

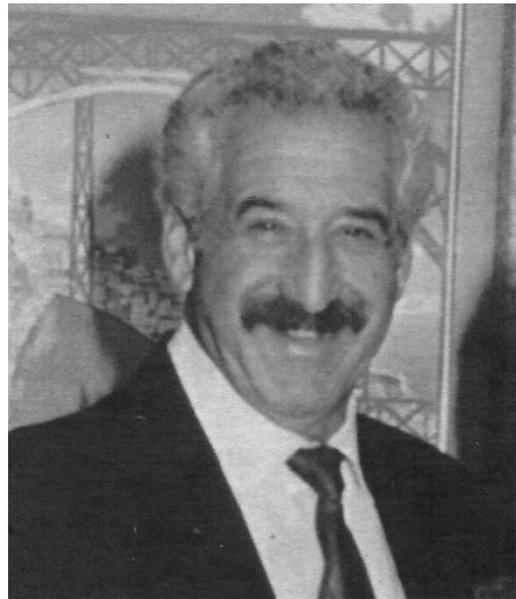
# Gus, Aiello Sr.

1931

**JOURNEYMAN TILE SETTER, BUSINESSMAN, COMMUNITY SERVICE**

WRITTEN BY HIS GRANDSON, ANDREW DIAZ

Gus Aiello, Sr. was born in Monterey, California, to Erasimo Aiello and Mary (Bruno) Aiello on November 30, 1931. He is the seventh child of eight (three girls and five boys) and grew up on Larkin Street in the Spaghetti Hill neighborhood. Gus attended public schools in Monterey all the way from kindergarten to his graduation from Monterey High School in 1950.



He quickly joined the work force two weeks after graduating from high school, beginning his career at CL Frost Roofing & Tile Company. He started as an apprentice in the ceramic tile trade and soon after achieved the title of Journeyman. Gus decided to remain in the tile trade for the duration of his career with one exception, a short affiliation with the Monterey Post Office.

Shortly after beginning his career Gus met a beautiful woman named Anna Marie Apostrofe. He knew beyond a doubt that his search for love need not continue, and on April 30, 1955, (a rainy Sunday afternoon) Gus and Anna Marie became husband and wife. They are the proud parents of five children--Ray, Tom, MaryAnne, Lisa and Gus, Jr.--and 11 grandchildren.

Gus reached the apex of his career when he became the owner of Aiello Tile; he shared the endeavor with his oldest son, Ray, who has now taken over the family business as sole owner. Of all the many prominent projects that Aiello Tile contributed to, Gus was proudest of his work on the San Carlos Cathedral and its parish hall, a mural crafted for a local bishop and tiling work at the Church of the Annunciation.

Gus has always enjoyed golfing, though he is humble about his abilities and achievements. He has participated in many tournaments, leagues and golf events over the years, including volunteer efforts for the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am golf tournament for over 15 years.

Gus's love for people and social connection is what motivates him to be an active participant in many social organizations, including the Italian Catholic Federation, Compari Club, The Elks Lodge, Amici Group and Knights of Columbus.

Gus is always willing to do what he can (usually he is asked to help cook) to ensure local social events and fundraisers are carried out with panache and style. You can find him helping in the kitchen for events at the Elks Lodge, the Moose Lodge and Festa Italia, and for the Italian Catholic Federation Lenten dinners at the parish hall, as well as for ICF monthly meetings. Gus was proud to have been honored by the Italian Heritage Society for his years of community service.

Through his volunteer service and activities Gus has many opportunities to share his special spirit and humor with others, but what he enjoys most is spending time with his family members and his many dear friends, especially if a sports game is on the television.

**ITALIAN HERITAGE HONOREE 2016**