

OBITUARY

Thomas Anthony "Tom" Capezzuto passed away on Saturday, March 12, 2011, at the age of 57. A Memorial Mass will be held on Friday, March 18, 2011, at Assumption Church, Maple Avenue, Morristown, N.J., at 10 a.m. Interment will be private. Visiting will be on Thursday, March 17, 2011, at Dangler Funeral Home, 600 Speedwell Ave., Morris Plains, N.J., from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Mr. Capezzuto was born on July 22, 1953, to the late Eugene A. and Josephine (Faccenda) Capezzuto, at All Souls Hospital in Morristown. He lived briefly in Syracuse, N.Y., and Menlo Park, N.J., before returning to Morristown, N.J., where he resided for the rest of his life. Mr. Capezzuto graduated in 1972 from Bayley-Ellard Regional High School in Madison, N.J. He earned an A.A. degree from the County College of Morris in Randolph Township in 1974 in humanities/social sciences. He was an honor student at Syracuse University, where he graduated in 1976 with a B.S. degree in broadcast journalism from the renowned S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications. Mr. Capezzuto worked as a radio news announcer for WRNJ-AM in Hackettstown, N.J., in 1976, then moved to print journalism the following year, working as a news/sports reporter for Enterprise News Service in Newark, N.J. He subsequently covered the New York Yankees for the next 17 years as a nationally-published freelance writer, with numerous magazine credits that included Inside Sports, Baseball Digest, Basketball Digest, Football Digest, The Sporting News and Yankee Magazine. He also covered the Giants and Nets periodically during the 1980s. Mr. Capezzuto was a New Jersey correspondent for the New York Times from 1982 to 1994, covering a variety of news and sports events for the New Jersey Weekly section of the Sunday New York Times. Mr. Capezzuto was hired in 1994 by the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) in Newark in a media relations capacity and brought a plethora of national acclaim to the research exploits of numerous academic physicians at UMDNJ. He also gave journalism and public relations lectures at the County College of Morris and Rutgers University. He also worked as a part-time cab driver for E-Plus of Morristown since 1997. Mr. Capezzuto played semi-pro baseball, enjoyed playing recreational basketball, and was an avid trout fisherman. He also dabbled in woodworking and photography in his spare time. "Our beloved Tom passed away following a long battle with MS." He is survived by his loving daughter, Mary Jo Anna Capezzuto; his sisters, Nancy Ann Hildebrant and Virginia Garrity, both of Issaquah, Wash.; a nephew, Patrick R. Hildebrant and his wife, Heather, of Issaquah, Wash.; a nephew, Christopher J. Garrity of Issaquah, Wash.; a niece, Brittani Garrity of Issaquah, Wash.; a great-niece and nephew, Hannah and Isaac Hildebrand of Issaquah, Wash., and many cherished aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. In lieu of flowers, donations in his name can be made to the Neurological Institute of New Jersey, 90 Bergen St., Newark, N.J. 07101.

The Star-Ledger - March 15, 2011:

NAME: Capezzuto, Thomas Anthony

DATE OF DEATH: March 12, 2011