

**NICHOLAS H. GRINALDO**  
**1920-2012**

**FAMILY**

**HISTORY:**

Nicholas H. Grinaldo was born in Troy, New York on November 1, 1920 to parents Samuel L. and Grace (DiStefano) Grinaldo. Nicholas had four sisters: Mary, Josephine, Angela and Marguerite and one brother: Angelo.

**EDUCATION:**

He attended the Troy Schools.

**HISTORY:**

On February 27, 1940, Nick enlisted into the New York National Guard. He served with Company C, 105<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 27<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division as a squad leader. Staff Sergeant Nicholas Grinaldo sustained injuries to his shoulder from machine gun fire, as well as shrapnel in his hip on July 7, 1944 during the Battle of Saipan. He also saved the life of his wounded friend, Sam Dinova during that battle. He was honorably discharged on September 9, 1945. For his brave and honorable service to his country, Staff Sergeant Grinaldo was awarded the Bronze Star, New York State Conspicuous Service Star, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, American Defense Service Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, and two Purple Hearts.

**PERSONAL:**

Nicholas married Virginia (Pettignelli) Grinaldo on November 17, 1945 at St. Patrick's Church in Troy, New York and from that union they had one son: Nicholas, Jr. and one daughter: Virginia. They were blessed with two grandchildren: Eric and Daryl and two great-grandchildren: Samuel and Maxwell.

**WORK**

**EXPERIENCE:**

Nick owned and operated Nick's Shoe Store on the corner of Douw & River Streets in Troy for 35 years (1953-1988). The store was opened in 1917 by his uncle and was originally named Trojan Quick Shoe Repair.

**COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES/ORGANIZATIONS:**

He was an active member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Tibbits Cadets, Emerald Athletic Club, the Italian Community Center, the Troy Central Rod and Gun Club, and the American Legion. He was an avid outdoorsman and taught most of his family how to fish and/or hunt. Nick enjoyed tending to his garden, cooking for his family and friends, and summer nights at his camp on Lake Champlain or Schroon River.

Sadly, Nicholas H. Grinaldo passed away on November 9, 2012 and was buried in St. Mary's Cemetery in Troy.