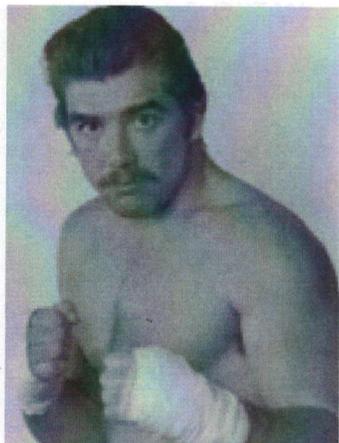


Ring 44 Inductee



PAT CUILLO Cruiserweight



Pat started boxing as a teenager under the guidance of Harry Gill. As an amateur, Pat compiled a record of 15 – 2 and a Navy record of 16 victories and only 3 defeats, to bring his combined record to 31 – 5 as an amateur.

He then turned professional in 1975 at the age of nineteen. Training under Harry Gill, Pat compiled a 12 – 0 record, 11 by knockout. With other trainers and promoters seeing Pat's talent the sharks moved in, and like so many other fighters did in the past and will do in the future, Pat was lured away from Harry with the promises of greener pastures. As a professional Pat fought many future champions, past champions, and highly ranked professionals.

Highlights of Pats career included, in his pro debut, fighting and beating Mustafa Hamsho and being one of only two fighters to knock him down, the other being Marvin Hagler. Pat fought Eddie Gregory (ranked 3rd in the world) in Madison Square Garden dropping a 10 round decision. Eddie went on to win the Light Heavyweight Title the following year. Jimmy Young, who lost a highly disputed decision to Muhammad Ali and beat George Foreman, was soundly beaten by Pat over 10 rounds in 1982. Pat then dropped a 10 round decision in 1984 to Dwight Braxton (Dwight Muhammad Qawi), the former 1981 Light Heavyweight World Champion, and future 1985 Cruiser Weight Champion. Other ranked professionals in Pat's career included, Canada's tough Gary Summerhays, Steve Zouski, Richie Kates, and Tony Mundine. After the Mundine fight in Italy, Pat fought under the name of Vic Valentino.

There will always be the unanswered questions as to how Pat's career may have gone had he stayed on the road that took him through the first half of his career, or if he had chosen different roads than what he did. One thing that cannot be disputed is the fact that Pat was certainly one of the most gifted athletes to come out of Lockport, New York.

Tonight Ring 44 remembers Pat Cuillo by inducting him into the Buffalo Boxing Hall of Fame.