John Vena Inc. mourns long-time partner Charles Pigliacelli

June 22, 2022

Charles D. Pigliacelli, a member of the John Vena Inc. leadership team from 1985 to 2008 and a long-time Philadelphia produce veteran, died June 17 at his home in Ocean View, DE.

Born in Philadelphia, Mr. Pigliacelli was a graduate of St. Joseph's University with a degree in accounting. He began his career in the produce industry during the 1970s at the Philadelphia Food Distribution Center, first at M. Levin & Co. before moving to Ralph D. Hughes Inc. He landed at JVI in 1985.

For the next 23 years, Mr. Pigliacelli and his magnetic personality helped establish JVI as one of the strongest houses on the market. He worked in just about every role and department in the company, eventually climbing to partner and director of operations, responsible for the day-to-day operations of the business.

Outside of work, Mr. Pigliacelli was a devout Catholic and was involved in various Catholic charities during his life. He had a passion for playing and coaching sports, especially soccer, and took every chance to live life to the fullest, enjoying music, dining out, traveling and spending time with family.

"Charlie was a solid guy that I trusted with anything and everything," said John Vena, president of JVI. "He is as responsible for the success of JVI as anyone. He was a mentor to many of our team members. He will always be in our thoughts."

Services will be held on Friday June 24 at St. Clare of Assisi Parish – St. Michael's Church, 313 Memorial Ave., Gibbstown, NJ. Friends may meet with the family on Friday from 9 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. at the church, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10:30 a.m. Interment will immediately follow the mass at St. Josephs Cemetery, Woolwich Township, NJ.

Arrangements are being handled by the Landolfi Funeral Home in Paulsboro, NJ. In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory can be made to the Brandywine Valley SPCA in Georgetown, DE or Parish of St. Ann's in Bethany Beach, DE.

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