiful Aunt Sally who was and is still so loved. I know you are happy now in her comforting arms. Both of you are beautiful angels looking over your family at peace. So until we meet again, I love you.

*Lorraine Colindres and family*

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**Lorraine Colindres** - May 26, 2014 at 12:26 AM