

# Obituary of Richard D. Cassetta



Richard D. Cassetta, Professor Emeritus of the College of New Rochelle, died peacefully at his home in Rye, New York on July 21, 2018. Professor Cassetta was eighty-one years old.

Born in the Bronx, New York on May 1, 1937, to Paul R. Cassetta and Matilda Cassetta, Professor Cassetta attended Mount St. Michael High School in the Bronx, where he was an honor student, a member of the football team, and a star runner on the Mount's track team. Professor Cassetta ran the lead leg of the Mount's highly acclaimed 1954 mile relay team, which among many other accomplishments, won the Penn Relays.

Upon graduation from high school, Professor Cassetta attended Manhattan College, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in Chemistry in 1960. Professor Cassetta earned a master's degree in Chemistry from St. John's University and did doctorate work at Tufts University.

Professor Cassetta taught physical and organic chemistry at the College of New Rochelle for 47 years until his retirement in 2009. Professor Cassetta taught and mentored generations of future chemists, teachers, doctors, nurses, and business people during his time at the college. He was an active member of the American Chemical Society and served as Chairman of the New York Section of the American Chemical Society and as its Councilor for several years.

Professor Cassetta married Carole E. (Molines) Cassetta on September 3, 1961. This September would have been their fifty-seventh wedding anniversary. Professor and Mrs. Cassetta have six children: Richard P. Cassetta, Monique (Cassetta) Class, Paul R. Cassetta, II, Dr. Michael Cassetta, CDR. Stephen Cassetta, (USNR, Ret.), and Christine (Cassetta) Kenny. They have fourteen grandchildren: Valery Cassetta, Alex Cassetta, Nicholas Class, Margaux Class, Katherine Cassetta, Elizabeth Cassetta, Caroline Cassetta, Sam Cassetta, Will Cassetta, Mia Cassetta, Madison Kenny, Gavin Kenny, Leah Kenny, and Meredith Kenny.

Professor Cassetta and his wife Carole lived in Rye for forty-eight years. They are members of Resurrection Parish and have been active members of the community. Professor Cassetta served for a number of years as a little league baseball coach. Professor Cassetta was an avid boater, having kept a boat at Rye Marina throughout the time he lived in Rye. Professor Cassetta is survived by his wife Carole, his children, sons-in-law Eric Class and Mike Kenny, daughters-in-law Tonia Jane

Veazey Cassetta, Maureen Cassetta, and Ann Cassetta, his grandchildren, and his brothers Douglas Cassetta and John Cassetta. Professor Cassetta is preceded in death by his parents Paul R. Cassetta and Matilda Cassetta and his brother Paul N. Cassetta.

**RICHARD D. CASSETTA:  
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY BIOGRAPHY**

**ACS SECTION:** Westchester Subsection

**EDUCATION:** M.S., St. John's University, 1961; B.S., Manhattan College, 1959

**NATIONAL ACS ACTIVITIES:**

Steering Committee for 202nd ACS National Meeting, NYC, 1990-91  
Councilor 2011-2013, 1994-96, 1990-92, 1987-89, 1983-85  
Alternate Councilor 1997, 1993, 1996-2001, 2004-06, 2008-2010, 2014-2017

**NEW YORK SECTION ACTIVITIES:**

Chair 1984  
Chair-elect and Program Chair 1983  
Outstanding Service Award 1989  
Outstanding Service Award Committee 1989-92, Chair 1992;  
Long Range Planning Committee Chair 1986-2008, member 1981-date  
Councilor 1994-96, 1990-92, 1987-89, 1983-85  
Alternate Councilor 1997, 1993, 1996-2001, 2004-06, 2008-2010  
Director-at-Large 1976-77  
Program Chair, Metrochem 1985  
Educational Activities, Chair 1981-82  
Membership Committee 1977-80  
Student Affiliate Committee, Chair 1979-80, Member, 1976-date  
Chemical Education Committee 1975-88, Chair 1980-81  
Salute to Excellence Award 2007

**WESTCHESTER CHEMICAL SOCIETY ACTIVITIES:**

Chair 1972, 1982

**MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGIONAL MEETING ACTIVITIES:**

MARM '93 & MARM '97 Planning Committees  
MARM Representative 1988-date

Professor Cassetta enjoyed being a member of the ACS New York Section and attended as many events as possible. He was a highly respected and dedicated ACS volunteer. His kindness, his interest in others and his perseverance will always be remembered. He was a true friend to many and will be truly missed.