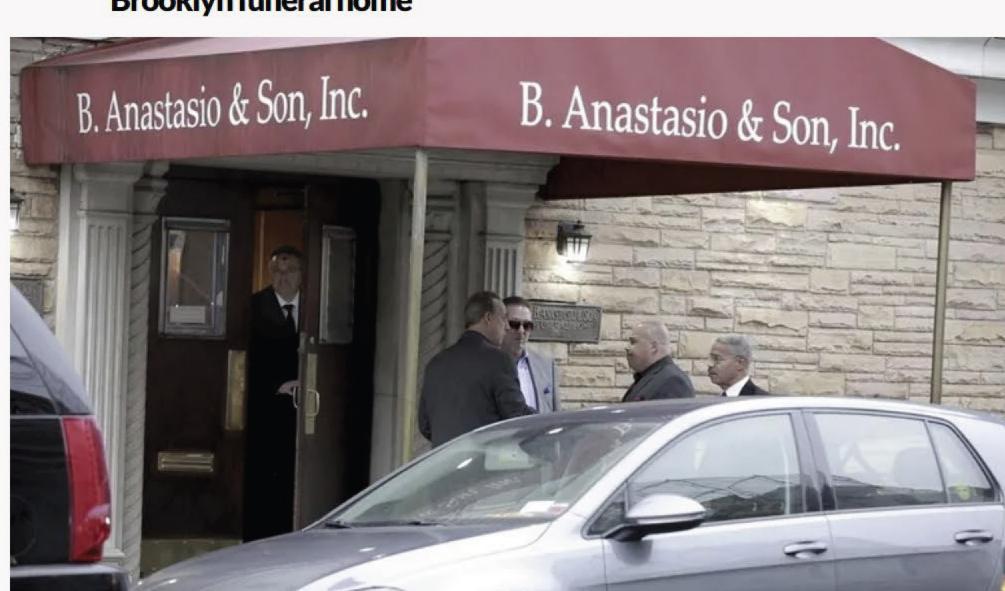
LONG ISLAND





Mourners attend visitation for John "Sonny" Franzese at the funeral home in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, Wednesday. He died Sunday at age 103. Credit: Newsday

By Newsday Staff February 28, 2020

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Mourners came in the misty rain Wednesday afternoon to pay their last respects to John "Sonny" Franzese, a towering, if feared, underworld figure.

home in Brooklyn's Williamsburg neighborhood.

Franzese, formerly of Roslyn, died Sunday after a brief illness at the age of 103, according to family members. He

Dozens of people attended the first of two viewings of the Colombo family underboss at B. Anastasio & Son funeral

had been sentenced to 50 years in prison after being convicted of bank robberies across the country. He was

paroled several times but was released 2% years ago as the oldest inmate in the federal prison system.

On Wednesday, his body was dressed in a black suit and a red patterned tie with black brogues. His hands were

folded holding a rosary, and an American flag folded into a triangle sat near his head.

The funeral parlor held about 20 seats and about 10 floral arrangements, which formed a semicircle around the

Some mourners had ash on their foreheads to mark Ash

After the viewing, some of them walked across the street for

Wednesday, the first day of Lent.

lunch at Sal's pizzeria, where Frank Sinatra songs were playing on a loop, including "It Was a Very Good Year" and "My Funny Valentine."

"He had a good run," one woman relative, finishing lunch

with her family, told the man behind the counter at Sal's.

