He became ill with heart disease and his last years were difficult. But I can look back and say that my father was truly a brave man. He crossed the ocean three times, served in World War I in the Italian army in the Isonzo battles from 1915 to 1917, received a war medal--merito de guerre-- for his service on the front, and served for the remainder of the war as a military policeman. He struggled through the Great Depression, supported a large family, was a successful businessman and helped family and relatives financially.

Several weeks before he died he gave me his old tool chest with two of his oldest tools--a wood plane and a hand drill. He told me to take care of them because they meant a lot to him.

He knew I would.

FARWOOD 2-24-99 FARWOOD 2-46-12 FLAME-IA 4-95-82
FELIX IAIONE & SONS
Builders : Maron Contractors
16-22-28-0-15-518-85 SCOTCH FLAMES, N. I.

Photos credits

Felix Iaione standing next to cellar door, 2041 Mountain Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey

Felix Iaione and sons Tony, standing far left, and Jake, right, on construction site.

Felix Iaionestanding near the cherry tree on the front lawn.

Felix Iaione, right, and Joseph DiSanto, relaxing in the backyard on a summer day.