



NEWS RELEASE From Mayor Dean DePiero

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MAYOR DEPIERO SADDENED BY PASSING OF FRIEND AND COLLEAGUE

(PARMA) – Parma Mayor Dean DePiero said today he is greatly saddened at the death of his friend and well-liked city official Anthony Zielinski. The Parma City Treasurer passed away on Friday following a lengthy and courageous battle with cancer.

“He was an extremely popular elected official due to his hard work, sincerity and ability to bring people together during tough times,” said Mayor DePiero. “Even when he was sick and fighting for his life, he continued to work hard for Parma’s residents.

“Personally, I have lost a great friend, mentor and confidant. I will miss his great humor and easy going nature the most.”

Zielinski, 46, had been serving as Parma Treasurer since being appointed in July of 2005. He was re-elected to another four year term in November 2009. Prior to becoming Treasurer, Zielinski was a Parma City Councilman in Ward 8 for more than seven years. While a councilman, Zielinski was the Majority Leader and Finance Chairman.

“My brother was a unique combination of charisma, integrity, intellect and strength all put into a handsome package,” said Ken Zielinski. “Anthony told me on numerous occasions throughout his career that he made decisions based on what was the best for the residents and city – not for himself. He truly viewed public service as a way to make a contribution and a positive difference for people.”

Longtime friend Tom Mastroianni, Parma Clerk of City Council, said he will miss Zielinski’s sense of humor and the positive attitude that he brought to everything he did.

“Anthony was like a brother to me,” said Mastroianni. “His tireless work ethic gave our residents outstanding service at a time when being Treasurer of a major city like Parma was a daunting task. He will be greatly missed.”

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Mastroianni organized “Anthony’s Army” in July of last year as a show of support for his friend. Money collected from the sale of “Anthony’s Army” T-shirts was donated to the American Cancer Society through Relay for Life.

Mayor DePiero was among the throng of supporters who wore an “Anthony’s Army” T-shirt during a group picture at Tri-C last July prior to the start of Parma’s Relay for Life.

“His family, including his son, Anthony, and the love of his life, Traci, meant the world to him,” said Mayor DePiero. “Anybody who knew Anthony knows he was a class act.”

Funeral arrangements are being handled by the Ripepi Funeral Home, 5762 Pearl Road in Parma. You can call 440-888-0800 for more information.

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