



## Vito Gallagher

July 25, 1962 - August 26, 2024

Vito passed suddenly on August 26, 2024, at the age of 62. Vito was a wonderful husband to Kelly, and father to the “light of his life”, Megan. He was a very simple man who was very proud of his home. He loved to tinker in the garage and could fix just about anything. If it was unfixable, he took it apart and rebuilt it. Just like he did in 1990 when he got sober and started to get very involved in a program of recovery. He technically started to rebuild his life. From that day on, it was the most important thing in his life. He knew without it he would not have anything else in his life. Over the last 34 years he helped hundreds of people from all walks of life. Whether it was a drinking problem or a stalled engine, he jumped right in and did all he could to assist. Vito was surrounded by many friends who loved and respected him. Kelly has had many, many people contact her and let her know how Vito helped them to get sober or get through a trying time in their lives. Vito got married to Kelly on June 20, 1992, they purchased a house in 1995.

That house become a home when they welcomed their daughter Megan on February 3, 1998. From that day on, he was the best father any daughter could ever want. As Megan says, they became best friends. They also took their dog Samantha into their home, and she soon became Vito's sidekick and buddy. When she passed away in 2012 Vito was heartbroken. Vito was a chef, and he loved cooking and feeding people, whether at his job or in his home. His greatest joy was seeing people enjoy his cooking. His marriage was a match made in heaven because Kelly did not cook. In August of 2024, he accepted the head-cook position at Walt Whitman High School and was about to embark on a totally new career at the age of 62. Having been a South Huntington graduate, he felt like he was coming back home. Although very nervous, he was excited about the role and the fact that he would be working with a great team. The team had the same thoughts as they expressed to one and other "We Got This". On Sunday he spent the day with dear friends and family. He cooked a beautiful meal, as usual, and just had a wonderful day. On Monday he headed off to work ready to start his next chapter. Who knew it would be his final chapter? The family finds consolation in the fact that he was so happy to be starting this new career. Vito is survived by his wife, Kelly, daughter Megan, future son-in-law Josh, 2 sisters Marion

Allen (Vernon Allen, deceased) and Rose Acosta. Vito was predeceased by his parents  
Marchie and Percy Gallagher as well as two brothers Gilbert and Bernard Gallagher. Vito was a  
loving son-in-law to Connie and Jim McKillop (both deceased). Vito was also a wonderful  
brother-in-law to Jamie and Kristin McKillop, Regina and Brian Brashear, Sean McKillop and  
David Yuenger, Colin McKillop (deceased), Meg Spanarkel (Dan deceased) and Kathleen  
Campo. He was a loving and devout uncle to many, many nieces and nephews who adored  
him, as he did them.

In Lieu of flowers, donations in Vito's name to the Special Olympics would be greatly  
appreciated. It was the only cause that Vito would donate to from time to time.  
<https://www.specialolympics.org/>

Family & Friends please come casually dressed as that is how Vito would have wanted it

# Cemetery Details

**Private Cremation**

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

AUG **31**. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

A.L. Jacobsen Funeral Home, Inc.  
1380 New York Avenue  
Huntington Station, NY 11746  
(631) 423-2185  
jacobsenfuneral@gmail.com

# Tribute Wall

MF

“ Dear Kelly and Megan. I have never met you but Vito was a close friend dare I say family member to our family (Azzue) when I was growing up. He was the kindest person and always treated me and my sister Anne like his baby sisters.. He loved my mother Ruby as his own. He was my brother Peter’s best friend. I truly am very sorry to hear this news. I know he loves you both very much my mother loves always getting your Christmas cards. My prayers go out to you both for your great loss. Everyone loved Vito. I know the Azzue family did.

Michelle Azzue Fiore - September 03, 2024 at 04:55 PM

SO

“ Kelly, so sorry for your loss. Fondly Simone

simone obrien - August 31, 2024 at 05:37 PM

JW

“ Dear Kelly and Megan. There are no words. I am so sorry for your great loss. I didn’t know Vito well, but I have only heard wonderful things about him. Your loss will not be easy to get through. I pray that God will give you strength at this very sad time and all the wonderful memories will fill your heart. Love you

Joan Williams - August 31, 2024 at 01:49 PM

TK

“ Vito was a wonderful man. He made the best lamp chops. He made great dinners that he brought to the hospital every night when his brother in law Colin (deceased) was very ill. You will be greatly missed. My thought are with you Kelly and Megan.

Tory Kirrane - August 31, 2024 at 09:28 AM

JM

*So sorry for your loss you are both in my thoughts n prayers 🙏 .Vito was such a nice person .he will be missed*

Joan mccue - August 31, 2024 at 12:08 PM



“ Kelly, Megan, Rosaline & Marion

*So sorry to hear of Vito's passing. Sending my thoughts and prayers.*

*May your memories of him give you comfort.*

*Beverley Smith*

Beverley Smith - August 31, 2024 at 01:25 AM



“ *Dearest Kelly and Megan. My heart breaks for you both. My family's thoughts and prayers are always with you. May his memory be eternal. 🙏🙏❤️*

Stacey Leventhal - August 30, 2024 at 06:54 PM

LS

“ *Love Jenn and Skye purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Vito Gallagher.*



Love Jenn and Skye - August 30, 2024 at 11:22 AM

LS

“ *Love Jenn and Skye planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Vito Gallagher.*

Love Jenn and Skye - August 30, 2024 at 11:22 AM

HG

“ Kelly , Meagan , Rosaline & Marion.  
We are so sorry for your loss , we pray for peace for you at this sad time.

Holly & David Ganong - August 29, 2024 at 03:20 PM

ER

I am so sorry to hear about Vito's passing. I remember him fondly in my early days of sobriety in the late '90's and early 2000's. He was a generous man who helped a lot of people.

Eric - September 09, 2024 at 06:40 PM

CS

“ Aunt Kelly & Megan,  
Thoughts and prayers to you both. Uncle Vito was an amazing man. Who would always go above & beyond for anyone who needed it. Great memories of bbq's and playing cards at your house. He loved you both so much. He will be greatly missed. Catherine

Catherine Sanchez - August 29, 2024 at 06:17 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Vito Gallagher.



August 28, 2024 at 09:31 PM

KS

“ K.C. Fleet Service planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Vito Gallagher.

K.C. Fleet Service - August 28, 2024 at 09:31 PM

JW

“ Kelly and Megan, I'm so sorry for your loss. Uncle Vito was a wonderful person. He had a heart of gold! I loved his laugh and especially his hugs. I always Said he gave the best hugs ever. We were blessed to have time with him last summer and to have him present for all the family photos. I will keep him alive in my heart forever!

Sending my love,

Janice Wynn

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Janice Wynn - August 28, 2024 at 08:37 PM

JR

“ The best hugs are "Big Vito & Kelly hugs"! My proudest baking moment? Vito enjoying my Christmas cookies. My mom saving egg cartons for the chickens, and yes oh yes! The chickens, oy vey, the chickens...the building of the coop, the pool deck, the wood carvings...being called "Miss Jane", so respectful and old fashioned. Vito describing how he made a dish, and how he delighted in the telling in addition to the prepping. How when you come to the Gallagher home, you are family. Remembering Kelly and Vito's joy when Megan was born and with each stellar accomplishment you've made, Megan. How Vito makes us feel. Kelly, Megan, love and prayers, tearful sympathy. Know we are all here for you, after all, you taught us how... you have always here been for us.

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Jane V. Ehrich RN - August 28, 2024 at 08:12 PM

SB

“ Dear Kelly & Megan, I'm so so sorry for your loss! Your tribute to Vito's life showed what an incredible impact he had on everyone he met. I wish you all much love and peace at this time. May you find comfort in knowing his legacy will continue because he changed the lives of so many. Much much love, Sachi

Sachi Becker - August 28, 2024 at 07:59 PM

KG

Amen Sachi. XO

kelly Gallagher - September 04, 2024 at 12:06 PM

AO

“ Amanda Oliva/Riva planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Vito Gallagher.

Amanda Oliva/Riva - August 28, 2024 at 06:15 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Vito Gallagher.



August 28, 2024 at 06:15 PM

AH

“ Dear Kelly and Megan, I am so sorry for your loss our thoughts are with you both.  
Anne and Dominic

Anne Heavey - August 28, 2024 at 06:14 PM

KG

*Thank you my dear Annie.*

**kelly Gallagher** - September 04, 2024 at 12:06 PM

DM

“ *Dear Kelly and Megan,  
I am so sorry for your loss. I only met Vito once and enjoyed getting to know him a bit. Please know you are all in my thoughts and prayers.  
God Bless you all,  
Daria Murphy*

**Daria Murphy** - August 28, 2024 at 05:33 PM

KG

*Thank you.*

**kelly Gallagher** - September 04, 2024 at 12:06 PM

CD

“ *Kelly and Megan,  
We were so saddened to hear this news. Vito was such a wonderful guy and he loved you both so much. I remember the last time that we saw him. He was in front of a blazing grill, cooking hamburgers at your Dad's house for all of us in 90 + degree weather. May your loving memories be a blessing to you both. We are both so sorry for your loss.  
Much love,  
Carol and Ron*

**Carol Dziekan** - August 28, 2024 at 11:13 AM

KG

*Thank you. XO*

**kelly Gallagher** - September 04, 2024 at 12:07 PM