



The New York Water Environment Association, Inc.
The Water Quality Management Professionals

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NYWEA Establishes Lucy Grassano Memorial Scholarship

Syracuse -- The New York Water Environment Association (NYWEA) recently established a scholarship in memory of Lucy Grassano. Lucy Grassano was an active supporter of the Association and was a long time employee of the City of New York. The scholarship will be used to further the careers of secretaries, administrative assistants and operators in the water quality field.

Lucy Grassano's fellow employees at the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP) describe her as not only an outstanding executive assistant, but an unequalled friend and counselor. Grassano helped the men and women she worked for, and with, to succeed. Whether she worked with a field inspector, sewage treatment worker, clerical assistant, plant chief, division chief, director or deputy commissioner, she kept their days running smoothly so they could stay focused on completing their functions. She seemed to know people everywhere in the city, and was able and willing to assist others in a variety of ways. She provided colleagues with support and counsel through life's personal and professional stresses, and loved celebrating with them their birthdays, anniversaries, retirements and job changes.

That support and friendship was lost with Grassano's passing in July of 2007. Lucy Colangelo Grassano was born on August 30, 1941 to her immigrant parents, Francesco and Margherita Colangelo. She spent her formative years in the Mott Haven section of the South Bronx. As a life-long resident of the Bronx, Grassano spent her adult life in the Williamsbridge and Throggs Neck sections of the borough. She had attended St. Rita's parochial grammar school and Cathedral High School.

Grassano joined the City of New York in 1973 as a typist and rose through the ranks, becoming a Principal Administrative Assistant for the NYCDEP and retired in that position in 2002. During her short-lived retirement, Grassano enjoyed traveling to Europe, Florida,

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Bermuda and Puerto Rico, as well as taking cruises. An avid reader, Grassano could often be found reading a book on the beach of the condo complex where she retired. Grassano is survived by her brother, Vincent, sister in-law Rose, four nieces, four great nieces and nephews, as well as many loyal and devoted friends.

To keep the memory of Lucy Grassano alive and to help deserving individuals achieve their educational goals, over \$10,000 has been raised to establish a scholarship in her name. A NYWEA committee was formed to establish criteria, accept applications and award a scholarship at the Association's 2010 Annual Meeting.

To contribute to the Lucy Grassano Memorial Scholarship Fund, checks may be sent to: **NYWEA – Lucy Grassano Account, Executive Office, 525 Plum Street, Suite 102, Syracuse, NY 13204.**

About NYWEA: Founded in 1929 by professionals in the field of water quality as a nonprofit educational organization, NYWEA has 2,500 members statewide who historically have led the way toward state and national clean water programs. NYWEA hosts several technical conferences each year for environmental engineers, scientists, public officials and others who work in water/wastewater quality management. In addition, NYWEA sponsors scholarship programs to encourage careers in science and engineering, publishes *Clearwaters*, a quarterly educational trade magazine, and supports humanitarian clean water projects. Headquartered in Syracuse, NY, NYWEA (www.nywea.org) has seven regional chapters, 12 college student chapters and is a Member Association of the international Water Environment Federation (WEF).

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For scholarship information, contact Robert Adamski, (718) 833-7579