



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Kenneth P. LaValle

## Senator Ken LaValle on the passing of Governor Mario Cuomo

KENNETH P. LAVALLE January 5, 2015

“The first Italian-American Governor of New York, Mario Cuomo and I shared a heritage. As Senator, I maintained a good working relationship with Mario over the 12 years he served as Governor. We spoke often with many of the calls emanating from our homes. Mario was bright, erudite and a strong advocate for his beliefs. A captivating speaker, he forcefully represented his position even when it was politically unpopular. We worked side-by-side on preserving the Pine Barrens, shuttering the Shoreham Nuclear Plant, and improving education. A well respected leader and a dedicated public servant; his contributions to New York will be missed.

The Mario Cuomo years will be judged as strong and productive for the people of New York. He governed with a touch of class as he worked tirelessly to produce for the people.

Matilda Cuomo, who brought a sense of style and refinement to the Capitol, has suffered a great loss. Governor Andrew Cuomo will sorely miss Mario as a father, role model and mentor. My heart goes out to the entire Cuomo family. I'm saddened by his loss; my thoughts and prayers are with the Cuomo family.”

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