

# VARIETY KEEPS CAPOZZO FAMILY PULLING

Photos Courtesy of Capozzo  
and Sons

Below: Charlie Capozzo in  
Jerseyville, IL



Tony, Nick and Charlie  
pose by the Cruel  
Intentions SF



In our search for feature articles, to find events, promoters, and pullers to let the spotlight shine on, there are few families that exhibit the core of The Hook magazine any better than Richmond, Michigan's Tony Capozzo and his sons Charlie and Nick. Together, they form a team with varied interests in vehicles but at the heart of it is a love for getting on the track!

The Capozzo pulling story starts with Tony working for a local farmer in Michigan. The farmer had a John Deere 2010 that Tony pulled in the local Armada Fair in 1961 at the age of 15. In 1963 Tony jumped up in power to a 4010 and that pulling ride lasted until 1966, when he

was called into the Army and served his country in Vietnam. Twelve years later, in the midst of starting a family Tony resumed pulling with a John Deere 60 to pull in the Thumb Tractor Pulling Association. That 60 remains a part of the pulling stable to this day. In 1980 Tony sought more power and purchased a single engine modified with a Massey 44 rear end. That tractor was transformed into a twin 454-equipped machine that was campaigned until 2000.

Clearly the sons Charlie and Nick grew up in the midst of the sport. Charlie began in 1983 in garden tractor pulling with a Ford Garden Tractor at the age of 10, then soon graduated

up to the JD 60 in 1984. In 1987 Charlie latched on to a share of seat time in the Mod. Nick followed a similar path, pulling a garden tractor at age 10 but with a John Deere 180. At age 14 Nick was able to get a chance with the 60 in 1998.

Along the way more tractors were brought into the stable. In 1995 a John Deere A was ushered in, and in 1998 Charlie purchased a JD 70. In 2000, the Mod departed and the Capozzos were full-time antique pullers. The itch to pull on a bigger stage and pull in a smoker class came about, and the desire to be able to pull a number of places was one of the prime concerns. The former "New Generation Plus" cast