



# Zeke

FEB 2, 1938 - SEP 17, 2012



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## **Zeke**

FEB 2, 1938 - SEP 17, 2012

**D**onald J. "Zeke" Zabielski, age 74, of Milford, DE, formerly of Newark, DE, passed away Sept 17, 2012. Mr. Zabielski was born Feb. 2, 1938, in Wilmington, DE, the son of the late Martha J. Olszewski and Joseph T. Zabielski, Sr.

A graduate of Salesianum High School Class of '56, he played semipro baseball for St. Anthony as a southpaw. He was signed by the 1957 World Champion Milwaukee Braves for the upcoming '58 season. After a short time he was injured, which brought his promising career to a halt. He then served his country through the United States Coast Guard.

Mr. Zabielski was employed with Delmarva Power (DP & L Company) and retired in 1994 after 38 years of service as a member of IBEW Local 1238. He was a member of Pulaski Legion and Knights of Columbus #3792. For many years he had interests in golf and gardening.

He is survived by his wife of 41 years Donna Dougherty Zabielski, daughters Denise Z. Westbrook and husband Jasper of Lewes, DE; Diane J. Lehmann and husband William of Marriottsville, MD; four grandchildren Emma and Elise Westbrook and Hannah and Graham Lehmann; and a brother Edward A Zabielski, Sr. of Wilmington, DE.

Besides his parents he was predeceased by two brothers Joseph T. Zabielski, Jr, Edmund R. Zabielski, and sister Dolores R Short.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 AM at Saint Edmond Roman Catholic Church, 409 King Charles Street, Rehoboth Beach, DE on Friday September 21, 2012 where family and friends may call beginning at 10 AM. Burial will follow at Gates of Heaven Cemetery, 32112 Vines Creek Road, Dagsboro, DE.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his name to Delaware Hospice, 100 Patriots Way, Milford, DE 19963, or [www.delawarehospice.org](http://www.delawarehospice.org).



# Obituary

**Zeke**

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Please sign the online guest registry at this site.

[PDF Printable Version](#)

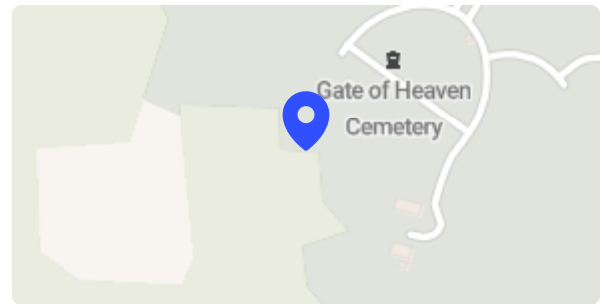


## Interment

 **Friday**, September 21, 2012

 1:00 PM ET

 **Gate of Heaven Cemetery**  
32112 Vines Creek Road, Dagsboro DE





## Tribute Wall

**Zeke**

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JS

**John B Sullivan "Sully"** posted:

My name is John Sullivan and I worked with Don in the URD Department at DeIMarVa Power and I admired Don as a mechanic and a person and manlam terribly sorry that I missed his funeral. I was looking him up to share his Being a professional ball player and the admiration I had for him and that I was proud to have worked for him. Please accept my late condolences and I am truly sorry for your loss.

March 30 at 2:26 PM

NV

**Nancy & Mike Valiante** posted:

We remember Don from the days of bank social events. He was a great husband and father, and a joy to be around. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

September 23 at 8:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

A sympathy card has been sent to the family of Zeke.

September 21 at 8:00 PM

TW

**Tracy Williams** posted:

Our thoughts are with you today.Glenn and Tracy

September 21 at 8:00 PM

JK

**John And Kathleen** posted:

Donna,Denise, and Diane,We want you to know how much we love you and that you are in our prayers.

September 20 at 8:00 PM

CN

**Carmen & Barbara Nini** posted:

Donna And Family,We just wanted to let you know what great times we had when we traveled especially every summer to the DOWNTOWN INN.Donald will be missed by everyone who new him.

September 20 at 8:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

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CP

**Courtney Paternoster** posted:

I'm sorry to hear of Mr. Z's passing. I remember him fondly from my teenage years. Thinking and praying for you all.

September 20 at 8:00 PM

AS

**Adrienne Santini** posted:

Dear Donna, Denise, and Diane, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this sad time

September 19 at 8:00 PM

NP

**Nick And Candy Pettoruto** posted:

Zeke was a great friend and a special classmate (Sallies 1956). We enjoyed so many wonderful times together with so many great memories. Zeke, you and your family are in our prayers. Love Nick and Candy

September 19 at 8:00 PM

OS

**Omicron Gamma Chapter - Stti** posted:

Denise, We join together to celebrate and mark the value of your father's life. In the name of scholarship and caring, and with our deepest sympathy, the executive board and members of our Omicron Gamma Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing at Wilmington University are with you today.

September 19 at 8:00 PM

AL

**Angelo J. And Judith A Lano** posted:

Dear Donna and Family. We were saddened to hear of Don's passing. You and Don were good to my Mother while she was at the Antonian and when she lived with us last year. She enjoyed your greeting cards. Personally, I will always remember DON, not only as a classmate at Sallies, but also as a teammate. We will remember him in our prayers and Mass this weekend. Love to all, Angelo and Judy

September 19 at 8:00 PM



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GP

**Gary Price** posted:

Donna, Denise & Diane & entire Zabielski. On behalf of my family and my mother may I express our deepest sympathy in the lose of your husband and father Don. You have been in our hearts, thoughts and prayers.

September 19 at 8:00 PM

JR

**Joan & Barry Renner** posted:

Deinse:May the love of God surround you during this time of intense sorrow and grief. Please know, you are in our thoughts and prayers.Joan & Barry Renner

September 19 at 8:00 PM

JD

**Jack Duffy** posted:

Donna, our thoughts and prayers are with you during this most difficult time.I graduated with Zeke from Sallies in 1956 and remember him as a very good friend and baseball player as a pitcher.I also was happy to see him and you at the 50th reunion several years ago.Jack Duffy

September 18 at 8:00 PM

BJ

**Brenda L. Johnson** posted:

I offer my sincere condolences for the passing of Donald J. "Zeke" Zabielski. Death casts a shadow over you as you go about your daily life. Your love one's death brings you face-to-face with the fact that he is gone too soon. While you call to mind the happy memories, you may also remember the enormity of the loss. But, "Do not let your hearts be troubled". (John 14:27) May you find comfort as the "the last enemy", death will be done away with. (1 Corinthians 15:25, 26). Let this time be a tribute to his wonderful life.A smile occurs in a flash, but the memory of it can linger a lifetime-Unknown

September 18 at 8:00 PM

RK

**Rev Edward J Kaczorowski** posted:

May Donald rest in peace. My relationship with Donald and Donna go back to when they were married at St. Hedwig's as a beautiful couple to work with. I remember his family going back into the 50's. My condolences to Donna and the children.

September 18 at 8:00 PM



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TH

**The Hendricksons** posted:

We are so sorry for your loss. Mr. Z is part of my childhood memories. All our thoughts and prayers to the family. Norah and Nate send big hugs to all the grandkids.

September 17 at 8:00 PM

CR

**Chris & Bernie Rueter** posted:

Our prayers are with your family during this difficult time. Our heart breaks for your loss. Stay strong.

September 17 at 8:00 PM

BS

**Beth Skinner** posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with your family at this time. We sure will miss "Mr. Don" around the neighborhood. Take care ~ The Skinner Family, Lance, Beth, Wyatt and Brody

September 17 at 8:00 PM

LB

**Lois Bixby** posted:

My thoughts and prayers are with you all at this time. Hold your memories within your heart and he will be with you always.

September 17 at 8:00 PM

MD

**Michael Dougherty** posted:

sorry about your loss my prayers are with you all

September 17 at 8:00 PM

LF

**Larry And Irene Lehmann And Family** posted:

Our thoughts are with all of you at this challenging time. Cry, laugh, cherish your memories and know that he is looking down and watching over all of you. We are honored to have known him. Love to all of you.

September 17 at 8:00 PM



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AN

**Angie** posted:

My thoughts and prayers are with each of you at this time of sorrow. Angie

September 17 at 8:00 PM

TC

**Tammy Carpenter** posted:

So sorry for your loss.

September 17 at 8:00 PM

LI

**Lin & Al** posted:

Donna, Denise, & Diane, Our hearts are saddened with sorrow for all of you on the loss of your husband and father. Please know you all are in our thoughts & prayers and we are here if you need anything. I will miss seeing him out in the yard and waving to him every Monday as he tended his grass and gardens! May he Rest In Peace. Love to you all xoxoxo Lin & Al

September 17 at 8:00 PM

JJ

**Jack & Janet** posted:

Donna, Denise & Diane, Please know that our heartfelt prayers and thoughts are with you at this difficult time. Love to you from all of your loving family here at the Jersey Shore. Yes, Don was "one of a kind" and will be greatly missed. May he rest in peace.

September 17 at 8:00 PM

LI

**Lori Irelan** posted:

Denise, My prayers are with you and your family.

September 17 at 8:00 PM

TS

**The Hardy's** posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Love, Ken Eileen and family

September 17 at 8:00 PM



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LS

**Lynette Smith** posted:

Denise, You and your family are in my prayers! Lynette Smit

September 17 at 8:00 PM

SH

**Sheila** posted:

To Denise & family~My prayers are with all of you at this difficult time. Know that your father's light continues to shine through you, your sister & your beautiful children. May he rest in peace. Sheila

September 17 at 8:00 PM

TG

**Tish & Fred Gallagher** posted:

Denise and family -Please be assured that you are in our thoughts and prayers during this time. Tish & Fred

September 17 at 8:00 PM

SR

**Susan Orga Rawstrom** posted:

My sympathies are with all of you at this difficult time. What a wonderful tribute to him. You are all in my prayers.

September 16 at 8:00 PM

TS

**The Diamico's** posted:

We are so sorry for your loss! Know that your angel will be with you forever!

September 16 at 8:00 PM

VW

**Veronica Wilbur** posted:

Denise and family, You are in my thoughts and prayers. I know this is a difficult time but rest assured that heaven is a wonderful place. I told my parents and daughter to look for your Dad. In fact I can almost see my mother greeting him now :) Ronnie

September 16 at 8:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Pamela Wilson** posted:

You and your family are in my prayers Denise. God bless you all as you say good-bye to your Dad!

September 16 at 8:00 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Zeke by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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