

NICOLA SALLESE, missing since November 2008

written by Dana Sallese

How do you explain to the children that Grandpa is simply gone? There is no closure, no memorial, no explanation. He is just suddenly gone from their lives.

Grandpa was such a huge part of our lives, we miss him terribly. He was such a lovely grandfather, visiting the boys faithfully every week, bringing little gifts and showing interest in their milestones, drawings and other creations and their achievements. One of the saddest things we have had to do is take down all the photos and drawings and memorabilia of his grandchildren from his fridge, and the rest of his home. It is so sad to go to the house which is so empty now where once we would have seen his smiling face greeting us at the door.

When an older person disappears, generations of a family are affected by the never-ending grief. Nicola was dearly loved by his brothers and sisters in Italy and Australia, his nieces and nephews, his cousins, and of course by his sons, daughters-in-laws and his three precious grandchildren.