



Lawrence Nicoletta Jr.

January 7, 1945 - April 10, 2020

Lawrence Nicoletta Jr., CMSgt, USAF, Ret

Lakeland – Lawrence “Nick” Nicoletta, 75, passed away Apr. 10, 2020 surrounded by his immediate family at his residence.

Mr. Nicoletta was born in Pittsburgh, PA, on Jan. 7, 1945 to the late Lawrence Sr. & Maria Nicoletta. He is predeceased by his brother Dominic "Skip" Nicoletta. He retired from the US Air Force after 30 years of Active Duty. He enjoyed spending time with his family, elk hunting with his buddies, traveling, golfing, and working on Veterans Affairs.

Mr. Nicoletta is survived by his St. Luke's High School sweetheart and loving wife of 55 years, Mary Diane. He is survived by his three children, Gina & husband Michael, Matt and wife Romy, and Nicole; 3 granddaughters Naiya, Grace, and Nova, and 2 grandsons John and Joseph; and his brother William Nazareth Nicoletta and wife Sandy. The family is having a private Funeral Mass in Lakeland FL at 12:00pm Wednesday, April 15th at Saint Anthony Catholic Church and internment in Colorado Springs, CO at a date TBD. Nick dutifully served his God, his family and this country.

Tribute Wall

LR

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Larry Repp - April 25, 2020 at 01:29 PM

LR

“ Words alone can ever describe the emotions, feelings, and affections of an almost forty-nine year friendship. We shared home improvement projects in Colorado Springs; too many to count glorious golf outings; and, the visits and trips we had the last twelve years. Nick, I was really looking forward to our planned shopping trip to Mazzarios as soon as you healed-up from this latest bout--guess that'll have to wait for another time and different place. I love you Pal, and miss you. Cheers.
Elreppo

Larry Repp - April 25, 2020 at 01:20 PM

JK

“ Diane & Family
Larry has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember. I was 10 years old when he first started visiting my sister Diane. Larry was a good man which made him a good husband, father and friend.
Last week I prayed for you and this week and forever I can pray to you .

Jane

Jane Kwasniewski - April 16, 2020 at 09:06 AM

T1

“ *Diane and Nicoletta Family*
My heartfelt condolences on The passing of a our dear friend and
Lucian Classmate .
Many fond and cherished memories dating back to St Joe's Grade-
school, st Luke's High ,American Steel Band Baseball teammate
,and and a fellow career Brother in Arms in USAF. 🇺🇸 Go Blue
Nick..May you Rest In Peace
Ted Novak

Ted Novak -St Lukes class of 1962 - April 15, 2020 at 11:52 AM

DR

“ *Met Nick in high school, have known Diane forever. Just two great*
people. Nick was always smiling and upbeat. We all shared many
good times together. A memory. Nick and I had the crazy idea to
take his fathers car engine apart, and clean it. As hard as we tried,
we could not put it back together !!
I want to extend my deepest sympathy to Diane and Family. May
Nick Rest In Peace.

Dave Raco

David Raco - April 15, 2020 at 11:35 AM

KK

“ *Larry was an articulate speaker and writer. His ability to listen to*
others in a thematic manner fostered his unique and superior ability
to touch others and create a kindred spirit.

As Larry was a person of deep convictions and faith it is appropriate
to ask Larry, as he touches the face of God, to pray for us.
Kenny Kwas

ken kwas - April 15, 2020 at 11:35 AM

KJ

“ *Kwasniewski's, Grabowski's Kaltz's & Joseph's purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Lawrence Nicoletta Jr..*



Kwasniewski's, Grabowski's Kaltz's & Joseph's - April 15, 2020 at 10:42 AM

GN

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



gina nicoletta-budler - April 14, 2020 at 11:14 PM

GN

Some connections are made for a lifetime and some are made for this earth and beyond. Forever in my heart my father will be--my superhero, my mentor my friend. The wisdom he shared with me will assist me as I attempt to move forward after losing him. I am so grateful to be a part of the Nicoletta clan and intend to create many more memories with my precious mother Diane and my dynamic and equally precious siblings. A la familia.

gina nicoletta-budler - April 14, 2020 at 11:20 PM

VP

Dear Diane and the Nicoletta Family...I'm profoundly sad to learn of Nick's passing. Chief Nick was a mentor, a boss and a friend. Oh the memories of the AF Academy days. When I made MSgt he made sure I never had a drink with carbonation---"Real senior NCO's don't drink that way" he told me. The April Fools prank he pulled on me is one that has never been topped. His constructive input was always given with kindness. His guidance, ability to listen to new ideas and overall leadership impacted so many around him. The sign in his office..."Management comes from the mind, Leadership comes from the heart" was not only what he talked but he walked. He was definitely one of a kind and I truly adored him as a human being. Peace, Blessings and Love to each of you. Vikki Powell

Vikki Powell - February 11, 2023 at 03:52 PM

GN

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



gina nicoletta-budler - April 14, 2020 at 11:09 PM

NB

“ *These photos are part of the sweetest video on the planet. My grandparents dancing to Christmas music in our kitchen. Totally spontaneous, but I managed to capture true love on camera. This is how I will remember Grandpap my Grandpap. As a grandfather, as a mentor and as the love of my grandma's life. He was the perfect example of strength, of resilience and of unconditional love. We love you endlessly and thank you for all the life lessons and beautiful memories.*



Naiya Budler - April 14, 2020 at 09:37 PM

AS

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Abby Summerfield - April 14, 2020 at 07:25 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Lawrence Nicoletta Jr..*



April 14, 2020 at 06:46 PM

FP

“ I ve known Nick and Diane since we were kids. So much for opposites attract. They both were always smiling, loved to have fun, great to be around. They are both so much alike and loved by everyone. They were a perfect match for each other and the world. Our prayers go out for Diane and family knowing Nick is in a better place.

Frank Perisino

frank Perisino - April 14, 2020 at 02:19 PM

JR

So sad. My heart Goes out to Diane and family. My prayers continue for peace .

jackie Rao - April 14, 2020 at 06:46 PM

PR

“ *Peace & Love, Mike Wendy, Andrew, & Ranae purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Lawrence Nicoletta Jr..*



Peace & Love, Mike Wendy, Andrew, & Ranae - April 14, 2020 at 01:35 PM

RA

“ Knowing Nick was such a pleasure. We first met many years ago as members of Cypress-lakes Veterans Association. We were the pioneers of the Vets For Vets, Veteran of the Year and the scholarship committees .Nicks knowledge, worldliness along with the ability to get the job done, plus his ability to think outside the box were just some of the attributes he had. I always said " I know, I'll ask Nick ". My heart is heavy knowing he is gone but I am so proud to have known him. Diane, Nick always spoke so glowingly of you. He said 'I saw this cute blond cheerleader and I was gone". Nicoletta family I know you count your blessing for having Nick in you world. I count mine for knowing and working with Nick. I miss him so.
Rose Mary and Dave Allen

Rose Allen - April 14, 2020 at 09:33 AM

DM

“ Larry was more than a brother in law, I referred to Larry as my brother; more, Larry was my best friend. We go as far as my first double date. Larry was dating my sister Diane, good choice, but for me I had to be very good. Now I have your attention...
So , how the gig when down... Larry and Dee pick me and my date up, Larry drives up in his big Oldsmobile convertible, he starts to put down the rag top turns around , " said Dave, lets give the neighborhood something to talk about, petal to the metal, burning rubber, beeping hocking , on lookers through it was a one car wedding procession .
Next week in the local newspaper (Marry Woods) head lines, OPS! Davey's DATING!
NOW YOU KNOW THE REST OF THE STORY
Not a day will go by without remembering how kind, caring, giving, my brother Larry was.
RIP

David McIntyre - April 13, 2020 at 11:54 PM

MM

“ JFK said "Do not pray for easy lives. Pray to be stronger men." My incredible brother in law was a strong man, courageous and brave in all that he faced. He had a wonderful sense of humor we all enjoyed. He was wise and kind and generous with his knowledge, for all of which I am eternally grateful. The icing....he was a guy who knew how to fast dance. Really, he could fast dance, I saw him multiple times dancing with my sister. How lucky was I to have him in my life my entire life. So glad we never missed an opportunity to say "I love you". And now, "I'll miss you"



Maureen McIntyre - April 13, 2020 at 10:51 PM

SO

“ Best bonus grandpap anyone could ever ask for! He always had positive energy and we have too many good moments to choose from



Sophie - April 13, 2020 at 09:18 PM

RM

“ My wife, Peggy, and I moved from Pittsburgh 5 & 1/2 years ago to Cypress Lakes. The Nicoletta brothers, also from the Pittsburgh area, already lived here. They were known as big and little Nick. "Naz" big Nick, played tennis, as I did. We became friends instantly. Lawrence, little Nick, joined the Lakeland Romeos. We are Retired Old Men Eating Out. Almost every Thursday, we ate breakfast together, sharing fellowship and enjoying ourselves. Little Nick and I became instant buddies by being Steeler fans and sharing memories of the Burgh. We had Christmas parties, picnics and some breakfasts where wives and significant others attended. We became friends of Diane, too. I gave Diane some opportunities to laugh as I struggled in the one and only Yoga class I attended. I was the only guy in attendance and was totally unable to do even half the things Diane and the other ladies did. Though she urged me to come back and try again, I did not. Peggy and I wish we had known little Nick and Diane longer, but, there are three words beginning with F that are important to us ... Faith, Family, Friends. Diane and little Nick are our dear friends and friends of our Romeo brothers. Nick will be missed by all who knew him. We know he is with God now.

Ralph Mason - April 13, 2020 at 06:28 PM

JG

“ One of my favorite places to hang out as a kid was the Nicoletta's. Mr. Nicoletta would greet me with such kindness and warmth every single time. He always had a smile that really felt like it was just for me which meant the world to me as a 12yo girl. There was something that seemed so safe and secure about his home and it was a gift to have a chance to receive some of that goodness as a child.

My hand is on my heart for you right now Mrs. Nicoletta as I sit and write these words. But fo course there are no words except I love you and I hope you feel that love. I know that God is drawing close to you, Gina, Matt, and Nicole during these days.

Peace to all of you.

Jenny Glick - April 13, 2020 at 06:16 PM

NN

Love you, Jenny. Thank you 🙏

nicole nicoletta - April 13, 2020 at 08:52 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lawrence Nicoletta Jr..



April 13, 2020 at 06:14 PM

AN

“ Being in the arm services for 30 years it was difficult keeping in contact with my Uncle. Since his retirement he would travel to the Pittsburgh area and we would meet with him and Aunt Diane. It was great times.

Uncle Larry was 10 years older then me and as a young boy he taught me how to play baseball and he taught me how to swim. He was more like an older brother than uncle.

When he went into the service my Grandfather and I went to Battle Creek, Michigan to visit him and Aunt Diane. I kept in touch with him over the years but not as much as I should have.

You were a kind and good Uncle.

Love and will miss you

Arden Nicoletta - April 13, 2020 at 05:25 PM

NN

“ Best dad and grandpap ever! We will miss you beyond comprehension.



nicole nicoletta - April 13, 2020 at 04:44 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Matt Nicoletta - April 13, 2020 at 03:44 PM

JM

Looks like a 50's rock star, which he was.

Jerry Mainer - April 13, 2020 at 11:11 PM

WW

I first met Nick when I arrived at the Air Force Academy in 1990 and Nick instantly became my great friend and mentor and the best man at my wedding to Siobhan. Will always have great memories of Nick, especially in Elk camp with Don, Jim and Dr Jerry, sharing a nightly camp fire telling stories and lies, enjoying a good cigar, and some adult beverages. Also, the Friday night memories after work at the Academy NCO Club taking advantage of the bar bingo, bar food and some good scotch. Nick was never off work as he always had his pen available to take numerous notes on the bar napkins which became our issues to work Monday morning. Always had a smile for everyone and available to work their issues. Nick and his blue! He was a great executive officer for the Director of Personnel and always used that dang blue pen to mark up our staff work :)

Nick was a great family man, great Chief, a perfectionist and a even better friend. He will be missed !!!

Wayne Wallmow

Wayne Wallmow - April 14, 2020 at 07:35 PM

MO

As I read the above comments, I am impressed by how universally loved Nick was. So it wasn't just me. And there can be no better affirmation of a man's life than that.

I met Nick and Mac in our last year in high school, even then you could see they were special.

Marty Olaharski

Martin J. Olaharski - April 15, 2020 at 01:14 PM

DD

Nick and I became friends in High School. We both did a "little" weight lifting and used to talk about different exercises for building muscles. Neither of us got very big from lifting , but it was always fun talking about it. We started calling one another "Steve" , like in Steve Reeves the bodybuilder turned "actor". No one knew why we called each other Steve, but it gave us a little chuckle when they would ask. It was always good to see Nick and Diane at our class reunions and even better when we got to golf together. I also prayed for Nick the last couple years and will now pray to him to help me. See you again some day Steve!

Denny Donnelly

Dennis Donnelly - April 16, 2020 at 02:22 PM