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John S. Hogan
County Clerk

Charles S. Amorosso: A Northvale and Bergen County Legend
The Borough of Northvale mourns the passing of Charles S. Amorosso, who was an integral part of our town for many decades. As a young man, I had the privilege of serving with Charlie in the Northvale Fire Dept. At the time, Charlie was the President of the Fire Association, where I witnessed, first-hand, his unique leadership style.

Recalling the impact that his leadership style had on me, I appointed Charlie to the Northvale Planning Board when I was first elected Mayor. He quickly became the Vice Chairman and, a few years later, he became the Chairman—a volunteer position that Charlie held for over two decades.

As other towns were bursting with development, Charlie's strong leadership of the Planning/Zoning Board guaranteed controlled development in Northvale.

Charlie was an "acquired taste." When you first encountered him, Charlie came across as brash, harsh and even tough. He had a "Humphrey Bogart" type of delivery—very direct.

He used these skills to master his leadership ability. When an applicant began to ramble, Charlie would move the meeting along with, "Ok, let's get to the point!" When an objector to an application started to "get on the soap box," Charlie would interrupt with, "What's your question?"

Occasionally, some arrogant, condescending professionals, who appeared before the Board, were brought down to size when Charlie would quip, "I don't care what you say. This is the Borough of Northvale and you will follow our rules!"

You see, Northvale was always Charlie's hometown and he used his skills to better the community.

Charlie was also a Northvale Special Police Officer and owned and operated D & E Uniforms in Closter for 56 years where he provided the uniforms for many generations of police and firefighters in Bergen County.

When you really got to know Charlie, you discovered that he was a warm, caring person with a big heart and, quite simply, he loved his community and he especially loved his family.

I will miss my friend Charlie and Northvale, as well as Bergen County, will miss a “favorite son.”



Pictured: Clerk Hogan and Charlie Amorosso