



# GUS ANDY

APR 21, 1938 - OCT 16, 2023



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## **GUS ANDY**

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**G**us Andy was the husband of Fotini Andy, father of four children, and the proprietor of the La Mer Beachfront Resort in Cape May, NJ. Gus was an impactful part of the community in both Miami, Florida and Wildwood, NJ where he dually resided, and his birth village of Velvento, Greece.

Gus was born Costas Antoniadis on April 21, 1938 in a small northern Greek village called Velvento. He was the son of farmers and the town was teeming with peach orchards, cobblestone streets, bustling cafes and mountain vistas. At the young age of 13, Gus immigrated to Chicago, Illinois due to the distressing consequences associated with the Communist-led Greek Civil War. Along with his mother Vasiliki, father Yioryos, brother Yianis and sisters Maria and Katerina, Gus arduously worked several low-brow jobs — from dishwashing to janitorial duties to zipping around town as a paperboy — in a concerted effort to support both his family assimilate to a completely foreign place.

An education zealot, Gus graduated the University of Florida where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Landscape Architecture. He attended the University of Oklahoma where he received a Master's Degree in City and Regional Planning. During a summer at the University of Mexico, Gus studied Economics and the Spanish language. At Florida State University, he studied business. He also attended Florida International University to study Hospitalities.

Upon graduation, Gus worked at Florida's Development Commission, the rough-and-tumble restaurant realm, and eventually settled in Cape May, NJ where he acquired the La Mer hotel, which he continued to operate until his passing at age 85. Work was his passion. Through intrepid real estate acquisitions and investments, Gus was an extremely successful businessman; yet remained humble to his simple Hellenic roots.

Gus became an important part of the fabric of Miami, Florida, Cape May, NJ and Velvento, Greece and gave back to a myriad of causes, such as The American Hellenic Institute, Autism research, Archimedean Academy Charter School, Mount Sinai and Cooper Hospitals, The



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University of Florida, Stockton College, East Lynne Theater, The Cape May Chamber of Commerce, the Mid-Atlantic Center of the Arts in Cape May and his Greek Orthodox Christian churches in both New Jersey and Florida. He contributed toward Velvento's elementary school where the library is named after him. He traveled twice a year to Greece and Cyprus as a representative of the United States Government and met with the Greek Prime Minister and President of Cyprus. And while he would never admit it, Gus was an accomplished painter and his alluring oil paintings adorn the family's homes and office spaces.

Gus leaves behind his wife, Fotini, and their four children Vasiliki, Vivi, Maria and Yioryos. He has four grandchildren, Dylan, Ava, Yiani and Arabella. Gus has two son-in-laws Trevor and Sebastian and a daughter-in-law, Karolina. His illustrious legacy will continue to shine through them.

As we gather here today to bid farewell to Gus, let us remember the journey of a young boy from Greece who dared to dream beyond the orchards and cobblestone streets of quaint Velvento. Let us celebrate a life that embodied the pursuit of knowledge, the love of family, the passion for hard work and the perseverance to overcome any obstacle in his path.

In Lieu of flowers, the family request donations be made to St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral in his memory.



# Events


**GUS ANDY**

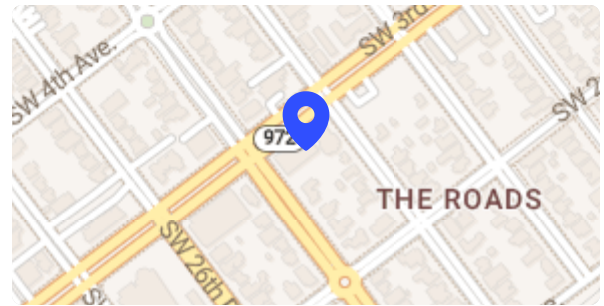
APR 21, 1938 - OCT 16, 2023

## Funeral Service

 **Friday**, October 20, 2023

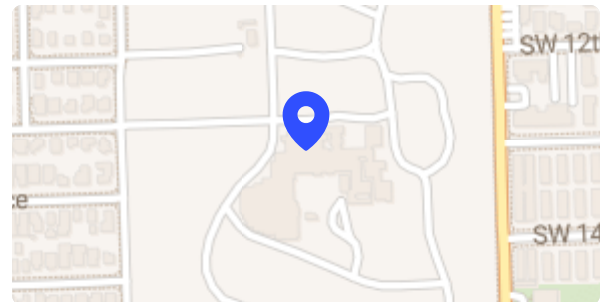
 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM ET

 **St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral**  
2401 S.W. 3rd Avenue, Miami FL



## Cemetery Details

 **Woodlawn Park North**  
3260 SW 8th Street, Miami FL 33135





## Tribute Wall

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**John Andrus** posted:

We miss him greatly

October 20 at 10:21 AM



**Gary T Padussis** posted:

A gentleman, and friend. Both Donna and I met Gus, and his wife, Fofo when we moved to Cape May. Both, welcomed us to the town, and we became friends. Gus was a tough businessman, but was honest, fair, and always supported and contributed to many non-profits in Cape May and the surrounding area. Gus, you will be missed, my friend. May you now rest in peace, and your memory will be eternal. Gary T. Padussis

October 20 at 4:41 AM



**Kostas Alexakis** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Gus was always there as a valuable member of AHI and had no fear and always asking the smart questions.

October 19 at 8:21 AM





Kostas Alexakis shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

October 19 at 8:21 AM



In Greece with the AHI Delegation



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring GUS by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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