

FRANK PASTOR, SR.



Frank Pastor Sr., a Korean War veteran, lifelong accountant, devoted husband, proud father, and loving grandfather who endeared himself to everyone he met, died on November 28, after a long battle with Lewy Body Dementia. He was 81.

Frank died peacefully in his sleep at Raphael House in Rockville, Maryland, the assisted living facility where he had become a beloved resident to a staff that felt

like family following the death of his wife Carol three years earlier.

Frank and Carol were perfect companions during their 53 years of marriage, raising three sons and becoming cherished members of their neighborhood, church, and school communities. They were longtime parishioners at St. Teresa of Avila in Perrysville, where Carol taught for 34 years.

Frank was a constant presence in his children's lives, instilling a lifelong passion for sports and coaching many of their teams, from baseball to football to basketball. He threw pitches to them at a nearby park, played basketball in the driveway, and wrestled with them in the living room.

He taught his sons important life skills such as how to cut the grass or drive a car, but more importantly, he led by example with his quiet acts of kindness. He always stepped in to hold doors for others or lend a hand to bring in groceries.

On frigid mornings, he sat in his wife's car in the driveway to warm it up for her, and he got up at dawn to help his sons with their newspaper routes. He even attended rock concerts to chaperone his boys when they were too young to see their favorite bands alone.

An accountant and controller at Thomson Properties in Pittsburgh for decades, he had an unwavering work ethic and continued to prepare and file taxes for family, friends, neighbors and fellow parishioners long after his retirement.

Ever playful with disarmingly dry wit, he could never resist a conversation or a quip, whether with a server, clerk, telemarketer or a character at a theme park. For years, he was welcomed enthusiastically for lunch at his favorite diner, The New York Hot Dog Shop, which his family referred to as "his Cheers."

A loving grandfather fondly known as "Pop-Pops," he never missed an opportunity to cheer on his grandkids on the field, the stage or during other important moments in their lives.

In much the same way, he found his way into the hearts of the staff at Raphael House, who welcomed him into their office to "work" or danced with him in the hallways. Shortly after he died, staff members stopped by his room to offer condolences to his son Shawn and daughter-in-law Nikita, who lived nearby.

Born September 11, 1942, in Franklin, PA, Frank was the youngest of Joseph and Margaret Pastor's nine children. He attended Franklin High School and Gannon University. He met Carol Cope, who went to Edinboro University, on a blind date through mutual friends at a basketball game. They were married on June 17, 1967, and celebrated their 53rd anniversary shortly before her passing on July 8, 2020.

Frank joined the Army in 1965 and rose to the rank of first lieutenant. During this time he worked as a division radio officer with the 122nd Signal Battalion while stationed in Korea. He served until being honorably discharged on Sept. 26, 1974. He and Carol filled boxes with letters sent to each other while he was overseas and saved them for decades.

Frank is survived by his brothers Joseph and John Pastor and sister Rose Beveridge; children Frank Jr. (Courtney Cairns), Shawn (Nikita Malhotra), and Brian (Joshanna Robinson); and grandchildren Ryan, Emmelyn, and Nate. He was preceded in death by his parents; brother Vincent Pastor; and sisters Margaret Driscoll, Mary Kleck, Josephine McIntire, and Frances Shick.

Friends received on Wednesday, December 6th from 5 - 8 pm at **SIMONS FUNERAL HOME**. www.simonsfuneralhome.com.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Thursday at 10:00 am in Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Saint Teresa of Avila Church, 1000 Avila Court, with Fr. Bob Miller presiding. Interment will follow at Christ Our Redeemer Cemetery, 204 Cemetery Lane, 15237. Memorials or donations may be made to the Lewy Body Dementia Association (LBDA.org).

Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb