



## RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE

December 21, 1949 - March 5, 2022

Richard "Dick" J. Simiele, beloved husband, father and grandfather, entered into eternal rest at Francis House at the age of 72. He leaves to cherish his memory his wife of 48 years, Angela (DeSantis) Simiele, and his children, Paula (Nathan) Charvella, of Amherst, Joseph (Sookie) Simiele, of Walnut Creek, CA, and Rosanne (Mark) Bellavia, of Hilton, and his beloved grandchildren, Mila, Vincent, and Cora Charvella, Gianna, Luca and Gino Bellavia and Salvatore Simiele, who brought so much joy to their "Papa". Dick is also survived by his sister-in-law, Rosemary Simiele, of Solvay and his brother, Michael (Colleen) Simiele, of Cresco, Iowa, sister-in-law, Doris Henry, of NC and brother-in-law, Nicholas DeSantis, of Solvay; many nieces, nephews, and dear friends. He was predeceased by his parents Mary Grace (Bianchi) and Anthony Simiele, sister, Marie, and brothers, Patrick, Anthony and Robert.

After graduating from Solvay High School, Dick graduated from the State University of New York at Fredonia, where he received his bachelor's and master's degrees in Music. Dick was a talented musician and music teacher. He played many instruments including clarinet, baritone and tenor saxophone and flute. He was part of the Stan Colella Orchestra and the Mario DeSantis Orchestra for 35 years. He taught instrumental music in the Cato-Meridian School District for 6 years and general music and choral music in the Baldwinsville School District for 26 years.

As an educator, Dick used his humor and compassion to encourage his

students in all their endeavors. He had a remarkable ability to connect with others and make everyone feel loved.

During Dick's tenure at Baldwinsville, he wrote 26 one-act musical plays, writing the script and composing the music geared toward his middle school students. To name a few – The Pasta Palace, Movin' On Out, Boxsations and Potentiality. There were many colleagues who loved to be part of the production process, especially Terry Gerber, Laurie Dobmeier, Trish Hollis, Phil Sterling, Kathy Wallace, Bill and Dorothy Dwyer and Barb Stowe, and many more colleagues behind the scenes and on the stage.

The Simiele family would like to thank the doctors, physician assistants, and nurses that cared for him over his illness, along with Pastor Jon Maselli of Community Tabernacle for his pastoral care.

Family and friends may call from 4:00 – 6:00 PM Wednesday, March 9th at BAGOZZI TWINS FUNERAL HOME, 2601 Milton Ave, Solvay. Funeral services will be held 10:00 AM Thursday at Grace Assembly of God, 4220 Fay Rd, Syracuse 13219. Entombment will follow in Woodlawn Cemetery, Syracuse.

Please share online tributes and memories at [www.bagozzitwins.com](http://www.bagozzitwins.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Woodlawn Cemetery-Mausoleum

800 Grant Blvd.  
Syracuse, NY  
(315) 479-5826

# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

MAR 9. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

BAGOZZI TWINS FUNERAL HOME  
2601 Milton Avenue  
Solvay, NY 13209  
info@bagozzitwinsfh.com  
<http://www.bagozzitwins.com>

## Funeral Service

MAR 10. 10:00 AM (ET)

Grace Assembly of God  
4220 Fay Rd.  
Syracuse, NY 13219  
(315) 488-8013

# Tribute Wall



“ *Bagozzi Twins Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE*



**BAGOZZI TWINS FUNERAL HOME, INC.** - March 07, 2022 at 12:27 PM

AS

*Beautiful job on the video tribute.  
Angela Simiele*

**Angela Simiele** - March 07, 2022 at 04:52 PM

CW

*Such a wonderful tribute! Enjoyed watching.*

**Cathy & Dave Winfield** - March 08, 2022 at 08:57 AM

LT

*What a beautiful tribute for such a great guy❤️ Beautiful and loving family to carry on in his memory in this wonderful video. May God bless you always❤️🙏❤️*

**Linda Tucciarone** - March 08, 2022 at 09:25 AM

MO

*Wonderful tribute. Love all the pictures of family and FOOD! 🤤💕❤️.  
Maureen Ozols*

**Maureen Ozols** - March 08, 2022 at 12:49 PM

DB

*What a beautiful tribute to your husband. And amazing family.*

**Debbie Branning** - March 08, 2022 at 01:55 PM

SC

*What wonderful memories. Thank you for sharing.*

*Sue Cottrell*

**Sue Cottrell** - March 08, 2022 at 03:45 PM

TG

*What a beautiful tribute to a wonderful man. So sorry for your loss Angela and family.*

**Tricia Longo Gibbons** - March 08, 2022 at 04:50 PM

BD

*What a touching tribute for a special man.*

**Barbara Dabney** - March 08, 2022 at 06:45 PM

MB

*Love this...what a great family and wonderful memories you all have of times together.*

**Mary Anne Brown** - March 08, 2022 at 07:40 PM

JP

*Thank you for sharing, this is just beautiful!! A great tribute!*

**JoAnne Masella Primerano** - March 08, 2022 at 08:40 PM



*Beautifully done. Joy and sadness.*

**Shelley Sperka** - March 08, 2022 at 10:03 PM

CW

*Dear Angela, On behalf of your SDPA and JDPA family, Dick's music will continue to sing our from all that he trained and all that experienced his joyful gift. With love to your family at this time.*

**Christine Ward** - March 09, 2022 at 10:33 AM

DM

*An absolutely beautiful video honoring such a great guy and his entire family. You can see the love and happiness in everyone's face. He will be greatly missed.*

Donna Mancini - March 09, 2022 at 07:54 PM

MB

*“ I judged many All-County Festivals with him. He was extremely kind, friendly and welcoming. I am sad to hear of his passing.*

Mary Buchmann - March 24, 2024 at 02:16 PM



*“ RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE*

January 21, 2023 at 02:11 PM

CS

*“ Dick Simiele was an amazing motivator to his students. He inspired two of our daughters to participate in musicals and one actually went on to major in music education. His influence lives on. A teacher's influence should never be underestimated. Our daughter Alyssa remembered that he was the first person to show her a cd, and explain that it was the future of music recordings. ❤️  
Cindy and Jerry Sharfstein!*

Cindy Sharfstein - August 14, 2022 at 08:54 AM

DE

*“ Debbie lit a candle in memory of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE*



Debbie - March 09, 2022 at 07:18 PM

AS

*Thank you Debbie.  
Angela Simiele*

Angela Simiele - March 11, 2022 at 12:53 AM

LT

“ *Lloyd Todeschini lit a candle in memory of  
RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE*



Lloyd Todeschini - March 09, 2022 at 06:06 PM

AS

*Thank you Lloyd.  
Angela Simiele*

Angela Simiele - March 11, 2022 at 12:54 AM

CF

“ *Big Hugs & Prayers of comfort for Angela and the family. My heart is  
heavy. I will play a cymbal stanza (or two) for you!*

CINDI F - March 09, 2022 at 05:29 PM

JC

“ *Please accept my deepest sympathies at your loss. Dick was a  
wonderful human that I always enjoyed seeing on the bandstand. I  
always enjoyed talking with him. He brought a beautiful spirit with  
him wherever he went.*

Joe Carello - March 09, 2022 at 01:48 PM

AS

*Thanks for your kind words, Joe.  
Angela Simiele*

Angela Simiele - March 11, 2022 at 12:50 AM



“ *Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE.*



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March 09, 2022 at 10:35 AM



“ *We are so sorry to hear about Dick's passing. Dick and I taught together at Cato-Meridian Schools, besides playing together in numerous jazz bands. He was wonderful teacher and musician. We were close friends with his wife and family. As I read his tributes everyone who new him cherished his friendship , his musical talent and love of teaching. My wife and I send our love to Angela and family as you deal with your loss. Wish we were closer. Bob and Beth Foreman*

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**Bob foreman** - March 09, 2022 at 08:48 AM



*Thanks Bob & Beth. We have some great memories of the Cato-Meridian days! Thanks for the kind words. Love, Angela*

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**Angela Simiele** - March 09, 2022 at 09:28 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE.*



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March 08, 2022 at 11:27 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE.*



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March 08, 2022 at 10:58 PM



“ *"Mr Simiele" was my music/chorus teacher in middle school..... I hated chorus... or any public attention. He talked me into joining every year.... and even gave me solo's to perform (dreaded) at our concerts. He gave me the confidence I needed and still carry today as an adult. I was very sad to hear this news.... he was my favorite teacher.... prayers to his family for this difficult time....*

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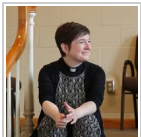
**David McIntyre** - March 08, 2022 at 10:34 PM



*Thanks David. So nice to read your comments! Love, Angela Simiele*

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**Angela Simiele** - March 09, 2022 at 09:30 AM



“ *Getting to play "Veronica Volume Up" in one of Mr Simiele's original productions was the most fun I've ever had in theater. I owe a lot of my fearlessness on stage to his direction and creativity. Even as a middle-schooler, I recognized how lucky we were to have someone as talented as Mr. Simiele as our music/choir teacher. He made us all feel like stars.*

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**Katie Suddaby** - March 08, 2022 at 06:45 PM

AS

*Oh Katie! That was beautiful! You were a star!  
Angela Simiele  
PS I knew your Grandma Ruth from Twins Club!*

Angela Simiele - March 08, 2022 at 08:17 PM

KT

“ *Karen Todeschini lit a candle in memory of  
RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE*



Karen Todeschini - March 08, 2022 at 06:03 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the  
family of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE.*



March 08, 2022 at 03:10 PM

RT

“ *fond memories of hearing Dick in the sax section of Salt City Jazz  
Collective as well as his work with the DeSantis and Colella  
orchestras...and then he wrote and produced more than two dozen  
one-act musicals at B'ville! wow! a man of many talents and a  
pleasing personality to boot...condolences to Ange and the family!  
--Russ Tarby  
Liverpool*

Russ Tarby - March 08, 2022 at 03:08 PM

AS

*Thanks so much, Russ. We appreciate your kind words.*

**Angela Simiele** - March 08, 2022 at 06:15 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE.*



March 08, 2022 at 01:48 PM

GP

“ *Glenda, Debbie and Peggy purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE.*



**Glenda, Debbie and Peggy** - March 08, 2022 at 01:09 PM



“ *Sentimental Dreams was purchased for the family of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE.*



March 08, 2022 at 01:04 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE.



March 08, 2022 at 12:12 PM



“ Angela,  
Remembering Dick from the high school years and that great 50th Reunion --- fun, talented and a beautiful person. He has impacted the lives of many as a teacher and with others simply by sharing his God given love of music.  
Hold dear and cherish all the precious memories the Lord has given you and your family to have shared together. My heartfelt sympathy.  
Margaret (Peg) O'Neill-Ehrmentraut

Margaret Ehrmentraut - March 08, 2022 at 11:03 AM



Thanks Margaret. Thanks for your nice comments! Glad we got to see you again at the 50th reunion!

Angela Simiele - March 08, 2022 at 06:18 PM



“ Sending our love and our deepest condolences to all of you. Such a wonderful man and neighbor, who will be truly missed 💕

The Kingdollar Family - March 08, 2022 at 10:05 AM



Thanks Fred!! Dick loved you!

Angela Simiele - March 08, 2022 at 06:19 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE.*



March 08, 2022 at 09:52 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE.*



March 08, 2022 at 09:08 AM



“ *I'll always cherish the times we had together working in the Stan Colella Orchestra. Dick was a joy to be on a bandstand with. A dedicated musician and educator to the core. Angela, you and your entire family are in my daily prayers. RIP, Dick - have a ball in that big jam session in the sky...*

**Larry Luttinger** - March 08, 2022 at 08:57 AM



*Thanks Larry! Yes, there's a great jam session up in heaven.*

**Angela Simiele** - March 08, 2022 at 06:21 PM



“ *Angela, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. My prayers are with you and your beautiful family. We are away for the winter but know that I will be thinking of you all. Barb Smorol*

**Barbara Smorol** - March 08, 2022 at 08:28 AM

AS

*Thanks Barb. Our hearts are broken. He was our rock! There's a great orchestra in the sky now!*

**Angela Simiele** - March 08, 2022 at 06:23 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE.*



March 08, 2022 at 05:43 AM



“ [Memorial Trees](https://www.bagozzitwins.com/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE.

March 07, 2022 at 09:50 PM

LV

“ *I can still see Mr. Simiele's warm, encouraging smile, and hear "The Other Way" lead song from our 7th grade musical. Mr. Simiele's lessons went beyond music, he taught us how to be kind, thoughtful people in this world. He was truly a special person who made a lasting impact on so many of us who were fortunate enough to have him as a teacher at Ray. My deepest sympathy to his family.*  
*Laura Varacchi*

**Laura Varacchi** - March 07, 2022 at 08:54 PM

AS

*Thank you so much for the beautiful words. Angela Simiele*

**Angela Simiele** - March 08, 2022 at 06:44 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE.*



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March 07, 2022 at 08:41 PM



“ *A New Sunrise Spray was purchased for the family of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE.*



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March 07, 2022 at 07:21 PM



“ *Always LOVED coming to music class! Mr. Simiele was EVERYTHING a Music Teacher should be: talented, inspirational, motivational, creative and loved what he did. You could tell he genuinely loved what he did. Although I was more of an instrumentalist, I remember staying after with Mrs. Gerber for a private clarinet lesson and being AMAZED that he knew how to play the clarinet too! He was truly a gem. My condolences to his family and friends and I am so privileged to have had him as a teacher. Thank you, Mr. Simiele, for sharing your love of music 🎵*

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**Erin Hladun Gurdak** - March 07, 2022 at 03:28 PM



*Thank you Erin for your kind words.*

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**Angela Simiele** - March 08, 2022 at 06:46 AM

Linda Johnson-Bailey

“ *Such a special guy--from high school to our 50 year class reunion and getting to reconnect with him. I was blessed any time our paths crossed----I'm so glad we all worked together on our class party. Dick was a true success and finished this life well as a man of faith. God's peace and comfort be with you, Angela and allall your family.*

Linda Johnson-Bailey - March 07, 2022 at 02:42 PM

AS

*Thank you Linda. It was nice reconnecting with you too.*

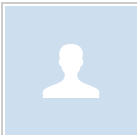
Angela Simiele - March 08, 2022 at 06:47 AM



“ *32 files added to the album Life Tributes*



BAGOZZI TWINS FUNERAL HOME, INC. - March 07, 2022 at 12:18 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE.*



March 07, 2022 at 10:48 AM

JT

“ Dear Angela and family, Please accept my deepest sympathy to learn of the passing of Dick. We are in Florida for the winters and are unable to attend calling hours however be assured you are all in my thoughts and prayers.  
Joe and Angela Todisco

Joe Todisco - March 07, 2022 at 10:31 AM

AS

Thanks Joe & Angela.

Angela Simiele - March 08, 2022 at 06:48 AM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE.



March 07, 2022 at 09:47 AM

ML

“ Marianne LaValle-Vincent purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE.



Marianne LaValle-Vincent - March 07, 2022 at 09:34 AM

HF

“ Mr. Simiele was my music teacher at Ray many years ago. I participated in his musical “Faces” and he was a big influence in starting my involvement in music and continuing through high-school and into college and after! I am so sorry for your loss and hope that it helps to know how many people’s lives Mr. Simiele touched in a most wonderful way. -Heidi (Fredenburg) Fabian

Heidi Fabian - March 07, 2022 at 08:49 AM

AS

Thank you Heidi! It’s comforting to know he inspired your love of music,

Angela Simiele - March 07, 2022 at 10:02 AM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE.



March 07, 2022 at 08:26 AM

DL

“ Ang, Rosie, Paula and Joe, we are all so sorry to hear about Dick’s passing. He was always such a great person to chat with. Ang, you two were perfect for each other.  
There is no doubt that there are some wonderful musical numbers being played up in heaven now and maybe if we listen close enough we will hear them too. Love from Mario, Dee and the Lombardi family

Dee Lombardi - March 07, 2022 at 07:14 AM

AS

*Thanks Dee and family. Beautiful sentiment! Love Angela & family*

Angela Simiele - March 07, 2022 at 10:04 AM

KT

“ *One of my absolute favorite music teachers. He was so patient, kind and talented. May you rest in peace Mr. Simiele.*

Kate Hamblin Trenkelbach - March 07, 2022 at 06:45 AM

AS

*Thanks for your kind words, Kate.*

Angela Simiele - March 19, 2022 at 08:17 PM

JZ

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the Simiele family. Loved stopping and talking to Dick in their driveway on my way home. He was a special man. May he RIP.*

*John Zagata*

John Zagata - March 07, 2022 at 05:56 AM

AS

*Thank you John!*

Angela Simiele - March 07, 2022 at 10:06 AM

ML

“ *I am so saddened by Dick's passing! So many of my favorite memories are of my friendship with Dick. My deepest condolences to Angela and the entire Simiele family. Heaven gained a musical angel. I know his talents and incredible optimism will make Heaven a better place*

Marianne LaValle-Vincent - March 07, 2022 at 12:55 AM

AS

*Thank you so much.  
Love, Angela*

**Angela Simiele** - March 07, 2022 at 10:07 AM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE.*



March 07, 2022 at 12:48 AM

LP

“ *So sorry to learn of Dick's passing. Many great memories from Prospect School to our 50th class reunion. My heart and prayers go out to you and your beautiful family that you built together. My sincere condolences, Willie*

**Leonard Pfeiffer** - March 06, 2022 at 08:16 PM

AS

*Thanks Willie. He will be missed so much. Our hearts are broken. Your kind words comfort us.  
Love, Angela*

**Angela Simiele** - March 07, 2022 at 10:09 AM

LR

“ *Angela you and your husband were so wonderful to us when the girls were playing soccer at Naz. Phil and I are very sorry for your loss. Prayers for you and your entire family.*

**Iorraine Rogers** - March 06, 2022 at 07:18 PM

AM

“ Angela, the years have passed and we have not shared our lives together like when we did as neighbors and best friends. You and Dick were so perfect for each other. At this time of loss know there are so many that love you and want to somehow comfort you. Hold your memories close, know that love never leaves, listen and look for it in Dick’s music, special times and places you shared together, your children and family, and all that you hold dear. There you will find healing, laughter and Dick’s love for you. We both love you and wish we could be with you. We pray for you Anna and Larry.

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**Anna & Larry Miller** - March 06, 2022 at 06:35 PM

AS

*Thank you my neighbor and best friend. Your beautiful words are comforting to me. Praying for strength to carry on.*  
*Angela & Family*

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**Angela Simiele** - March 11, 2022 at 12:59 AM

VK

“ The world has lost a kind, loving, and talented man whose memory will be cherished by all who knew him. Angela and family, please accept my sincerest condolences for your loss, and know that you are in my thoughts during this difficult time. Rest in power, Dick.

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**Vicki Krisak** - March 06, 2022 at 06:07 PM

DF

“ My sincerest condolences to Angela and the entire Simiele family Dick was the best of friends. His smile always lit up the room and his kindness to all was amazing . May he rest in peace. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Dave Francescotti

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**David Francescotti** - March 06, 2022 at 04:57 PM

AS

*Thanks so much Dave. Your kind words are comforting to me.  
Angela & Family*

Angela Simiele - March 11, 2022 at 01:01 AM

DV

*“ Dick and I shared many great times at Solvay High School  
He will always be my best man. Nancy and I will always have his  
family in our prayers.*

Donald Vincentini - March 06, 2022 at 04:27 PM

AS

*BEST man!! That says it all!  
Thanks, Don & Nancy*

Angela Simiele - March 07, 2022 at 10:27 AM



*“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for  
the family of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE.*



March 06, 2022 at 03:31 PM

RB

“ Dickie was one of my favorite friends and neighbors growing up on Woods Road in Solvay, He was a great kid then and turned into a great man later on. We lost track for many years but reconnected when we were both teaching in Baldwinsville. The world has lost a fine human being but heaven has gained a shining star - there is a lot of music going on right now! Condolences to Angela and the entire family - may your warm memories help you during this difficult time.

*with sincere sympathy and love, Rockette*

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**Rockette Pirro Brunetti** - March 06, 2022 at 02:02 PM

AS

*Thanks so much! We appreciate the kind words.  
Love, Angela*

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**Angela Simiele** - March 07, 2022 at 10:10 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of RICHARD "DICK" SIMIELE.



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March 06, 2022 at 01:06 PM