

**Ralph Savarese** and his wife **Grace Krueger** grew up in Baychester, Bronx, New York and continued to live there most of their adult lives as a married couple. They lived in several different houses in Baychester.

Ralph Savarese was born on October 6, 1913 in New York City<sup>1</sup>, son of Italian/Egyptian immigrant **Anthony Savarese** and native New Yorker **Ella Reed**.<sup>2</sup> He was the fourth of six children. Ralph's father was a bridge watchman in 1920, and the family lived in Baychester at **2223 Wright Avenue**. In 1940 Ralph was still living with his parents in Baychester at a different location, now at **2301 Hunter Avenue**. His father Anthony was working as a bridge tender.<sup>3</sup> Within walking distance was the railroad bridge over Givan's Creek; it's possible Anthony worked there.

In May of 1941 **Ralph Savarese** joined the US Army as a Private, entering as a single man, with experience as a carpenter.<sup>4</sup> At about the mid-1940s **Ralph Savarese** married **Grace Krueger**, a neighborhood friend. They initially lived with Grace's brother William Krueger and his wife Lottie, while they hand-built their home, from scratch, in Baychester at **2319 Boller Avenue**. The house was one block north of where Grace grew up, and one block south of where Ralph lived. They had one daughter, **Janet Savarese** (1949-2017), and one son, **Ralph Savarese**. Ralph, the father, supported his family as a carpenter.

**Grace Krueger** was born on July 24, 1921 in New York<sup>5</sup>, the daughter of New Yorkers **Paul Carl Krueger** and **Ida Therese Muehlemann**. She was a sixth of seven children, and she grew up in

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<sup>1</sup> "United States Social Security Death Index," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:JBKL-K62> : 20 May 2014), Ralph Savarese, 08 Jan 2007; citing U.S. Social Security Administration, Death Master File, database (Alexandria, Virginia: National Technical Information Service, ongoing).

<sup>2</sup> "United States Census, 1920," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MJPZ-RH7> : accessed 21 October 2017), Ralph Savarese in household of Anthony Savarese, Bronx Assembly District 6, Bronx, New York, United States; citing ED 358, sheet 3A, line 66, family 42, NARA microfilm publication T625 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1992), roll 1139; FHL microfilm 1,821,139.

<sup>3</sup> "United States Census, 1940," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KQM8-FBV> : accessed 21 October 2017), T Ralph Savarese in household of Anthony Savarese, Assembly District 6, Bronx, New York City, Bronx, New York, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) 3-788, sheet 61A, line 15, family 55, Sixteenth Census of the United States, 1940, NARA digital publication T627. Records of the Bureau of the Census, 1790 - 2007, RG 29. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2012, roll 2480.

<sup>4</sup> "United States World War II Army Enlistment Records, 1938-1946," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KMJ9-D36> : 5 December 2014), Ralph Savarese, enlisted 15 May 1941, New York City, New York, United States; citing "Electronic Army Serial Number Merged File, ca. 1938-1946," database, The National Archives: Access to Archival Databases (AAD) (<http://aad.archives.gov> : National Archives and Records Administration, 2002); NARA NAID 1263923, National Archives at College Park, Maryland.

<sup>5</sup> "United States Social Security Death Index," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VQMN-DY8> : 20 May 2014), Grace Savarese, 20 Apr 2009; citing U.S. Social Security Administration, Death Master File, database (Alexandria, Virginia: National Technical Information Service, ongoing).

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Baychester at **2310 Palmer Avenue**.<sup>6</sup> Grace's "marriage house" at 2319 Boller Avenue and Grace's "growing-up house" at 2310 Palmer Avenue were back-to-back.

Ralph died on January 8, 2007, and was buried at Rose Hills Memorial Park in Putnam Valley, Putnam, New York.<sup>7</sup> Grace died two years later on April 20, 2009 in Westchester County, New York, and was buried with her husband Ralph at Rose Hills Memorial Park.<sup>8</sup>

Daughter **Janet Rose Savarese** was born on April 11, 1949 in New York<sup>9</sup>. She grew up in Baychester living at **2319 Boller Avenue**. Janet eloped with her childhood sweetheart **Eugene "Sonny" Young** in 1967<sup>10</sup> right after high school. Janet and Sonny first lived in an apartment in Baychester, then they purchased the house at **2202 Palmer Avenue**, where they raised three children. Janet studied to be a hairdresser and worked on Williamsbridge Road until her first daughter was born.

**Eugene "Sonny" Young** was born on September 4, 1947 in New York. He died on July 23, 1984 at his home at age 37, and is buried in Pelham Cemetery on City Island, Bronx, New York.<sup>11</sup> After Sonny's tragic death in 1984, Janet remarried. Her second husband was Gary Casse. Eventually, Janet, her children, and her second husband moved out of Baychester in 1986.<sup>12</sup> Janet died on March 19, 2017 in Putnam, New York, and is buried in Raymond Hill Cemetery in Carmel, Putnam, New York.<sup>13</sup> Her second husband died a year after her death.

This author remembers Grace and Ralph Savarese and their daughter Janet very well. I was friends with Janet and spent many after-school and weekend hours at Janet's house. They had a pool table in the finished basement and our friends, boys and girls, played a lot of pool there. Janet also hosted birthday and Halloween parties. They had the first RCA color TV and I

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<sup>6</sup>"United States Census, 1930," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/X76W-SX7> : accessed 21 October 2017), Paul C Krueger, Bronx (Districts 751-972), Bronx, New York, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) ED 865, sheet 5A, line 37, family 23, NARA microfilm publication T626 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2002), roll 1480; FHL microfilm 2,341,215.

<sup>7</sup> Find A Grave Memorial# 160953524

<sup>8</sup> Find A Grave Memorial# 160953460

<sup>9</sup> Find A Grave Memorial# 178174322

<sup>10</sup> "New York, New York City Marriage Licenses Index, 1950-1995," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/QLST-G9ZR> : 19 June 2017), Eugene Young and Janet Savarese, 1967, Bronx, New York City, New York, United States; from Reclaim the Records, The NYC Marriage Index (<http://www.nycmarriageindex.com> : 2016); citing New York City Clerk's Office.

<sup>11</sup> Find A Grave Memorial# 134641503

<sup>12</sup> "United States Public Records, 1970-2009," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:2935-QXG> : 23 May 2014), Janet Casse, Residence, Carmel, New York, United States; a third party aggregator of publicly available information.

<sup>13</sup> Find A Grave Memorial# 178174322

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watched “The Searchers” (1956) with Janet and her parents when it came out on TV; it was the first color movie on TV. As teenagers, I met and hung out with Sonny Young, also. Grace and Ralph were always happy, generous folks, and raised Janet to be the same way. Janet loved doing hair, and she did my hair for my high school yearbook picture. I moved out of Baychester shortly after that and lost contact with my old Baychester friends.