



Joseph P. LaPenta

February 9, 2022

Joseph Paul LaPenta, age 87, passed away peacefully in Farmington, CT on February 9, 2022.

Joe was born in Hartford, CT on May 28, 1934. Joe's life led him through many doors, including placing 5th out of 210 at a roller-skating competition at the Regionals in Queens, NY at age 15.

After graduating from Weaver High School in 1953, Joe was drafted into the US Marine Corps, and eventually received an honorable discharge with rank of Sergeant. Next, Joe became a bricklayer and later joined the West Hartford Police serving 11 years. Joe then earned a teaching certificate from New Britain State College, and taught masonry at Albert Prince Vocational School in Hartford, CT

While a police officer, Joe organized the West Hartford police union, local 1783, and served about eight years as its president. Joe also negotiated the first labor contracts between the cities of Hartford and West Hartford and their police unions, as well as for the West Hartford School crossing guards. In 1972, Joe became owner of the Silver Dollar restaurant, operating for 37 years. Joe was appointed a Town Constable serving six years, later a Justice of Peace and Notary Republic. After a quadruple bypass surgery, Joe retired.

Joe is survived by his three daughters, Antoinette Matthews and her husband

Ken, Jo-Anne Cormier and her husband Alvin, Andrea Graham and her husband Mark; daughter-in-law Lynn Hebert Atkin; twelve grandchildren, Jonathan and Joey Vigurs, Jason, Danny and Kevin Matthews, Kevin Cormier and Samantha Camasso, Hannah, Mason and Chase Graham, Danielle and Gavin LaPenta; two great grandchildren, Kaylyn Vigurs and Luca Camasso; brother Lenny LaPenta and sister Rosemarie Murray; brother-in-law, Joseph Leone, and sister-in-law Sandra Leone Woods. Joe was predeceased by his beloved wife of 62 years, Marie Leone LaPenta, as well as his parents, Anthony LaPenta and Mary Cataldi, and his beloved son, Paul. Joe's four-legged loves over the years include Prince, Scottie, Bella, and Molly.

"I had a great life and in passing I say goodbye to all and hello to my wife Marie who awaits me."

There will be a military burial in honor of Joe and his service to our country. Friends and family are invited to attend at 11am on Tuesday, February 15, at Cedar Hill Cemetery, 453 Fairfield Ave, Hartford, CT.

Cemetery Details

Cedar Hill Cemetery

453 Fairfield Ave.
Hartford, CT

Previous Events

Graveside Service

FEB 15. 11:00 AM (ET)

Cedar Hill Cemetery
453 Fairfield Ave.
Hartford, CT

Tribute Wall

BC

“ I was so very sorry to hear of the loss of Mr. LaPenta, sincerest condolences to everyone.

I'm from the neighborhood and got to know your dad through our fur babies, Bella and my boy, Foster. We would visit at Mrs. Menta's on Saturday mornings so the dogs could play, along with Georgie. I got to know your mom as well - she would join us if she wasn't at a tag sale or craft show, or at the Cape for the weekend. I have a beautiful scarf that she made and gave me for my 50th birthday. They were a lovely couple. I enjoyed hearing about their Friday night dinners out and what Mr. LaPenta had to eat and what he made himself for breakfast. I've never met any of you but heard of all the milestones and special occasions celebrated by your family. He would always ask about my family and got to know my son, Bobby, who would help him out with the lawn. He also knew my dad, who operated a service station on the corner of South Street and New Britain Avenue, they got to know one another during Mr. LaPenta's time as a West Hartford police officer. We always walked home with him and Bella and I even got to try out his stair climber - he was so excited, he just had to show me.

I missed your mom and dad when they moved out of "the village" however, your dad would drop by every now and then when he would visit Mrs. Menta - I actually joined them not too long ago for a visit. Your dad looked wonderful and said he felt great which is why I was shocked and saddened to hear of his passing.

I will always have fond and happy memories of both your mom and dad and I hope this helps to comfort you just a little, during this sad and difficult time.

Barbara Caffary-Cortesi

Barbara Caffary-Cortesi - February 14, 2022 at 01:23 PM

MS

“ Ken and family. My name is Michael Sayers. I was Joe's Budweiser rep at the Silver Dollar and also Ken's rep at Super Cellar's. I was very sorry to read about his passing. Unfortunately I am out of state and will miss Joe's service on Tuesday. My thoughts and prayers are with the entire LaPenta family. Semper Fi Joe. Mike.

Michael Sayers - February 12, 2022 at 09:19 AM

MD

“ Jo-Anne and family,
Please accept my deepest condolences on the passing of your father. You are in my Prayers.
Sincerely, Michael

Michael DeConti - February 12, 2022 at 09:01 AM

AL

“ Cousins Antionette, Jo-Anne, Andrea and families,

I was so saddened to hear of the loss of your Dad and my Uncle Joe. Uncle Joe was my Dad's second youngest brother. He was a Marine, as was my Dad, and a Police officer as well. Uncle Joe was a good man,...I could always tell this even as a child by his kind smile and demeanor. We always knew Uncle Joe and we would see him and Auntie Marie and your family from time to time when we were growing up. I wish we all had more time to spend together, then And now,...but people's lives take them in various different directions.

I am very thankful that in recent years myself and the rest of my sisters and my brother got the chance to see and talk to, and to know Uncle Joe quite a bit better. I am also very thankful that myself specifically, got the chance to know both your Father And your Mother very well.

I have to say though, the last time my wife and I and my little daughter came to Connecticut in early 2021, we saw your Dad and he was in good spirits and I enjoyed seeing him, Uncle Lenny, Auntie Rosemarie, cousin Jo-Anne and the rest of our families at First and Last Tavern on Maple Avenue in Hartford.

I remember when I saw Uncle Joe, I said to him that I really, really miss seeing Auntie Marie here with us (Your Mother and I became very close the last few years of her life) And I will always remember what he said to me,...."How do you think I feel? I am devastated without her!"

I know its hard, the time you are going through right now, I lost both of my parents too not that long ago, but I truly believe this and mean this with all my heart,...your Dad is now in a much better place. Uncle Joe is now with your Mom and your Brother, as well as with Grandpa and Grandma, my Dad and Mother, as well as everyone else he lost in his lifetime,... and they are all at Peace!

Please keep this in mind and please, if there is anything at all I can do or anyone of my family can do for you and your families, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.....

With so much Love,

Your Cousin and Family,

Andrew LaPenta

Andrew LaPenta - February 12, 2022 at 12:24 AM