



Cav. Frank Forlini

Frank Forlini was born on January 10, 1923 in the village of Pennula in Groppallo, commune of Farini. He was the oldest child of Catherina and Giuseppe. As a child, he loved caring for the farm and his animals, but America was calling and he boarded the ocean liner Rex in 1938 and arrived in New York where his father was waiting. He worked as a carpenter for Don Roseau Furniture Company under the guidance of his great friend, Mike Cavanna. In 1943, he entered the US Army, becoming a paratrooper with the 11th Airborne, 187 Division, and served in the South Pacific during the Second World War. He was wounded in the Philippines and received a Purple Heart and multiple honors from the US and Philippine governments. When he arrived back home, he met and married the beautiful Louisa Segalini, from Pradovera, and started his large family. He worked in his father's restaurant and began his great passion for cooking delicious Italian meals and serving friends, family, and clientele from all over the world. He opened Forlini's Restaurant and, in 1956, moved the establishment to its current place, 93 Baxter Street, where he and his beloved brothers Freddie and Hugo introduced many of the Piacentini delicacies to a whole new audience.

All his life, he took great pride in his Italian heritage and, more specifically, his Piacentini heritage! Along with other leaders, including the unforgettable Paul Draghi, he aided in the creation of the Scholarship Fund of the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure which has supported hundreds of students over the years. In 1995, he was named Piacentino Nel Mondo and he also received the title Cavaliere della Repubblica Italiana.

In 2007, he was greatly honored to receive the Angil del Dom award from the Fondazione di Piacenza e Vigevano. He continues to enjoy his home in Pennula and has spent many decades entertaining family and friends with food, laughter, and good company!