Silverio "Sil" Basile Entrepreneur and Philanthropist

Silverio "Sil" was born in "Down Neck" Newark in 1952. The only son of the late Albert and Helen Basile. Sil has been married to Mafalda "Muffy" for 46 years. He is the proud father of Anthony, Michael and Marissa and is the proud grandfather of Gianna, Michael, Christian, Chase, Meadow, Sia and Vanessa. Annie, Derek and Victoria, his inlaws, round out his beautiful family.

Sil has a degree in Business Administration from Seton Hall University. He had a successful career on Wall Street as a Financial Advisor from 1975 to 1990. After that time, he started his own hedge fund which was very successful. Through his work he has been blessed with great friendships and good fortune. He has always been very grateful of his success and has lived his life according to the "pay it forward" principle.

In 1985, with the partnership of the Elizabeth Coalition of the homeless, Sil helped establish the Hospitality House in Elizabeth, New Jersey. The mission of the Hospitality House was to provide temporary shelter to homeless, single, mothers and their children. With Muffy by his side, the idea of this house flourished and similar homes with the same concept were built in surrounding cities. This project is one of Sil's proudest philanthropic accomplishments.

Sil's philanthropic work didn't stop there. Sil and Muffy were both honored with a Humanitarian Award from the Cystinosis Foundation of New Jersey for their generosity throughout the years. They also served on the board of Several Sources Shelters and were recognized by the organization for their continued support.

In 2006 with the help of an organization called Young Life, Sil was introduced to a young man from Connecticut who was struggling to find his way. He was being raised by a great-aunt who struggled to make ends meet. Sil built a beautiful relationship with this young man. He opened up his heart and home and "adopted" him into his family. Sil enrolled him into college where he graduated with a Criminal Justice degree. He is now happily married and contributes to the good of society. His bond with Sil and the Basile Family is so special that he even asked Sil to be the best man at his wedding.

Sil takes pride in his Italian heritage and was named after the Patron Saint of Frosinone, the town where his ancestors originated. He visits his extended Basile Family in Frosinone yearly. In 2007 he was honored at the Frosinone town hall for his work promoting his Italian heritage. With his family by his side, he accepted the proclamation with the utmost pride.

Sil has so much to be grateful for and shares it with those around him. It is an absolute honor for him to accept this award from the Columbian Foundation as its mission is perfectly aligned with so much of what he represents and supports.