

# Big Time

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"As I reflected on what to say I thought that I could tell you all the things that I have come to know and all the things I've learned with my years of education and throughout my 30 years of law practice.

But I thought it would be much more fun to tell you all the things 'I didn't know.' Many people went to high schools bigger than our entire town. People grew up not knowing their neighbors. - that people didn't have 24 first cousins and countless second cousins that they lived around. - that people didn't have 3-4 generations of relatives living next door or in the same house. - that other people didn't go to church regularly and that people didn't pray as a family and that they didn't have faith. - that people didn't hug perfect strangers to welcome them. - that festivals like this with people returning to their home from out of town and from wherever they landed in life to visit with family and friends was so unusual. -that most people bought tomato sauce in a jar. - that fried meatballs and Sunday gravy with bread wasn't a breakfast food. - that people would think it was strange that neighbors and aunts and uncles and older cousins would reprimand you if they caught you doing something inappropriate. -that people locked doors at night. - that Sunday dinners for 15-30 people were not a normal thing. - that food was not the center of everyone else's life and universe. That other people didn't eat when they were sad, eat when they were happy, eat when they were socializing all while planning the next meal." Alysa concluded with this remark, "In Roseto people know you, see you, we have common faith, a common heritage, common values, common traditions and in this 132nd year of this feast of Lady of Mt. Carmel, we are grateful for the intercession of Our Lady. May she continue to rain down these blessings upon us and may we be always grateful for each and every blessing.

I had to give her a big hug when it was over, and thanked her for making my day with those words, and that was the best speech I ever heard.

I have been coming to Big Time since I was 10 years old, My older brother Bill Ortoski lived 2 blocks down from the church with his wife Mary Louise, their two children Mike and Mark and Mary's mother Grace Falcone they always had my family over for Big Time.

This years Queen was Violet Farino, daughter of Joyce Farino and the late Fred Farino. The Princess was Victoria Parks, daughter of Joe Parks and Kris Ordinsky-Parks. The Court: Julia Goffredo, Anna Goffredo, Mackenzie Hughes, Aubrie La Bar, Anna Koehler, Dena Koehler, Maria Giordano, Madilyn Molle- Vasquez, Alessandra Ilardi, Emma Hansen, Kimberly Laubach and Francesca Reto.

Court: Julia Goffredo, Anna Goffredo, Mackenzie Hughes, Aubrie La Bar, Anna Koehler, Dena Koehler, Maria Giordano, Madilyn Molle- Vasquez, Alessandra Ilardi, Emma Hansen, Kimberly Laubach and Francesca Reto

Violet's & Flower Girls: Iris Caiazzo Nicole Martino, Crown Bearer: Nolan Ventrudo. Page Boys: Cullen McCracken, Nicholas Martino.

Victoria's Flower Girl: Princess flower Aubrianna Contress .

