



### ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION PREPS FOR ANNUAL LUNCHEON IN NEW VENUE

The Board of the SVH Alumnae Association is looking forward to a new and improved annual luncheon this year, to be held for the first time at The Manhattan Penthouse, located at 80 Fifth Avenue (West 14th Street). The 17th Floorpenthouse, just one block west of Union Square, offers



360° skyline views of the city with convenient hotel accommodations, transportation and parking in the area.

Since the arrangements for this year's luncheon are new to all of us, please note the following important points:

1. MASS will be offered at the Church of St. Francis Xavier, located on West 16th Street between 5th and 6th Avenues. The handicapped elevator access to the church is located at 55 West 15th Street. Please note that mass will begin promptly at 10:30AM.
2. LUNCHEON: Following mass, we will proceed to 80 Fifth Avenue at the corner of West 14th Street for cocktails beginning at 12 Noon followed by the luncheon. The price of the luncheon ticket this year is \$120, which includes an open bar of top brand wines and beer.
3. PARKING at a reduced rate (\$20 for the afternoon) is available at the garage located at 7 West 14th Street between Union Square and 5th





Avenue. This garage is close to both the church and the luncheon venue.

4. HOTELS in the immediate area of the luncheon include:

- The W at Union Square 201 Park Avenue South at 17th Street
- Hyatt Union Square 134 Fourth Avenue at 13th Street
- The Walker Hotel 52 West 13th Street
- Gramercy Park Hotel 2 Lexington Avenue at 21st Street
- Flatiron Hotel 9 West 26th Street
- Washington Square Hotel 103 Waverly Place (off Washington Square Park)

We hope to see all of you at the luncheon on November 9, 2019.



## GENERAL ALUMNAE MEETING SEPTEMBER 21, 2019- 12 NOON 20 WASHINGTON SQUARE NORTH, NYC



She's Baaccckkk...!!! Yes, **Adriana Trigiani**, best seller author, award-winning playwright, television writer/producer, film director/screenwriter/producer, and probably the funniest woman you'll ever meet will return to the next General Alumnae meeting on September 21st to regale us with stories of her loves in life, family, family, family, and yes, nurses too! She is writing a new book that will feature nurses in the 1920s so she'll be looking for input from all of us.

*Patience, Fortitude, Perseverance*





Due to the popularity of Adriana's last visit with us and the restricted space, this General meeting will be limited to **alumnae ONLY**.

## INTRODUCING THE ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP 2019-2020

The Officers of the Alumnae Association were selected in January as follows:

**President:** Marie Brady

**Vice President:** Maureen Heitmann

**Treasurer:** Pat Costello

**Recording Secretary:** Susan L. Faggiani

**Board Members:**

Chris Colligan

Harriet McGreal

Mary Muehleck

Sr. Kevin Phillips

Anne Marie O'Brien

Marilyn Strafer

## CLASS NOTES

### Class of 1959

The class of 1959 is celebrating the 60th reunion. We hope to see as many of our classmates as possible. If you have any questions feel free to contact Carolyn McNamara at **[jcmcn@hotmail.com](mailto:jcmcn@hotmail.com)**

### Class of 1969

Harriet McGreal writes:

So far we've contacted close to 70% of our classmates but are hoping to contact all of them. There is a dinner planned Friday night for the Class of 1969 with over 50 confirmed attendees. There is a block of rooms reserved at a discount rate at the Washington Square Hotel, 103 Waverly Place, NY, NY 10011. When booking the room use Group Code 5829 for St Vincent's. If you have any contact information for other classmates or need more information, please contact Harriet McGreal at **[hmcgreal@aol.com](mailto:hmcgreal@aol.com)**. Please make your reservations by September 15th to get the discount.

### Class of 1974

Marybeth Roubal Forcina writes:

Class of 1974... Our 45th reunion the weekend of the Alumni luncheon, November 9, 2019. Please contact Marybeth or Jackie B via Facebook at St. Vincent's Hospital School of Nursing NYC .

Cathy McWeeney Crimmins writes: I just wanted to share with SVH School of Nursing graduates that Sr. Celine, the Superior of the Little

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Sisters of the Poor at Queen of Peace, spoke with me this past week while I was visiting a friend, of the residence's great need for nurses. They have 8 hour day, evening and night positions available. It is a very special and beautiful place! If anyone is interested please contact:  
Queen of Peace Residence  
110-30 221st St.  
Queens Village, NY 11429  
Phone: (718)464-180

### **Class of 1984**

Class of 1984... Save the date and spread the word!

35 Year Reunion.....Saturday, November 9, 2019. Please join the facebook page: "St. Vincent's School of Nursing Class of 1984" for details. Please send your contact information to Lauren Trezza Garin @ [laurentrezz@aol.com](mailto:laurentrezz@aol.com) or MaryJane Blaney @ [mjb013199@yahoo.com](mailto:mjb013199@yahoo.com)

### **Class of 1989**

NAANA HONORS KARIMAH ZUHDI TARAZI WITH THE ANGEL OF MERCY AWARD

The National American Arab Nurses Association (NAANA) announces that Karimah Zuhdi Tarazi, RN, BS, has been named the 2018 Angel of Mercy

Award for her lifelong dedication to nursing in her native Palestine and beyond.

Renée Ahee, president of NAANA, said, "Karimah Zuhdi Tarazi has taken her nursing career beyond the walls of healthcare institutions and national borders, into four continents and cyberspace to reach patients and to encourage a new generation of nurses to be creative in how they apply their profession. She describes the nursing profession as 'a room with innumerable doors which open to opportunities to serve.' While we customarily recognize Arab American nurses who help or make a significant impact on the Arab American community, we also acknowledge the work of those nurses who expand the nursing profession.

### **Class of 1994**

Joan Malley Heaney writes:  
Class of 1994.. let's get together to celebrate our 25th anniversary at the Alumnae Luncheon , November 9, 2019. Please contact me at [pjheaney@verizon.net](mailto:pjheaney@verizon.net)

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or via Facebook at St. Vincent's Hospital School of Nursing NYC.

### **JAMES G. ROBILOTTI, MD**

In fall of 2017, James G. Robillotti, Jr passed away after a two year fight against cancer.

Many SVH alumnae knew Jimmy, or his father before him as they took care of their patients in St. Vincents.

Dr. Robilotti, Sr. was always nattily dressed in a three piece suit with a flower in his lapel, a model of the physician in the 1950's and 60's, formal, friendly and always courteous. Jimmy, on the otherhand, was a more boisterous, version of his father, a nurse always knew when he arrived to see his patients. Where his father was courtly and quiet, Jimmy was loud and irreverent.

The following narrative, written by Bill Erdman, MD, the husband of Gloria Flannery, class of 1966, is a tribute to Jimmy. Not many people knew the breadth of Jimmy's care for the sick, no matter whether they were in the hospital, on the private floors or in the wards. Jimmy started

the Methadone program in the neighborhood, ministered to the sick and elderly in Mary Manning Walsh, and provided care for many, many people in the Greenwich Village neighborhood where he grew up. One could not walk down any block in the neighborhood with Jimmy without meeting a person who would stop to talk with him. Even when he was ill and in the hospital or rehab, other patients gathered around him. He was a force of nature!

Marie Brady, President  
Class of 1966.

### **SAINT JIMMY**

*"Remember, I've always got your back."*

He often said goodbye that way. However, at that moment it seemed to be anything but appropriate. The man was on his deathbed.

For nearly 50 years, Dr. James G. Robilotti Jr. ministered to the sick in St. Vincent's hospital and out of his Washington Square office; just as his father had done for 40 years before then. Priest, pauper,

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politician or prince, straight or gay, addicted or clean, on death's door or just stressed out, if you were his patient, he made you feel better. In fact, he made everyone feel better.

"Jimmy" as he was affectionately called by just about everybody, cared for people in a special way. Make no mistake, he was a very serious and highly acclaimed physician. Nonetheless, it was his self-deprecating humor, his signature laugh and ubiquitous puckish grin that made your problems seem small, no matter how pompous, or dire, the circumstance.

About two years ago, Jimmy awoke and could not move his legs. Undiagnosed metastatic cancer had reached his spine. Undaunted, he underwent radiation treatments and rehabilitation therapy. After many months as an inpatient he was able to use a wheelchair well enough to resume seeing his own patients. He even managed to make teaching rounds at an uptown hospital. It was on rounds, in his wheelchair, when he collapsed and became a patient for the last time.

Amazingly, there was no obituary

notice. None. It did not matter. Perazzo funeral home was packed, literally wall to wall, with throngs of teary-eyed neighbors, shop owners, clergy, healthcare professionals and, of course, patients.

The patients were the most disconsolate. The lynchpin that made them a group was no longer; they looked in vain for a familiar face to share their grief. Dr. Robilotti, in white coat, draped stethoscope and beaten up black bag, was both a few feet and, sadly, a lifetime away.

The next day, a disheveled old man sat outside in his wheelchair peering into the street level window of Jimmy's office. "Are you a patient of Dr. Robilotti?" I asked. "No. We became friends when he was at the rehab center. He made friends with everybody there. I come by now and then and knock on this window. If he is between patients he gives me a thumbs up and I go in to chat for a few minutes."

"I am sorry to say, Dr. Robilotti

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has passed away. The funeral was yesterday".

I watched the old man as he rolled away silently down the street. Jimmy's last words came back to me. I realized then, as I do now, Dr. James G. Robilotti Jr. will always have "his back" too.

William A. Erdman MD

*In Loving Memory*  
**Dr. James G. Robilotti Jr.**  
*November 24, 2017*



*I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one, I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when day is done.  
I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways, of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days. I'd like the tears of those who grieve to dry before the sun, of happy memories that I leave behind when day is done.*

PIRAZZO FUNERAL HOME

## CLASS NOTES:

Please keep in touch with us by sending us your class year and email address to [SVHalum@gmail.com](mailto:SVHalum@gmail.com). Alum frequently request information about their classmates, particularly to reconnect for reunions.

## WEBSITE:

Sweatshirts and tee shirts are still available at the SVH Shop. Please visit the site for review of Class Notes, Photo Gallery, SVH Shop, and more.

[stvincentschoolofnursingalums.org](http://stvincentschoolofnursingalums.org)

## TRANSCRIPTS:

### Save for future reference!

Please note that effective immediately, requests for transcripts and education verification must be submitted in writing and require a \$20 processing fee. Mail requests to:

Transcripts  
Sisters of Charity of New York  
6301 Riverdale Avenue  
Bronx, New York 10471-1093

### Please include the following information:

Full Name at the time of graduation  
Year of Graduation

A processing fee of \$20 made payable to:  
Sisters of Charity of New York

Allow up to two weeks for the receipt of information

## NEWSLETTER STAFF

Joan Caruana '61 Editor Emeritus  
Bernadette Fleming Hemmer, '68  
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[SVHalum@gmail.com](mailto:SVHalum@gmail.com)

### Change of Address, Correspondence and Annual Dues of \$50.00

Forward to Mrs. Patricia Costello  
28 Cowdrey Street  
Warwick, New York 10990  
845-544-2675

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