



# Carmen Paul Leto

FEB 28, 1934 - SEP 12, 2009



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## **Carmen Paul Leto**

FEB 28, 1934 - SEP 12, 2009

### **C**armen Paul Leto

Teacher, Coach, Athletic Director & Administrator

Age 74, of Lewes, DE, passed away Saturday, September 12, 2009, at the Delaware Hospice Center in Milford, DE.

Mr. Leto was born in Philadelphia, PA on February 28, 1934. He grew up in "Little Italy" living above the family poultry store. He was the son of the late Carmen and Frances Leto. The family moved to Glenolden, PA where he excelled in sports at Glen-Nor High School graduating in 1954.

He earned his Bachelor of Science in Education degree at Lock Haven University with a major in social studies and a minor in safety and driver's education.

In his senior year of college he received four significant awards for his football play: Honorable Mention, Little All-American; First Team, All-Pennsylvania State Teacher's Colleges; Third Team, All-Pennsylvania Colleges and Universities; and First Team All-National Association of Interscholastic Athletics.

He took his first teaching job at Dover High School in 1958 serving as an assistant in football for five years and in baseball for three years. He was also head wrestling coach for two years.

In 1961, he coached the Gold Team for the 1961 Delaware High School All-Star Football Game. In 1963, he was the coordinator of safety and driver education for the former Newark School District and has been president of the Delaware Driver Education Association. He has served the Blue Hen Conference as vice-president and twice as president. He has spoken to teacher training



## Obituary

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classes on "The Role of Advisor Involving Discipline in Schools" and "Drug Use and Discipline in the High School."

He served seven years in the Army National Guard and was honorably discharged as a Staff Sergeant E-6. He earned a Master's Degree in instruction at the University of Delaware and with additional graduate study he qualified for the secondary school principal certificate from the State of Delaware. He also served as student advisor for seven years and acting assistant principal for one. He was also coordinator of Christiana's early withdrawal program for three years. He was at Glasgow High School for seven years with duties as student advisor and counselor, discipline specialist, athletic director and advisor to the human relations council.

He then became assistant principal at Gauger Middle School in 1986 until he retired in July 1989. Missing the interaction with the students and the teaching staff he joined the Junior Achievement program where he continued his teaching and counseling, and then moved onto Caravel Academy as the athletic director. In 1992 he and his wife Barbara relocated to "slower lower Delaware to enjoy the fishing and beach environment.

He is survived by his loving wife of 50 years, Barbara A. Leto; daughter Patricia and William Land of Viola, DE; son Bradley Leto and wife Lauren of Hartly, DE; six grandchildren: Michael L. McGrady and wife Kristina, Jeremy R. McGrady, Brittany L. Leto, Justin D. Land, Mathew J. Land and Samantha L. Land; and one great-grandchild, Lexi E. McGrady.

His wishes were to be cremated with a Memorial Service to be held on Sunday, September 27, 2009 at 3:00 PM at the Manor House Community Center, Sussex East Community, 30769 Lewes-Georgetown Highway (Route 9), Lewes, DE. Arrangements are being handled by Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium, Lewes, DE.

[www.parsellfuneralhomes.com](http://www.parsellfuneralhomes.com)

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# Events


**Carmen Paul Leto**

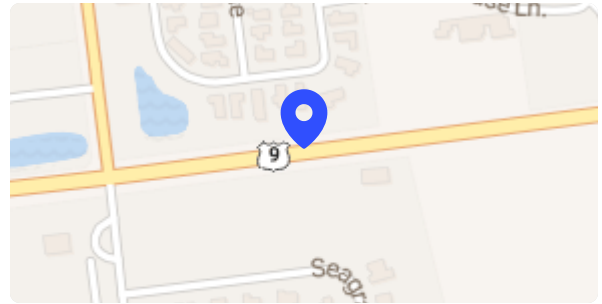
FEB 28, 1934 - SEP 12, 2009

## Memorial Service

 **Sunday**, September 27, 2009

 3:00 PM ET

 **Manor House Community Center**  
30769 Lewes-Georgetown Hwy. (Route 9), Lewes  
DE





## Tribute Wall

**Carmen Paul Leto**

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DC

**Debbie Croom** posted:

Grandpop, wow, it's hard to believe that you've left us. You welcomed myself and Chad to the family from the first time we met you. I loved listening to your stories and words of wisdom. I know that you have had a tremendous impact on my daughter Kristina's life. Michael and Kristina will carry your love and teachings to their son due to be born in December, 2009. We will keep in touch with Barbara for you. My only regret is that we didn't have many more years to share your love and learn from you. Chad and I will truly miss you. Oh and Grandpop, I will have one (cigarette) for you as you always asked. Much love!

September 27 at 8:00 PM

MH

**Matt, Halley, Brynn And Paige Henry** posted:

Uncle Carmen, I will never forget wondering as a child how such a kind man could live under such a rough, gruff voice. When I picture you, I always see you in your chair, pipe in hand, and Prince by your side. Our visits to Dover are memories that will be with me forever. Aunt Barbara cooking pasta and garlic bread, playing with our cousins in the basement, and especially smacking that wiffle ball into the neighbors from your back yard. I was sure I was headed to the majors. It was a blessing to have seen you again these past couple years, and for you to meet Halley and the girls. You will always be in our hearts, and be loved forever.

September 26 at 8:00 PM

AJ

**Andrea Janvier** posted:

Grandpop, First I would like to say in the short time I have got to know you, you were a wonderful man who touched hearts in many peoples lives and always held out a helping hand for those in need. You were a very strong man who fought till the end and would do anything to see his family together and happy. I loved that in you! I miss playing solitair with you while Jeremy was working (even tho you tought me to cheat!!!) You have helped us in so many ways and always had a heart full of love!! When you pulled me to the side of the bed and told me how happy you were that Jeremy and I found each other and that you loved me touched me SO deeply and really made me feel apart of your family that I never had. Grandpop we will miss you GREATLY but I know you are in heaven watching over Jeremy and I and your unborn great grandson, who I wish greatly would have gotten the chance to know you but your memories will live on in Jeremy and I and never be forgotten. I want you to know Grandpop I will always keep the promise that was promised to you the night before you passed and never let you down. Thank you for making such a wonderful, joyful, loving family for me to be apart of for years to come! We all love you and miss you dearly! Love, Andrea

September 25 at 8:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

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RF

**Renee Cartwright-Finn** posted:

Mr.Leto as I used to call him at Gauger where he was my Assistant Principal.Everybody loved him with his helpfull ways.He will greatly be missed,but has a special place in heaven.

September 24 at 8:00 PM

JM

**Jeremy R. Mcgrady** posted:

Grandpop is the best man I've ever known. I love him with all my heart and he will never be forgotten.

September 24 at 8:00 PM

MF

**Melanie And The Patino Family** posted:

Uncle Carmen, This world has lost an exceptional man. My family and I feel honored to have had you in our lives and we love you VERY much. I have many important and special memories of you from my childhood, and now as an adult the memories of watching you with my children will be those that I hold very dear in my heart forever.I will miss your sweet smile, your voice on the other end of the phone,your stories and jokes,your knowledge,your support and your unending love that you gave throughout my life even with the separation of time and people.I will never forget the support you gave to me as my father was living his last year, I love you sooo much for that!! I will also always remember as my daughter Mia says " I am three years old and Uncle Carmen told me that he is four years old".I will miss you ALWAYS Uncle. See you again some day, we love you Melanie, Enrique, Nicolas, Antonio and Mia

September 22 at 8:00 PM

CA

**Caity** posted:

My wishes are with you grandpop... lexi and i give you lots of hugs and kisses

September 18 at 8:00 PM



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DC

**Dolleen Cartwright** posted:

I moved to Lewes in 2006 from Newark De into the community without knowing anyone. Within a few months I met Carmen & Barbara Leto. I instantly knew we would become good friends. People gravitate to them due to their kindness, love, superior values about life & the love of their family. I love them both very much. I watched Camen struggle to become well. He was an exceptional man & determined (or should I say hard headed). He gave me great insight on life. I would call or stop over,we constantly debated & of course he would win or I let him think he did on some occasions. My personality is very excitable & hyper & something was always happening to me, some good, some bad. I always had them laughing at my experiences. Carmen would always tell me to breathe & calm down. I will miss his friendship, love & also trying to help me. Now when I get in a situation, I look up to Heaven & say "Carmen, what do I do now?" You're still in my prayers every night & my heart. I will watch over Barb. I'll see you again some day. Love & God Bless You. Your neighbor friend

September 18 at 8:00 PM

ML

**Matthew J. Land** posted:

Dear Grandpop,I miss you very much. I wish you never had to leave. When you were laying in bed at the hospital, I came up to you and put my hand on your leg. I prayed to God and said,"Please my Lord, take some of my strength and give it to Grandpop so he can live longer." I didn't want you to die, so I was real sad. I wish it didn't have to end like this. I guess it was God's will for Grandpop to move on. Mine was for him to live longer. I LOVE YOU!!

September 15 at 8:00 PM

SL

**Samantha L. Land** posted:

~Grandpop~I will miss you very much! But I will never forget all the times that you beat me in parcheesi. There will always be a special place for you in my heart. You are the Best! I love you! Thank you for always rewarding my A's with money. I'LL LOVE YOU ALWAYS!Love, Your granddaughter

September 15 at 8:00 PM

JL

**Justin D. Land** posted:

Grandpop was an inspiration to me and forever will be. I've known him all my life. Whenever I made a mistake in grammar, he would always correct me. I think it was because he was a teacher. He loved to go fishing and he would play poker with his buddies for my lunch money. I'm going to miss him as long as I live.September 16, 2009

September 15 at 8:00 PM



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BS

**Barbara J Shelton** posted:

God is smiling now that he has one of his Angels with him.

September 15 at 8:00 PM

PL

**Patricia Leto Land** posted:

My father was the strongest man I have ever known. He set the standards high, growing up, and made me always strive to do my best. He was tough, always leading me in the right direction and always very much the counselor. He continued that with my five children also. I will miss asking his advise and opinion, as I found I always agreed with him. He did an excellent job preparing all of us for his passing as we spent his last days with him. I will never forget his last meal with us. He really had enjoyed that pizza. Dad, thank you for always being there for me and my kids. You have been the best dad there could have ever been and I will miss you for the rest of my life. I love you Dad.

September 15 at 8:00 PM

WL

**William P. Land** posted:

Dad, I will miss you forever. You have been an inspiration in my life like no other. Your wisdom, support and caring for all of us can never be matched. Dad, your love you gave all of us will never be forgotten. I enjoyed our fishing trips, even the one time on my boat on the Rehoboth Bay, when that storm chased us back home. Sorry for the rough ride. Thank you for the time we had together. I LOVE YOU and MISS YOU.

September 15 at 8:00 PM

KM

**Kristina Mcgrady** posted:

Grand Pop, I am very glad I met you. In the short time I have known you, you have done nothing but help Michael and I out. You are the first real grand pop I have ever had. You have changed my life, and took me in as a grand daughter. I love you so much. I will carry all your teachings on to your great grand child Michael Lee-Carmen Mcgrady. We all love you.

September 14 at 8:00 PM



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MM

**Michael Mcgrady** posted:

Grand Pop ( g -pop),Grand pop was the strongest and most loyal man i knew. He has taught me so much. I have never looked up to anyone more in my life. He has taught me everything i am as a person today. I will continue to teach and preach everything he has taught me. Even though he passed, he will never leave my heart and all his teaching will be passed on from generation to generation. He is my role model. I will miss him unconditionally, but i know he is watching over me at all times. he will be my guardian angel. I LOVE YOU GRAND POP!!!! i WILL PRAY AND TALK TO YOU EVERY NIGHT.

September 14 at 8:00 PM

GD

**George B. Dintiman** posted:

Carmen Leto was a lifetime friend and key member of the Lock Haven University 1957 undefeated football team. I recall his friendly manner, team loyalty, and tremendous football skills and will remember him forever.Teammate George "Big Train" Dintiman

September 14 at 8:00 PM

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September 14 at 8:00 PM

DF

**Dawn Hess-Fischer** posted:

"Dad Leto" was a terrific man and he had an impact on so many lives. When I think back, it has been such a journey over the last 30 years. Our paths were brought together through tragedy but it was truly a blessing in disguise. "Dad" provided a shoulder whenever you needed one. He also provided guidance whether you wanted it or not. "Dad" loved his family and found his most joy by spending time with them. He traveled to see my boys play lacrosse and Football, as if they were his own grandchildren. "Dad" was admired by those he coached and taught and he was respected by his peers. I am so lucky to have had such special time with "dad" and to be called "his 2nd daughter". I know now that he is in heaven....fishing and spending time with Bill. He will be so missed but we will all have the wonderful memories he gave us through the years. Don't worry "dad".... I will help take care of "mom". I love you "Dad" and I know we will be reunited again in heaven.

September 14 at 8:00 PM



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BL

**Bradley Carmen Paul Leto** posted:

My father was a good man, a wonderful husband, a great father and a devoted grand father. He spend most of his retirement years traveling to watch his six grandchildren play many different sports. He will be missed and we will never forget the love and support he gave to us all. We, all twelve of us, spent all day friday with Dad. All he wanted was to be with his family during his final days. Mom and Dad celerbrated their 50th wedding anniversary on the 25th of august and Dad went into the hospital on the 26th. We are so thankful he stayed with us for that milestone. He left this life his way, ensuring we were all together .Now he is fishing in God's sea and i'm told the fish are huge there. Someday Dad and i will have the oppportunity to fish together again. Dad, I LOVE YOU

September 14 at 8:00 PM

EW

**Earl And Susan (Harrell) Whaley** posted:

Mrs. Leto and Family, As you know, we just spoke on the phone and enjoyed so many memories together of your wonderful husband and our fantastic teacher, but I also wanted to put a few words on the website. I will ALWAYS remember Mr. Leo and he will ALWAYS be in my memory. He was always so much fun in Driver's Ed, he would make sure that you learned what you were supposed to, but was also so funny. I will ALWAYS remember him with a tootsie roll pop in his mouth! :) We are so sorry that he was not able to make it to the CHS Class of 1971 30th and 35th reunions, but I will remember fondly the phone calls when I spoke with him when I called to invite you both. You are always invited to our reunions and Mr. Leto will ALWAYS be remembered on our "Memory Table" at our future reunions. I wish I could be there at the Memorial Service, but I will have you all in my thoughts and prayers. God Bless you All! Earl (CHS Class of 1972) and Susan (Harrell - CHS Class of 1971) Whaley, Sebastian, FL

September 14 at 8:00 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

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



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