

**CARMEN CARROZZA** was one of the most accomplished and acclaimed concert accordionists to grace concert halls for many years throughout the world. He was born in the village of Solano Reggio di Calabria, Calabria, Italy in 1921 and emigrated to America with his family at age 9, settling in the Thornwood, NY, where he lived until his death.



Much has been written about the unique artistry of Carmen Carrozza but one critic established the position in the world of the classical accordionist when he wrote, *“the violin had its Paganini, the piano its Chopin, the accordion its Carrozza.”*

AAA Past President, **DR. CARMELO PINO**, was a gentleman and a scholar. He was an accordionist of charismatic virtuosity who had also distinguished himself as an innovative composer. A member of the AAA since the mid-50s, Carmelo was a member of the governing board, served as vice president for several terms and president from 2001 to 2004. In addition, he was program and competition chairperson, MC, adjudicator and featured performer at numerous AAA events. Together with the late Maddalena Belfiore, Carmelo chaired the 1976 Coupe Mondiale held in Washington, DC.

The following appeared in the Washington Post. “On Thursday, June 20, 2013, the beloved husband of Ellen Pino; father of Marcella Horchy, Camille Hoover and Tracey Billig; step-father of Joseph Gaffigan and the late Ann Marie Romano; brother-in-law of Kevin, Brian and Sr. Maureen Carroll. He is also survived by 11 grandchildren, many nieces and nephews A Celebration of his Life will be held on Monday, July 1 at 10:30 a.m. at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 3513 N St., N.W., Washington, DC 20007. Interment private. **Online guestbook at: [www.KalasFuneralHomes.com](http://www.KalasFuneralHomes.com)”**



Another fine musician has left us. **AUGUST ARRUDA, JR.** of Bristol, Rhode Island, passed away this past week. Augie was an AAA member and active supporter of all AAA as well as accordion activities. His groups traveled throughout the world bringing entertainment to thousands and providing a fine music education to his dedicated students.



**ROBERT A. PAOLO** of Johnston, Rhode Island, passed away on Saturday, June 29, 2013. He was the beloved companion of Ann Marie Panarello. Born in Providence, he was a son of the late Domenic and Elizabeth (Zangari) Paolo. Robert was a lifelong music teacher and conductor, a world champion accordion player whose students went on to also become champion players. He was also a producer of an album, and a veteran in the US Army National Guard.

Featured articles on both Carmen Carrozza, Carmelo Pino as well as Augie Arruda and Bob Paolo, will be included in the AAA's 75th Anniversary Journal supplement which will be distributed at the Festival in New York City in August. If you have any “remembrances” and photos you wish to have included, please send them to [ameraccord1938@gmail.com](mailto:ameraccord1938@gmail.com).