



## Cataldo 'Carl' Bonanni

January 17, 1945 - April 15, 2024

Cataldo "Carl" Bonanni died peacefully on Monday, April 15th, 2024, with his family and best friend at his bedside.

Carl who was born in Supino, Italy on January 17th, 1945, made his way to the US with his family on the Christopher Columbus on May 28th, 1955 becoming an American Citizen shortly after where they resided in the Detroit Metro area.

Carl is a US Vietnam Veteran who joined the US Navy in 1964.

He served his country as a 2nd class petty officer on the USS Rehoboth AGS50 touring in Vietnam, Hong Kong, Japan, Midway, Hawaii, Alaska, and several other countries over his 4.5-year tour of duty.

Carl met his wife Kris in 1966 towards the end of his service with the US Navy when he was stationed in Treasure Island, CA.

They married shortly after and had their only child Maria a year later. Carl brought Kris & his baby daughter to make their home in the Detroit Metro area. When they arrived back in Michigan, Carl's large Italian family welcomed and embraced his new family of 3.

For most of Carl's working career he was an entrepreneur & business owner which included a few pizzerias in the 80s, and a unique carry-out pasta concept called Pasta To Go from the 90s until the early 2000s. He had planned to retire in 2007, but realized after a short while that working in the pizza business and interacting with people was truly a passion of his. Thinking of working for just a few more years part-time, he found the perfect opportunity to work as a supervisor for two wonderful Little Caesars franchisees. He stayed with the Little Caesars franchise for 10 years where he built amazing relationships with the operators, the staff and the customers who came in to grab a pizza and see his smile. After having knee surgery that laid him up for longer than expected, he decided to officially retire in 2018.

Carl loved to golf, travel, sing karaoke and gather with friends. He started woodworking shortly after retiring where he enjoyed making unique gifts and custom orders for friends and family. He more recently became an active member of his local VFW hall where he was the kitchen manager of the hall because he LOVED to cook and entertain. When he wasn't doing any of the above, he'd enjoy beautiful summer evenings sitting on his deck after grilling the perfect steak. He'd cap off the night with a cigar from his humidor sipping on a glass of his favorite bourbon (Bullet), or a glass (or 3) of wine. As the nights became chilly & crisper with the fall and early winter air, he'd move those night caps into his garage where he had his woodworking shop set-up. The same garage where he proudly hung his American Flag because he loved God and his country.

What he loved and cherished most was his family. Nothing made him happier than spending holidays, weddings, birthdays, and any family gathering to enjoy delicious meals and seeing everyone together celebrating whatever the occasion. Family meant EVERYTHING to him because he was a strong believer in holding family traditions.

Carl lit up a room whenever he walked in. He was the life of every party, he was a “glass half full” kind of guy, and he LOVED LIFE to the fullest.

He was a man of dignity, honor, integrity, and genuine kindness. He was a positive influence for so many who also considered him a role model and mentor.

He is survived by his wife Kristi (nee Clarke), his daughter Maria (Sean Palm), his 5 siblings and their spouses including sister Phyllis (Tringali), Tina (Dalea), Joe Bonanni & (Rita Bonanni), Anna (Cole) & (Roy Miller), Toni (Marino)& (Russ Marino). From his family of 5 siblings, he loved all of his 15 nieces and nephews, including their spouses/significant others and their kids.

He is pre-deceased by his father Nicola Bonanni and Angelina (Mancini), and two brother in-laws, Jimmy (Phyllis) Tringali & George (Tina) Dalea.

Although Carl's sudden illness and very brief battle with 2 aggressive and unrelated cancers cut his life far too short, we're confident he'll have wanted his family and friends to always remember his smile, his passion for life and his true love for all whose lives crossed paths with his. He left a memorable & lasting impact on so many people and would want us to celebrate his life and cherish the memories that have been made.

Visitation Sunday from 4:00pm-9:00pm with an 8:00pm Eulogy, and Monday from 11:00am until the time of the 12:00pm Funeral Service at Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons (54880 Van Dyke Ave - Shelby Township). Concluding Carl's Funeral Service there will be a Celebration of Life Gathering over at VFW Post 465, 8311 Wilson Dr., Shelby Twp., 48316, with Military Honors and lunch to follow at 1:30pm

Please share memories with the family at their "Online Guestbook" at  
[WujekCalcaterra.com](http://WujekCalcaterra.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 21. 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons - Shelby Township  
54880 VanDyke Ave  
Shelby Township, MI 48316

## Eulogy

APR 21. 8:00 PM (ET)

Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons - Shelby Township  
54880 VanDyke Ave  
Shelby Township, MI 48316

## Visitation

APR 22. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons - Shelby Township  
54880 VanDyke Ave  
Shelby Township, MI 48316

## Funeral Service

APR 22. 12:00 PM (ET)

Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons - Shelby Township  
54880 VanDyke Ave  
Shelby Township, MI 48316

## Celebration of Life

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APR **22**. 1:30 PM (ET)

VFW Post 4659  
8311 Wilson Drive  
Shelby Township, MI 48316-2633

# Tribute Wall

CC

“ So sorry about Carl's passing. We were looking forward to Carl joining us at our 60th class reunion from Nativity High School. Carl was an important part of our lives.

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**Chuck Calati** - April 22, 2024 at 12:35 PM

DH

“ Our condolences to Carls family. Played golf with Carl and his brother Joe a few times and had a great time. Shocked when I heard the news ,he will be missed, Daryl and Denise Highfield

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**Daryl J Highfield** - April 22, 2024 at 07:40 AM

RA

“ I met Carl through his brother Joe. He welcomed me into his circle of friends as if I had known him my whole life. It was an honor to have called him my friend. Miss you Carl.  
*Rick Allen*

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**Rick Allen** - April 21, 2024 at 03:49 PM

BM

“ So sorry for the loss of Carl. It was great getting to know him through his brother Joe.....and enjoyable weekly lunches at VFW. He will be truly missed.  
*Brian Marshall*

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**Brian Marshall** - April 21, 2024 at 02:49 PM

SG

“ My heart goes out to the family for the loss of Carl. I worked with Carl at Blackheath, in fact, he was my trainer. He was a friend from the time that I met him and I feel honored that I was able work with him for 4 years. We enjoyed talking about our golf ball collections and all the ways we could make Blackheath better.

Steve Grousd - April 21, 2024 at 02:00 PM

LS

“ Love, Amanda, Jace & Jeff Silverman. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cataldo 'Carl' Bonanni.

Love, Amanda, Jace & Jeff Silverman. - April 21, 2024 at 11:18 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Cataldo 'Carl' Bonanni.



April 21, 2024 at 11:18 AM

DC

“ Dr. Charles and Reyna Colombo planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cataldo 'Carl' Bonanni.

Dr. Charles and Reyna Colombo - April 20, 2024 at 02:26 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Cataldo 'Carl' Bonanni.



April 20, 2024 at 02:26 PM



“ Bobby and Cathy Schreiber planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cataldo 'Carl' Bonanni.

**Bobby and Cathy Schreiber** - April 19, 2024 at 12:26 PM



“ Bobby and Cathy Schreiber purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Cataldo 'Carl' Bonanni.



**Bobby and Cathy Schreiber** - April 19, 2024 at 12:26 PM



“ My dear brother Carl...there are not enough words to describe the impact you left on so many people that you crossed paths with, friends and family. You made everyone feel welcome. You made them laugh and you were always the life of the party. I can't even begin to imagine a family gathering without you but I know that you, Mom and Dad will always be with us. You will be missed more than you will ever know. You were a great big brother and you will always be in my thoughts and in my heart. Rest easy now till we meet again. I love you.

**Toni Marino** - April 19, 2024 at 12:23 PM

KE

“ *Kathy and Todd Eveland purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Cataldo 'Carl' Bonanni.*



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**Kathy and Todd Eveland** - April 19, 2024 at 10:44 AM

JB

“ *Jon & Burgess planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cataldo 'Carl' Bonanni.*

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**Jon & Burgess** - April 18, 2024 at 07:56 PM



“ *Celestial Love was purchased for the family of Cataldo 'Carl' Bonanni.*



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April 18, 2024 at 07:56 PM

AI

“ *I am very sorry to hear about the loss of Mr Cataldo Bonanni. Even if the family don't know us, my sister in law Michelle Di Maggio Mannina expressed to us how kind he was, and how much good time Mr Cataldo and my brother Mr Gino Mannina had singing old songs. . Also thankful for his Vet Service. 🌹🙏*

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**Anna Impastato** - April 18, 2024 at 02:49 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Cataldo 'Carl' Bonanni.*



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April 17, 2024 at 01:50 PM



“ *Laura Z. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cataldo 'Carl' Bonanni.*

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**Laura Z.** - April 17, 2024 at 01:08 PM



“ *Bob Bartkowski lit a candle in memory of Cataldo 'Carl' Bonanni*

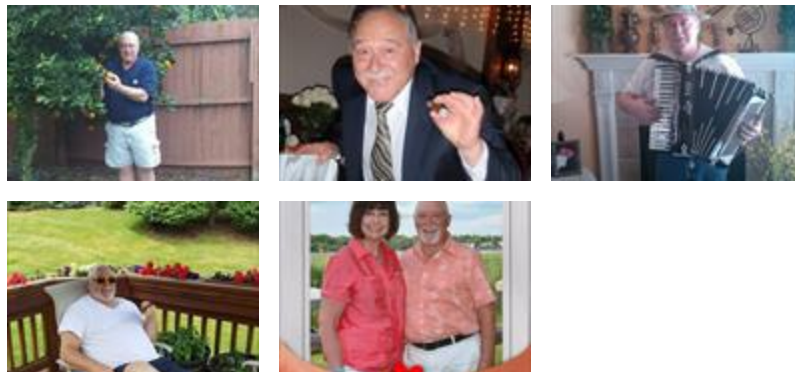


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**Bob Bartkowski** - April 17, 2024 at 05:03 AM

MB

“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Maria Bonanni - April 16, 2024 at 11:57 PM

DH

Great pictures!💖

Diane Huge - April 17, 2024 at 11:17 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Cataldo 'Carl' Bonanni.



April 16, 2024 at 08:08 PM

GF

“ George Cole and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cataldo 'Carl' Bonanni.

George Cole and Family - April 16, 2024 at 07:22 PM



“ *America the Beautiful was purchased for the family of Cataldo 'Carl' Bonanni.*



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April 16, 2024 at 07:22 PM



“ *Love- Little Caesar's Franchise Services purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Cataldo 'Carl' Bonanni.*



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**Love- Little Caesar's Franchise Services** - April 16, 2024 at 06:07 PM



“ *Love- Little Caesar's Franchise Services planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cataldo 'Carl' Bonanni.*

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**Love- Little Caesar's Franchise Services** - April 16, 2024 at 06:07 PM



“ *To many to post; however; I can't or ever forget the times in the kitchen cutting chickens and singing songs..... and, of course changing the lyrics. Many laughs and good times that i will never forget. God bless you "Mio cugino". Love you Gino*

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**gino santia** - April 16, 2024 at 03:41 PM

LI

*Oh Uncle Carl- like everyone else will say - you helped creat a lifetime of family memories and laughs. Our hearts are broken and we will all miss you terribly. I just wonder how you will explain cheating in Monoply with your little nieces and nephews! I'd love to say rest peacefully- but I know you will be whooping it up there and having some wine and singing Italian songs!*

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**Linda** - April 16, 2024 at 05:54 PM

BM

*My best friend, oh how I will miss the smiles and laughter.*

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**Browning Mike** - April 16, 2024 at 06:50 PM

KD

*It was a pleasure this past year working with you on the fish fry's and joining you for lunch on Tuesdays occasionally. Rest in peace sailor we have the watch.*

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**Kevin DeBruyne** - April 17, 2024 at 09:37 AM