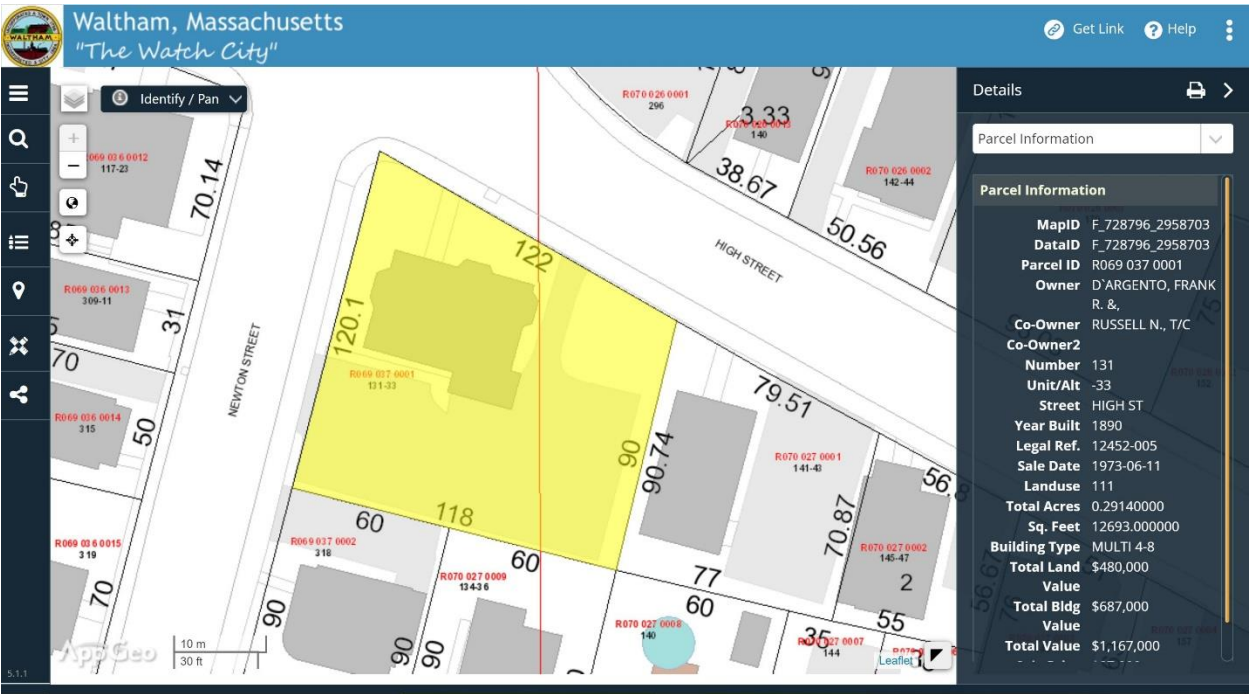
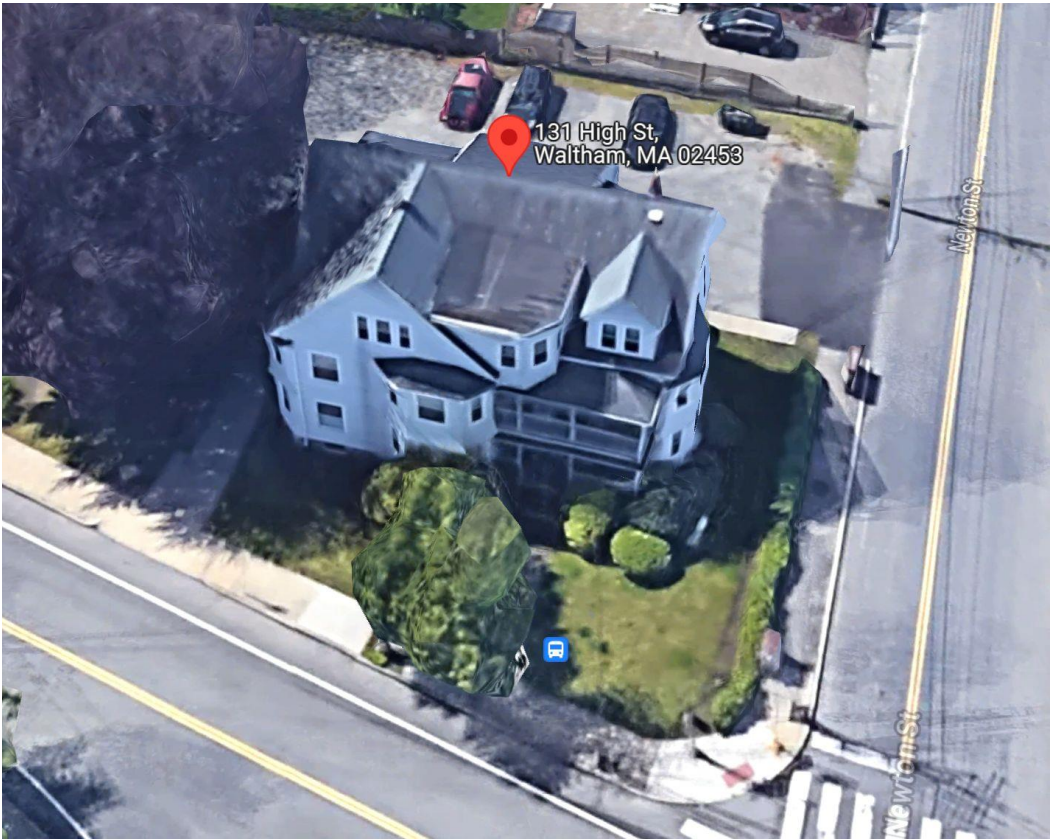


131-133 High Street



Waltham GIS



Google satellite view



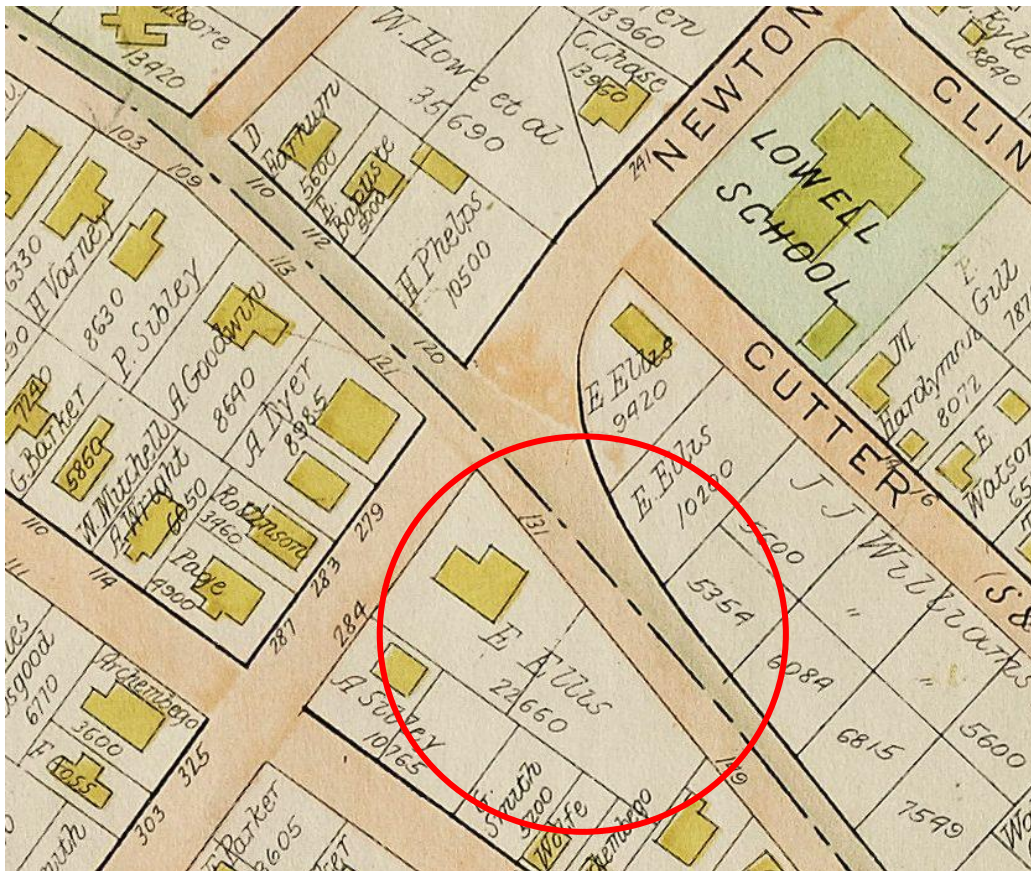
Google street view from High St., corner Newton



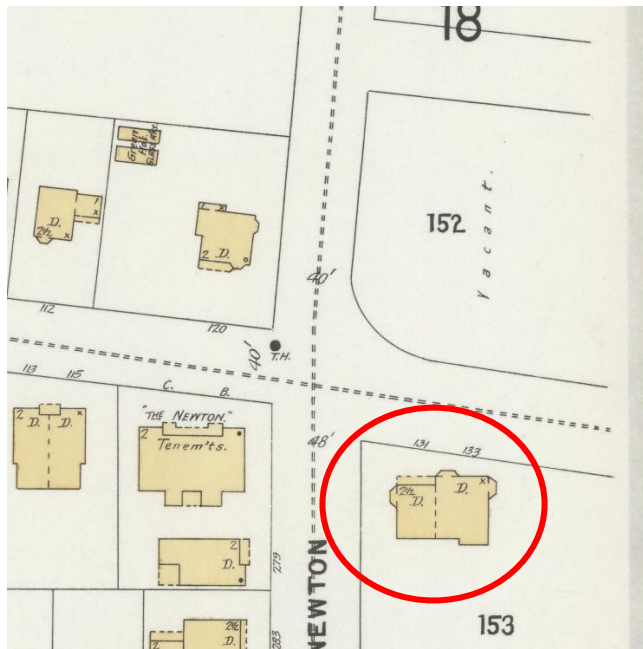
Google street view from High St.



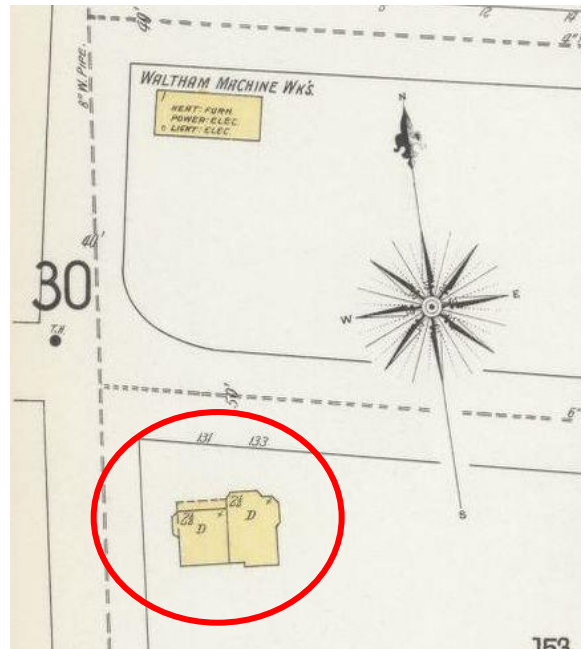
Google street view (from Newton St.)



1900 map



1897 Sanborn map



1903 Sanborn map

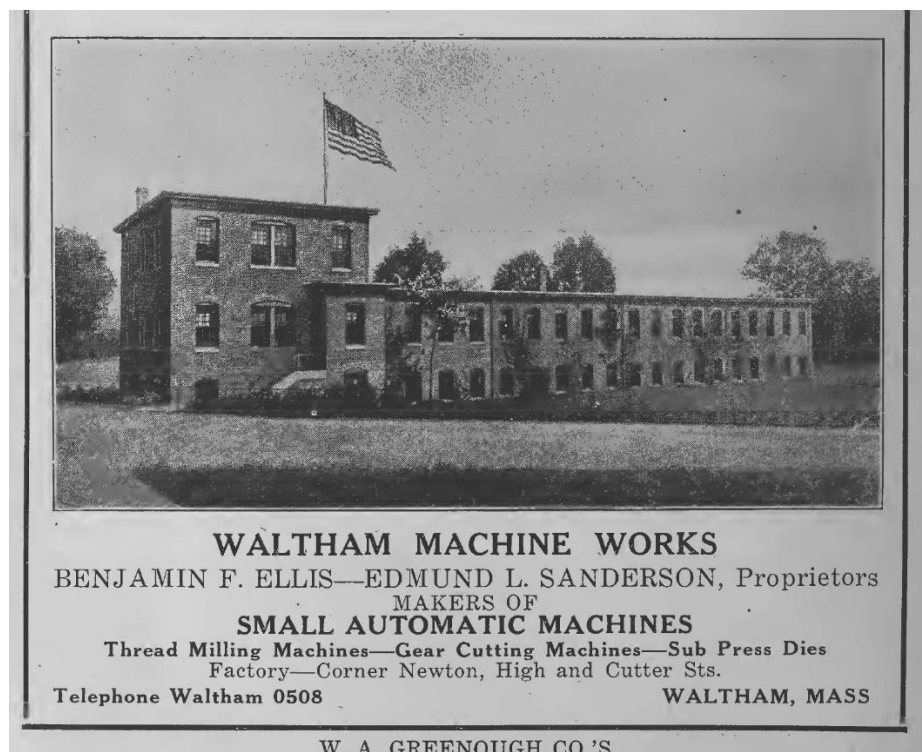
Timeline

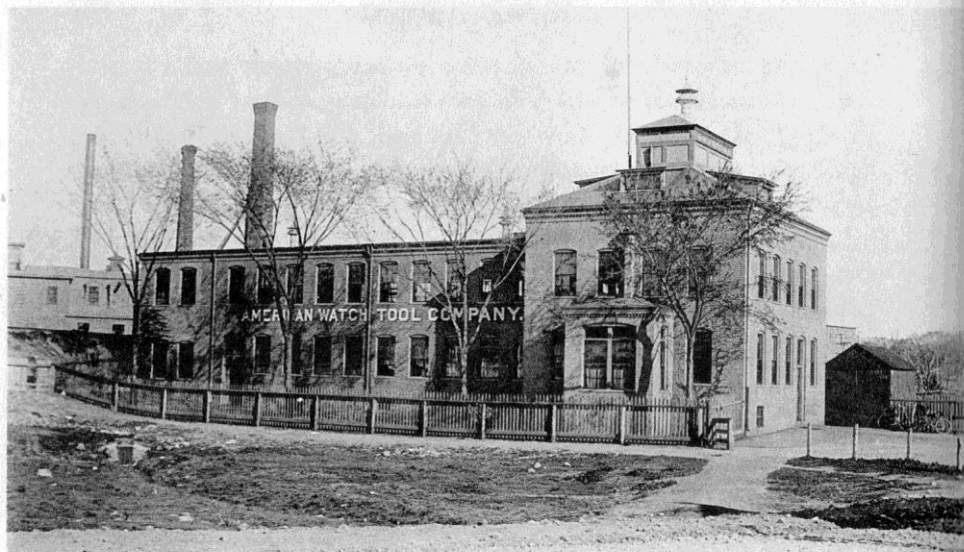
- 1881 Marriage in Lynn, Benjamin F. Ellis, machinist, of Waltham, born Plymouth, MA, son of Elisha & Priscilla; married Eliza Townsend of Lynn, born Salem, daughter of Daniel & Ellen
- 1886 Directory, Benjamin Ellis, Hall cor. Chestnut
- 1887 Deed, Newton Chemical Company to Eliza E. Ellis, wife of Benjamin F. Ellis [MLR 1810/89]
- 1888 Directory, Benjamin F. Ellis, machinist at AWT co., h. 72 Hall St.
- 1891 Annual listing or 131 High St.: Arthur & Maude Beverly, Davis F. Johnson, Henry & Frederick Wright, all living elsewhere in 1890. No 133 High Street listed.
- 1895 Directory, Benjamin F. Ellis, machinist, High cor. Newton
- 1897 Sanborn map, shows 131-133 duplex house on High St., but not Waltham Machine Works on Newton St.
- 1900 Map, shows 131 High St. and Waltham Machine Works as a wooden building on Newton St.
- 1900 Census, Arthur Ruggles, house painter & others, 131 High St.; Benjamin F. and Eliza E. Ellis, mechanical proprietor, 133 High St.
- 1903 Sanborn map, shows 131-133 duplex house on High St., and Waltham Machine Works on Newton St. as a wooden building [see photo below]
- 1909 Report of the Board of Health, City of Waltham, Benjamin F. Ellis on Board of Health
- 1910 Census, Charles F. Hardy, salesman, jewelry store, 131 High St.; Benjamin F. Ellis, manufacturer, machinery, 133 High St.
- 1920 Census, Charles F. Hardy, salesman, jewelry store, 131 High St.; Benjamin F. Ellis, proprietor, machine shop, 133 High St.
- 1930 Census, Caroline Hardy, saleslady, jewelry store; Winthrop Crocker, principal, junior high school, 131 High St.; Benjamin & Eliza Ellis, proprietor, machine works, 133 High St.
- 1940 Census, Erwin Lackenbauer, shoe salesman, retail store, 131 High St.; Benjamin & Eliza Ellis, machine shop, machine specialties
- 1942 Death, Benjamin F. Ellis
- 1950 Directory, Eliza Ellis, widow Benjamin, 133 High St.
- 1952 Death, Eliza Ellen Ellis

- 1952 Deed, George F. Williams, executor of will of Eliza Ellis, to James P. & Rose Martin [MLR 7953/172]
- 1954 Deed, James P. & Rose Martin to Emerson & Myrtle Nix [MLR 8217/538]
- 1959 Deed, Emerson W. Nix & Myrtle A. Nix, to Emerson Nix Family Trust [MLR 9344/83]
- 1960 Annual listing, various tenants listed at 131 & 133 High St., but not Emerson & Myrtle Nix
- 1971 Annual listing, various tenants listed at 131 & 133 High St., but not Emerson & Myrtle Nix
- 1973 Deed, Emerson Nix Family Trust to Russell N. D'Argento & Frank R. D'Argento
- 2008 Death, Russell D'Argento
- 2011 Death, Frank D'Argento

Summary

The duplex house at 131-133 High Street was likely built in 1890 for the first owner, Benjamin Franklin Ellis. Ellis had been born in Plymouth ca 1857. He came to Waltham in 1881 after serving as an apprentice machinist in Lynn and working as a machinist in Worcester. He worked in the American Watch Tool Company for seventeen years. In 1898, he founded, with fellow Waltham Watch Tool Company employee, Edmund L. Sanderson, the Waltham Machine Works. The new company was located in a small wooden building at the corner of Newton Street and Cutter Street. Brick additions were added in 1903 and 1914. The company manufactured high-quality lathes, gear-cutting machines, and other small machines, and sold internationally from 1898 to 1955. The brick structure still stands today as an office building on Newton and Cutter Street. Benjamin Ellis died in 1942, and his widow, continued to live at 133 High Street until her death in 1950. The house was eventually sold to Emerson & Myrtle Nix, who did not live there, and rented out the property. In 1973, the Nix Family Trust sold the property to Russell and Frank D'Argento of Newton, who also did not live in the house. So the house was rented to various tenants from 1952 to the present day.



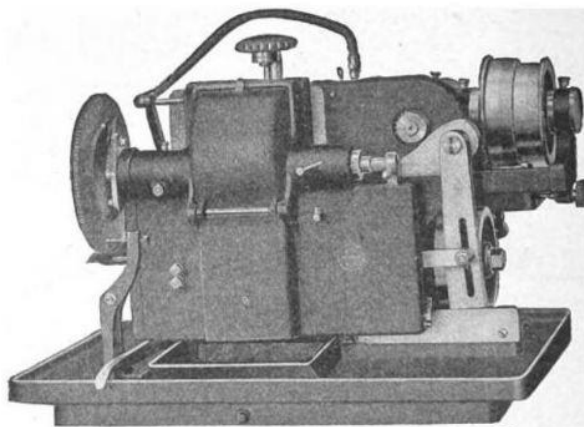


AMERICAN WATCH TOOL COMPANY, 1891



WALTHAM MACHINE WORKS, 1898

Waltham Machines



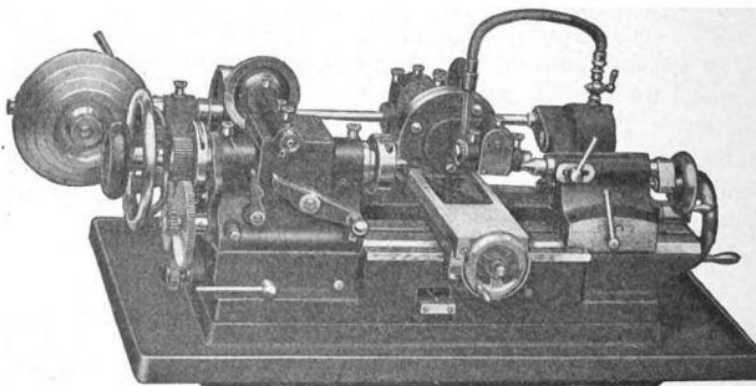
4" SPUR GEAR CUTTING MACHINE

4" Spur Gear Cutting Machine is recommended for accurate work and high production.

The first is obtained by the rigidity of the design, the index ten inches in diameter, and the care with which it is built.

The second is obtained by the quick return of the workslide and lifting of the cutter slide allowing the indexing to take place during the return and the positive silent chain drive to the cutter spindle.

Other features are the constant speed ball bearing driving mechanism, ideal for motor drive; the complete protection from oil and chips; the individual oil pump and reservoir, and adjustments of easy access. It can be used either on the bench or on a floor cabinet.



THREAD MILLING MACHINE

A semi-automatic machine for cutting V, U, S., worm, buttress, Whitworth, and other formed threads; having a taper attachment, compensating device for rectifying the lead; single belt drive; individual oil pump and reservoir: fitted with either inch or metric lead screw; best adapted for work 2" in diameter and smaller and for threads no coarser than seven or eight per inch.

SPECIAL MACHINERY AND TOOLS

These include sub presses and dies, automatic machines of small size such as are used in watch, clock, meter, and similar movements, and special high class mechanisms.

WALTHAM MACHINE WORKS

Factory, CORNER NEWTON and HIGH STREETS

WALTHAM, MASS.

Obituary, Russell D'Argento

Of Newton , died Saturday, December 20, 2008, at the Newton Wellesley Hospital at the age of 87. The son of the late Raymond and Vittoria (Zamutto) D'Argento, he was born in Aragona , Sicily , his family immigrated to the United States in 1930 and settled in Waltham where he was raised and educated graduating from Waltham High School with the Class of 1941. He has been a Newton resident for over 58 years and was a seasonal resident in Manomet since 1955.

A veteran of WW II, Mr. D'Argento was as Technician 4th Grade with the Army's 95th Infantry Division until he was transfer to serve with the 48th Field Hospital. He served in Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland and Central Europe receiving a good conduct medal, the victory medal, and both European African Middle Eastern Theatre and American Theatre Ribbons. He was a member of the Amvets Post 41, Watertown .

Following his service with the Army Mr. D'Argento entered the New England College of Pharmacy. He received his certification from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Board of Registration in Pharmacy in 1946, he then went to work as a pharmacist at Walnut Drug in Newton and Lloyds in Watertown . In 1949 he purchased the Stanley Pharmacy on Newton Street in Waltham and renamed it Russells Pharmacy which owned and operated from many years, retiring in 1993.

Mr. D'Argento enjoyed golfing, fishing and playing cards.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Teresa (Brescia) D'Argento, his sons, Raymond D'Argento of Waltham, Russell and his wife, Jo-Anne D'Argento of Ashland, Richard "Ricky" and his wife Brigitte D'Argento of Palm Beach Gardens, FL and Frank and his wife, Gloria D'Argento of Newton, his brother, Frank D'Argento of Waltham and his grandchildren, Russell and his wife Leah, Nicole, Nicholas, Richard and Kevin D'Argento.

Funeral Services will be held on Monday morning at a.m. from the Brasco and Sons Memorial, 773 Moody Street , Waltham , with a Mass of Christian Burial to be celebrated at Sacred Heart Church at a.m. Interment with Military Honors will follow at the Newton Cemetery . Visiting hours will be held at the funeral home on Sunday from 2-6 p.m. For more information please visit brascofuneralhome.com.

Obituary, Frank D'Argento

Of Newton, passed away unexpectedly Sunday evening December 25th, 2011 in Saint Elizabeth's Medical Center in Brighton at the age of 87. Born on April 1, 1924 in Italy; son of the late Raymond and Vittoria (Zammuto) D'Argento, Frank was a resident of Waltham and Newton most of his life. A decorated Veteran of World War II he served as Master Sergeant with United States Army. He was the recipient of numerous awards, citations and medals including the Purple Heart. He was employed throughout his life as an Electrical Engineer at the Tyco and Honeywell Corporations in Waltham. Frank was a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Mutual Aragona Society of Waltham. In his spare time he enjoyed fishing, boating, cooking, playing cards with friends and traveling to Foxwoods.

He is survived by his devoted sister-in-law Teresa (Brescia) D'Argento, his loving nephews Russell D'Argento and his wife Jo-Anne of Ashland, Richard "Ricky" D'Argento and his wife Brigitte of Florida and Frank D'Argento of Newton, and his cherished great niece & nephews Nicole, Russell Anthony, Nicholas, Richard and Kevin. Beloved brother of the late Russell N. D'Argento and dear uncle of the late Raymond D'Argento.