



Francis Joseph Susie Jr.

FEB 10, 1942 - SEP 5, 2023



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On Tuesday, September 5, 2023, Francis J. Susie, Jr. passed away surrounded by his loved ones. He died from service-connected lung cancer. He was 81 years old. Francis was born in Baltimore, MD to Francis J. Susie, Sr., and Anne M. Susie (nee Witt). Everyone who knew Francis loved, respected, and admired him. He is profoundly missed.

Francis dedicated his career to public service. He served in the Navy, both on active duty and in the Naval Reserves. After graduating from the University of Baltimore with a Bachelor of Science he was recruited by the Department of Defense. He worked as a federal civilian employee for nearly 40 years, serving multiple overseas tours with his family. Francis' sense of duty was so strong that he was one of a few civilian employees who volunteered to serve during both Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm. He received numerous commendations and accolades for his exemplary work and service to his country. After retiring from Federal Service, Francis called Milton, DE home with his wife and beloved fur children. His values and work ethic compelled him to continue to serve his country and his community. He was a long-time AARP volunteer, assisting his local community with free tax preparation. He also worked in Georgetown, DE for the Delaware Division of Revenue.

Francis' commitment to his country was only exceeded by his commitment to his family. He was a loving and caring husband and a kind and gentle father. His career provided him and his family the opportunity to experience many cultures. They lived abroad and traveled to multiple countries which instilled and nurtured a deep sense of appreciation and respect for the diversity of humanity. He was impossibly patient and kind; being known for his easy-going nature. He patiently nurtured and taught his children the value of hard work, education, curiosity, the endless pursuit of life-long learning and the recognition that the beauty in life can be found everywhere, even in the direst circumstances.

Francis was endlessly thoughtful and generous. He once sold his Mercedes to a neighbor in need for only \$1.00. Perhaps one of the traits known only to those closest to him was his quirky sense



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of humor (think Chevy Chase as Clark Griswold). Some highlights of his family vacations include: driving the giant family station wagon through the narrow streets of Italy turning heads wherever he drove (expectedly, the station wagon was broken-in-to and all of the family belongings were stolen, including the dirty laundry); camping in a so-called inactive volcano crater that had such strong tremors it shook his family out of bed; a tense and comical border crossing into Communist East Germany; and , in Africa, scarcely talking his way out of his daughter being traded for a few rugs and camels. Francis always created memorable events whether on vacation or enjoying time at home. He was the heart of his family.

Francis is survived by the love of his life, his wife of 57 years, Frances A. Susie (nee Drega); his daughter Karen Susie, his son-in-law Guy Campagna, his daughter Danielle Gibson; his granddaughters: Eva, Catherine, and Julianna Gibson; his sister Barbara A. Susie-Stump; his brother John P. Susie; his sister-in law Sr. Joan Drega, D.C.; and his beloved cat daughters Freya, Toonie and Lucy Susie. And his most favorite grand cat Arnold.

Services and interment will be held at a future date in Arlington National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, Francis would truly appreciate any donations, no matter the amount, be made to Brandywine Valley SPCA.

Please sign the virtual guestbook located on the tribute page.



Tribute Wall

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Carol Blonar Lader lit a candle in honor of Francis.



September 9 at 3:06 PM



Carol Blonar Lader posted:

Proud, Brave, True - with gratitude, all mourn this loss. To all of the Susie family Heaven surely opened wide - for such a good soul. The connection with the Susie family and my family goes back to Baltimore City when we all lived in the same community. His Dad and my Dad went to work together every morning - Mr Susie (his Dad) always drove because my Dad didn't have a car. Mr Susie was a supervisor and my Dad one of the team. Many memories including the connection when the Susie family moved to a different community in Baltimore. Anne (his Mother) kept in touch with my Mother (Lee) - I can remember one of the visits was when Anne kept us at the edge of our seat telling us about her visit to Rome and meeting the Pope. Reading about Francis Jr. brought back so many wonderful memories of the Susie family. I suspect his quirky sense of humor had to come from his Mother. To the Susie family - with more time to grieve ... memories will bring more smiles than tears. God Bless you. Carol Blonar Lader

September 9 at 3:02 PM



Nancy Bateman September 10 at 7:23 AM

May Francis rest in peace and JOY. Thanks to our association with the Little Sisters of the Poor at St Martin's home in Baltimore I have heard of Francis many times from his loving Sister Barbara Susie Stump. Barbara often spoke of her love for her two brothers. Obituary comments above back up her feelings for her brother Francis at this sad time for Barbara. Love and sympathy are sent to dear Barbara and all of Francis' loved Ones. With prayers and caring, Nancy Bateman



Guy lit a candle in honor of Francis.



September 9 at 2:31 PM



Frances Susie lit a candle in honor of Francis.



September 9 at 2:30 PM



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KD

Kathleen Dunn lit a candle in honor of Francis.

September 7 at 2:53 PM



DO

Doug posted:

We all miss Fran. We all loved working with him, and he is really missed. The office is not the same without Fran. We are especially going to miss him when we have holiday lunches at work.

September 7 at 10:54 AM

FS

Francis Susie lit a candle in honor of Francis.

September 6 at 2:50 PM



HR

Holly Reynolds lit a candle in honor of Francis.

Fran was an amazing person and myself and the Georgetown revenue staff have missed him tremendously. He was a funny, caring and very hard working man. We are all so saddened to hear of his passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of his family during this difficult time.

September 6 at 2:44 PM



KS

Karen Susie lit a candle in honor of Francis.

September 6 at 1:07 PM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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