



Salvatore Joseph Ciaravino

September 30, 1928 - August 11, 2021

Salvatore J. Ciaravino, age 92 of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan, peacefully passed away in his home on August 11, 2021, surrounded by his loving wife and children. He was born in Detroit, Michigan on September 30, 1928 to John Ciaravino and Frances (Coppola).

He is survived by his wife of seventy-one years, Josephine (Montallegro), their seven children, John (Cynthia), Frances (William Solomon), Vito (Kimberly), Benita (Joseph Theis), Joseph (Linda), Mark (Elizabeth), Paul (Theresa), 23 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, his beloved sister Mary (Partyka), the late Vito W. Ciaravino and by many loving nieces, nephews and cousins.

For Salvatore, family was his priority and faith was his strength. He instilled in his children positive moral values and faith in his Savior Jesus Christ. He made every effort to be home each evening for dinner, praying together as a family at night and attending Mass on Sunday. Salvatore and Josephine loved raising their children, and watching their grandchildren and great-grandchildren grow. He loved his family and dedicated himself to caring and providing for them while living out the love of God for others in all that he did.

Salvatore graduated from De LaSalle High School in 1946. In 1947, he enlisted in the United States Navy, attended basic training at the Great Lakes Naval Station and studied at the U.S. Navy School of Music in Washington, DC. He spent the remainder of his military commitment as a member of the US Navy Band stationed at the US Naval Air Station in Corpus Christi, Texas, playing saxophone and clarinet through 1951.

After his service and duty to his country, his professional career started with the newly automated accounting department at the Michigan Natural Gas Company. After several years with Michigan Natural Gas, an opportunity to join the John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company was offered to him. He remained there until his retirement. His success in business was manifested by demonstrating professional proficiency, kindness and a genuine concern for others. Salvatore had a way of placing everyone at ease with his good-hearted nature and pleasant conversations.

Salvatore was a sixty-year parishioner of St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church in St. Clair Shores, Michigan, where he was actively involved in serving others as a lector, providing leadership in the resettlement of a refugee family, as a member of the parish Christian Family Movement and as a catechism principal. He was a member of the De LaSalle Alumni Association and a lifetime member of the National Federation of Musicians. He performed regularly with the Red Arrow Veterans Marching Band and was a founding member of the Esquires Jazz Band of Detroit.

Visitation will take place Monday August 16th, from 9:30am until the 10:00am Funeral Mass at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 21620 Greater Mack Ave., St. Clair Shores, MI. The liturgy will be livestreamed and can be found at the livestream page from the parish website at "livestream.stjoan.church"

Salvatore's final resting place will be at Mt. Olivet Cemetery of Detroit, MI. in proximity to the predeceased members of his immediate family.

Share memories with the family at their "On-Line Guest Book" @ WujekCalcaterra.com.

Previous Events

Instate / Funeral Mass

AUG **16**. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Joan of Arc
21620 Greater Mack Ave.
St. Clair Shores, MI 48080

Tribute Wall

PJ

“ Little League with the Ciaravinos was an exceptional, everlasting experience. Still have the 1973 season stat sheet for all team members. Thanks for the smart, high-class, sendoff during the last play of the last game of the season. Paul Johnson

PAUL JOHNSON - March 11, 2022 at 12:13 PM

VA

“ Salvatore received me in his family home as an exchange student in 1964 and 1965. I was 10 years old!!! He and his wife Joe treated me like a son. For me, they were my loving american parents, and their sons and daughters, my brothers and sisters. I had a great time with them!
In this sad moment, I want to cheer everyone because we were able to have him with us for a long time.
I express my gratitude to Salvatore, he was generous and full of good will.
I send my love to the whole Ciaravino/Montellegro family, my family too.

Vicente Flores & family (from Mexico)

Vicente Flores Arias - October 04, 2021 at 12:09 PM

JZ

“ Mr. Ciaravino was a kind and generous person who was a true friend to my Dad, Bob Zimmerman. They both worked together for many years at John Hancock. I'll miss you both.

Jim Zimmerman - August 31, 2021 at 01:41 PM

AB

“ I remember Sal from way back during the French Road days in Detroit---His brother Bill was part of the guys We played ball with at our favorite corner lot---great memories of Sal---He was very funny as I recall. Al Barbera

Al Barbera - August 23, 2021 at 03:57 PM

SB

“ Mr. Ciaravino was a wonderful neighbor who lived a few homes away from where my family lived. He and his wife were the nicest people you would want to know. Their kind and gentle spirits were wonderful to be around. Sal and Jo always had an open door for people and they were dearly loved for that. Their children were great friends as well. There has never been a summer that has gone by that great thoughts of Sal, Jo and his family bring back amazing memories at the Ciaravino home. You were truly a great man that the kids on the block looked up to.

Sal, may God keep you in his loving arms. My deepest to Jo, John, Fran, Vito, Benita, Joseph, Mark and Paul.

Susanne (Ramsey) Barnes

Susanne (Ramsey) Barnes - August 22, 2021 at 02:31 PM

GF

“ Mr. (Sal) Ciaravino was our next door neighbor most of the years I was growing up. He was a wonderful role model and a fantastic neighbor. After I went off to college and on to my new life, he and Jo stayed in contact with my mother and were always a source of support for her. The lessons I learned from him have been a part of the man I grew into. He inspired me to work to have a similar effect on other young (and old) people in my life. I wish the family comfort and peace of mind that he will be long remembered.

Gary Fusciardi

Gary Fusciardi - August 22, 2021 at 09:36 AM

VA

I remember playing in the snow with you Gary!

Vicente Flores Arias - October 04, 2021 at 12:12 PM

FA

“ He was more than a cousin to me. He was like my brother

Frank Aiuto - August 18, 2021 at 02:06 PM

NH

“ Sad to hear of his passing. Sal and my Dad (Leo Carlin) were classmates at DLS and lifelong friends. He and my Mom (Bea) always enjoyed getting together with Sal and Jo. Lots of laughter and fun! Prayers for the family at this difficult time. Nancy Carlin Harla

Nancy Harla - August 18, 2021 at 09:36 AM

VM

“ It saddens my heart to hear of the passing of my Uncle Sal!! 😞 He will be sorely missed by his family and friends!! I don't think anyone who ever met him disliked him! His personality was authentic, his humor so funny and corny!! Your in a better place now! 🙏 My the party in heaven be everything you expected!! Rest in Peace!! Your legacy will live on but hard without you!! God bless you my dear Uncle!! 🙏💖

Vincent Montallegro - August 16, 2021 at 01:52 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Salvatore Joseph Ciaravino.



August 16, 2021 at 12:21 AM

JC

“ It is with a very heavy heart that I send condolences from Canada on behalf of the Ciaravino family living in and around the Windsor area, Joe & Rosa Ruggirello & family, and the Mazzara family.

Sal was more like an uncle to me and my cousins. In fact, out of respect, we referred to Sal and Josephine as Uncle Sal and Aunt Josie growing up. As adults we came to call our honorary aunt & uncle by their first names alone. They had such a youthful spirit, that calling them "aunt" and "uncle" just didn't seem appropriate anymore.

One of the highlights of my life was hosting Sal, Josephine, and approximately 30 of our American cousins at Antonino's-LaSalle. Meeting many of our cousins for the first time, it was like we had known each other our entire lives.

Sal, you leave a legacy of good deeds and an amazing family who's roots run deep.

Rest in peace Cousin Sal,
Joe Ciaravino, Windsor Ontario Canada

Joe Ciaravino - August 15, 2021 at 07:28 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Salvatore Joseph Ciaravino.*



August 14, 2021 at 03:00 PM

VG

“ *I got to know Sal many years ago, as he attended senior alumni events as a member of the DLS Alumni Association. He also worked at elections here in Grosse Pointe Woods for many years. He came to the GPW Memorial Day ceremonies, proudly wearing his Navy uniform, and joined in the group picture of veterans. What a wonderful gentleman Sal was, cordial to all.*

Vicki Granger - August 14, 2021 at 11:15 AM

JF

“ *We were lucky enough to be across the street neighbors of Sal and his wife for many years. They were the finest neighbors that anyone could wish for and we will miss him greatly and we hope that his wonderful wife continues to be our neighbor. We have been marveling how his children and grandchildren have cared for their Dad and Mother and Grandparents each and every day since they have been incapacitated. What a tribute to the whole family. It was heart breaking and yet very heart warming to witness the reverence that was displayed as Sal was carried to the funeral van with an American flag draped over the casket and his two sons escorting him side by side and saluting as he was carried away. God bless you Sal, my you Rest In Peace.*

Jim and Mary Francis

James Francis - August 13, 2021 at 06:52 PM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Salvatore Joseph Ciaravino.*



August 13, 2021 at 04:25 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Salvatore Joseph Ciaravino.*



August 13, 2021 at 03:11 PM

ME

“ *Mr. Ciaravino was an amazing man with a tremendous legacy. Full with family, kindness and jokes ;). He will be forever loved and missed by all that knew him. My deepest sympathy and prayers.*



Mary Elizabeth - August 13, 2021 at 11:13 AM

PP

“ *Fran, Bill and family we are very sorry for your loss, he was a sweet& kind man. who loved life and his family.*
Peter & Pam

Peter & Pam - August 12, 2021 at 08:59 PM