

Contributed by Joan Thomas

Created by: Amedeo J Santorelli, friend of the family; stand made by my father, Peter Ingrassia

Origin: Trumbull, CT

Carved Statue and Stand

I have several of Jack Santorelli's wood carvings that were displayed in my childhood home in Connecticut. He was a woodworking mentor of my father and dear friend to our family. I just loved visiting their home and seeing his workshop. Looking at his pieces always brings back fond memories. While he did wood carvings, he also made some neat clocks too. After my parents passed in 2016, I found these newspaper clippings about him ([1962](#)):

http://www.bebpublishing.com/beb_site/2009_portal_Dads_Page/jack_santorelli.zip. It was neat to learn that his daughter finished off one of his pieces after his passing in 1971. I tried my hand at linoleum block carving - that helped to give me a real appreciation for Jack's strength!

My dad was a carpenter by trade. He made the coordinating stand for this statue – this combination I think makes the piece even more special to me.

My parents treasured Jack's pieces, as do I. I only hope that my daughters continue to pass the pieces on to someone who will treasure them too!



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Created by: Peter (frame) and Helen (painting) Ingrassia; photo of them at a 2010 Craft Festival

Origin: Trumbull, CT

Watercolor Painting

My dad was carpenter by trade and toymaker by night. So many of his pieces are favorites of mine. He was a functional crafter who loved to build toys as much as he loved to give them away. He had me create a [website](#) so he could share his work with other wood workers he met online. Secretly, I think though, it was his way of keeping us connected and building precious memories.

The piece of family art I like most is a watercolor by mom in a frame that dad made. My mom enjoyed a lifelong hobby of creating both impressionistic oil and water-color paintings. She was an avid volunteer at the summer art shows of the Monroe Arts Council in Connecticut for almost 20 years. Both my parents loved and participated in the local craft 'scene' and passed that love on to me.

