

Past President Judge Ralph J. Sposato

Past President Judge Raffaele J. Sposato was born in Acri, a small town in Italy, in the province of Cosenza, on October 31, 1947. He is the son of Francesco Sposato (deceased) and Angela Vuono Sposato. Judge Sposato immigrated to the United States with his family in 1961 at the age of 13. He has been married to the former Nina Capalbo for the past 30 years and has four children.

A graduate of Roxborough High School, Philadelphia in 1966, Judge Sposato, as a senior, represented Roxborough High and was awarded First Place in "Plymouth's Trouble Shooting Contest," the highest competition of automotive mechanics, breaking all of the school's and state's records which are still standing today. Judge Sposato also represented Roxborough High in Plymouth's National Competition held in Detroit, Michigan, where he received high honors. He served as an apprentice at Sabado's Motors in Roxborough and attended Chrysler's National Training Center.

Judge Sposato dedicated 28 years of his life as a teacher in the Philadelphia School District. He matriculated to Temple University, LaSalle University, and Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science. He earned a professional teaching certificate, presented to him by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in May of 1970. Judge Sposato returned to teach at his alma mater in September of 1970. He retired from the school district in June of 1998. On June 4, 1991, Judge Sposato was the recipient of the "Root Award" given by Roxborough High School in recognition of his dedication and service to the school and community.

Judge Sposato serves on the Industry-School Advisory Board. He was recognized by the Pennsylvania Department of Labor as "Master Auto Mechanic" in September of 1972. In 1976, Judge Sposato opened "Dr. Ralph's Automotive Services Center, Inc." Currently he is an Automotive Consultant and President of "Dr. Ralph's," where he enjoys great success along with his son Franco.

Judge Sposato has been an active member of the Order Sons of Italy in America for the past 30 years. He is currently serving his second term as State Trustee for District 1 for the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, I.S.I.A. He has held various offices and served as Ivy Ridge Lodge 251 President for four terms. Under his tutelage, the membership of the Lodge doubled. He also spearheaded a youth movement and is responsible for the influx of many bright young professionals of Italian descent into the Lodge. He was honored "Man of the Year" by the Ivy Ridge Lodge on October 29, 1994. In July of 1999, Judge Sposato was named one out of one hundred Italian Americans in Philadelphia to be considered for the Frank Rizzo Memorial Award for Lifetime Achievement.

On September 29, 1999, Judge Sposato was appointed as a Judge to the Court of Judicial Discipline in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Judge Sposato is the first Italian immigrant to be appointed to a judgeship, as a non-lawyer, in the history of the state. On June 25, 2002, Judge Sposato was elected President Judge of the Court.

The Judges of the Court of Judicial Discipline

Robert L. Capoferri, President Judge

Paul P. Panepinto

Richard A. Sprague

Lawrence J. O'Toole

William H. Lamb

John L. Musmanno

Kelley T.D. Streib

William D. Bucci