



**AND AFFILIATED FEDERAL AGENCIES, INC.  
P.O. BOX 848, JFK AIRPORT STATION, JAMAICA, NY 11430**

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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.....**we are only 5 months into 2020 and in New York over 8,000 people have succumbed to the Coronavirus & in New Jersey the same amount. Over 67,000 have succumbed throughout the United States. I'm sure most of our readers are aware of these disturbing figures and I only mention them to have as future reference. The big question of the day seems to be, where did the Coronavirus originate? Is it China's fault? Is everyone exaggerating the dangers of the Coronavirus? Is our Government giving us the proper protection? Am I the only one who is confused? Of course, Senior Citizens like me, are advised to stay home, lock the doors, wear masks and rubber gloves, wipe your mail with a paper towel and NO KISSING!!! No shaking hands. You can bump your elbows and walk six feet apart. Ball parks & football stadiums are closed. Although I did hear one doctor on TV say it's ok to have sex...well at least the women don't have to fake headaches anymore. I'll say a prayer for you but not in church. God Bless You!

**COLUMBUS DAY PARADE.....**it goes without saying that our CBP Honor Guard lends class to our Columbus Day March up 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue every year and every year we fail to acknowledge their presence. The following Officers proudly marched last year. Our own JFK National Guards CBPO **Paul Attanasio** (Deputy Commander) and CBPO Officer's **Kevin Brodley, Fernando Cintron, Misael Correo, Nelson Cruz, Pedro Cruz, Leslie Quintanilla and Daniel Ruiz.**

**BIRTHS.....****Karen Mazzola McFerson**, Daughter of **Joan Mazzola** (ret. NIS NYC) gave birth to a baby girl, **Juniper Phoenix** on Oct. 16, 2019...**Mike Zitowsky** (ret. Sr Insp NWK) celebrating Daughter **Holly's** birth to a baby boy on Feb 5, 2020, 8 lbs. 11oz. Mike is celebrating his 6<sup>th</sup> Grandchild...**Jane & Marty Black** (ret. CBP Supv JFK) welcomed their 1<sup>st</sup> Grandson, **Phoenix Martin Black** on Apr. 22, 2020.

**SICK.....****Patti Buffolino** (ret. Supv OAS Operations) had knee replacement in March. She is doing well with her rehabilitation at home. Good Luck!...**Marty Black** (ret. CBP Supv JFK) spent three days in St. Francis Hospital having kidney stones removed...**Carol Stein**, wife of **Mike Stein** (ret. Imp Spec JFK) had hip replacement in Jan. She's doing well at home!...**Lou Custini** (CBPO JFK) recuperating at home from Coronavirus. Pray for our sick.

**RETIRED.....****Joe Perone** (Supv Import Spec JFK). We honored Joe as Man of The Year in 2012. Thank you for all of your help with The Columbia Association...**Bob Redes** (Chief Cargo Control JFK) and **Mary Benzie** (Deputy Chief Agriculture JFK)...**Sam Stabile** (Deputy Chief JFK). He is a Lifetime Member of The Columbia Association. It was an honor to attend Sam's Retirement at the Garden City Hotel and specially to meet and greet all of Sam's friends who traveled from all over the country to pay tribute to their friend Sam Stabile...**Ed Nagel** (Dir. Fines, Penalties & Forfeitures NWK). Ed retired with over 42 years Government Service. He started his Government Career with my Import Specialist Team at Bldg. #80 at JFK. It was a pleasure to attend Ed's Retirement Party at the Chart House in Weehawken, NJ. God Bless all our retirees.

**DECEASED.....****John Brennan** (ret. Sr Insp JFK). John was a regular member of the Monthly Coffee Club in Valley Stream...**Nick Romano** (ret. Supv NWK Seaport & Orlando)...**Myron Kaufman** (ret. Sr Insp JFK) passed Apr. 4, 2020...**Ema Campbell** (ret. Sr Trade Insp JFK) passed in March...**Mona Powell** (ret. CBPO Trade Insp JFK) passed Apr. 22, 2020 of Dementia...**Marian Evans** (ret. Imp Spec JFK)...**Marvin Epstein** (ret. NIS) passed Apr. 8, 2020 of Coronavirus...**Bob Oscard** (ret. Deputy Chief NWK) passed Apr. 27,

2020... **Wanda Riccio**, wife of **Tony Riccio** (I & C Operations NYC deceased). Tony was truly a legend of our Columbia Association... **Nunzio Incrimone**, Father of **Joan Mazzola**, passed Nov. 11, 2019 & was buried with Military Honors at Cape Canaveral National Cemetery... **Carl Soller** (Customs Attorney) passed in Jan. 2020... **Ernst Grand-Pieie** (Drawback Spec) passed Jan. 3, 2020. He lost his battle to Cancer... **Leon Watford**, Brother of **Paul Watford** (ret. Sr Insp JFK)... **James Adelis** (Pres. Int'l Security JFK)... **Guido Ruzza**, Father of **Luigi Ruzza** (CBPO JFK) passed Nov. 1, 2018... **Virginia Byrne** Wife of **Reilly Dundon** (ret. Spec Agent) passed on Apr. 23, 2020... **Evelyn Bulcroft** was an Import Specialist at JFK. She was one of the first people I recall meeting when I reported to Bldg. #80 in the late 60's. Evelyn was the perfect lady. Polite and always smiling. Evelyn passed on Jan. 21, 2020. The following sentiments are from Evelyn's family to The Columbia Association. *"Words cannot express how grateful we all are for your support at this very difficult time. Your presence at Mom's wake and service meant a lot to our family as did your visits with her at Egger Nursing Home. Your kind expression of sympathy and friendship will always remain in our memories. Kathy and Tom Campanelli (ret. NIS's NYC)."*... **Lou Pirovato, Sr** (ret. National Import Specialist NYC). I always considered myself a good friend of Lou. We played softball together after work and he was a Lifetime Member of The Columbia Association. Lou passed away on Mar. 20, 2020. Please share the note below from his son **Louie Pirovato, Jr.** who started as a Government Employee at JFK and retired as a Seized Property Specialist in NC a couple of years ago. Louie is also a Lifetime Member of our Columbia Association. *"Hi Phil, I hope you are doing well and self-quarantining with this pandemic hysteria.*

*Yes, my father passed away on Fri. 3/20. He turned 91 this past December, we had a small family gathering for that. Officially, I guess he died from kidney failure, as he was on dialysis for 7 years. I used to joke with my siblings that he was trying to set the world record for dialysis treatment. What a strong man for enduring those treatments (mostly 3 time a week). Seven years is a long time...*

*His health was failing over the past year, his memory wasn't as sharp, he had spoken about stopping the dialysis a couple of times and finally on 3/13 he had his last treatment and passed peacefully a week later in the nursing home he had been in for the past 2 or 3 years. My wife and I had driven up from NC that day, but with restrictions on visits at nursing homes, we were gonna be allowed to see him on Saturday morning. He passed about an hour after we arrived at my sister's house Friday night, a mile from the nursing home, and we were able to see him 20 minutes after he passed.*

*Due to the pandemic, his viewing was limited to one day, and we were not allowed to attend the burial at Calverton, as graveside ceremonies were prohibited. We will have a memorial for him at a later date.*

*He was married to my mom, (who suffers from Alzheimer's) for 66+ years. I had posted the sad news on Facebook's group "US Customs Service Friends" and had many nice comments and thoughts about my father.*

*Be well and stay safe, Louie Pirovato"*

Sorry to report that **Lou Sr's Wife Mary** passed away on Apr. 16, 2020 due to Alzheimer and Coronavirus.

**CHATTER.....****Pete DiRocca** (ret. Deputy Chief JFK) & Wife **Zofia** enjoying their retirement life living in Hawaii. Since Pete's Son & his Wife are both Doctors and must go to work for long periods of time, Pete & Zofia get to watch the Grandchildren. Pete's Daughter **Heather** is an Analyst with the Military Intelligence in Hawaii & as with most staff was told to remain home during this health crisis. Wow! Good Luck Pete! Are you sure you're retired?...thanks to **Richard Cotugno** (ret. CBPO NWK) for your nice note. I have Rich listed in our Columbia Association records as a Ret. Program Manager. Rich was nice enough to advise me that prior to retiring, his position was officially converted to Supervisor. I will send you a new Membership Card Supervisor Richard M. Cotugno. Please keep in touch, Rich... **Wayne Biondi** (ret. Director Dulles) doing background checks for DHS Applicants & those seeking to do work for the Government...thanks for your dues **Bill Ward** (ret. CBPO JFK)... **Janet Orla** (ret. CBPO) called to say hello. We talked for an hour...would you believe **Richard Schmidt** (ret. CBPO NWK) lost 50 lbs... **Pete Genco** (ret. CBPO NWK) also lost 30 lbs in one month with the special diet he's on. Good Luck Guys!...Happy to hear **Joan Mazzola's** son, **John**, works for CBP in Chicago...congrats to **Richard Pahopin** (ret. Deputy Chief NWK) who was honored at a Communion Breakfast by St. Anthony's Knights of Columbus for his services as Past Grand Knight... **Jeanne Manne Cordero** (ret. CBPO JFK) celebrated Grandson **Noah's** 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday on Feb. 4...our last breakfast at Mitchell's in Valley Stream in Feb. was a great turnout. Thanks **John K.**...had dinner a couple of months ago at Gargiulos in Coney Island with **Jerry Pavone** & the ACET Team (Aircraft Search Team) and of course my Son **Frank Maddalena** (C-TPAT JFK) drove me there. Those I remember attending were **Jerry, Frankie, Danny Gonzalez, Jamie Rocafuerte, Mike Carrea and John Van Gostein....** Congratulations to my Granddaughter **Danielle Grace Maddalena** on her Graduation from Cortland SUNY. Good Luck on your screen test in Hollywood!!!!

Fraternally,

**PHIL**

Philip Maddalena  
President

**Please Pray for John Swift (ret. CBPO Officer JFK). John will undergo a Bone Marrow Transplant for Leukemia on May 9 in Florida. Let's all send John, Get Well Wishes and our Prayers to [john.swift@earthlink.net](mailto:john.swift@earthlink.net). Stay tough, John. Our Prayers are on the way for you. God Bless you Pal.**