


Obituary

 **ANTHONY F. MERLINO, MD**, 92, of North Providence, passed away August 9th, surrounded by his family. He was the beloved husband for 58 years to the late Dolores Mary (Aucello) Merlino.

Dr. Merlino was a graduate of Classical High School, Providence College, University of Connecticut, and Jefferson Medical College, and served as a Medical Officer in the USAF, 2 years on active duty, and several years in the Active Reserve.

He was a board-certified orthopedic surgeon, who practiced at the Fatima and Providence units of St. Joseph Hospital, until his retirement, after 40 years, in 2003. He authored over 20 scientific articles in various medical journals and was a member of the American Medical Association, American College of Surgeons, American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons, Rhode Island Orthopedic Society, Eastern Orthopedic Association, Boston Orthopedic Club, and numerous other professional organizations. Historically, with his late partners, William Hindle, MD, and Ralph Pike, MD, he founded the first professional service corporation in Rhode Island, the Rhode Island Orthopedic Group, Inc. on January 2, 1969.

For a period of 20 years, he was orthopedic consultant to his beloved Alma Mater, Providence College and team physician



to its NCAA Division I Athletic Teams. He was honored by the College with the McDonnell Award in 1981 and the Golden Friar Alumni Service Award in 2001.

Dr. Merlino was a daily communicant of St. Anthony Church in North Providence and a member of the Archangelica Prayer Cenacle. He was a major benefactor of his church, of Providence College and Jefferson Medical College, and a serious contributor to a multitude of other charitable organizations and foundations.

He was a serious JFK assassination researcher and devoted many years of his life to that activity. He was a skilled film and digital photographer, who specialized in landscapes and wildlife. He was also an accomplished pianist, who played for his own enjoyment and that of his family and friends.

He was the devoted father of Christa Merlino of Smithfield and Paula DeDonato and her husband Joseph, and the proud and loving grandfather of Christina and Joseph DeDonato, all of North Providence. He was the brother of Frank Merlino and his wife Elizabeth of Potowamut, and Helen Toro of West Warwick and Estero, FL.

Memorial donations may be made to the Anthony F. Merlino, MD, Scholarship Fund of Providence College, 549 River Avenue, Providence, RI 02918. ❖