



Paul Edward Chapman

June 7, 1953 - March 25, 2026

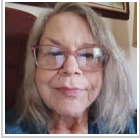
Paul Edward Chapman, born on June 7, 1953, in Lake Wales, Florida, passed away on March 25, 2026, in Lakeland, Florida, at the age of 72. A lifelong resident of Florida, Paul graduated from Lakeland Sr High School and went on to dedicate over two decades of his career to Allstate-Feola Insurance Company in Plant City, FL. Known for his integrity and strong work ethic, Paul not only built a successful career but also formed lasting relationships with those he worked with.

Paul was a vibrant man who embraced life with enthusiasm and fearlessness. His quick wit, sharp mind, and generous heart left a lasting impression on everyone he met. An avid enthusiast of fast cars and flying, he lived life on the edge, yet his greatest pride and joy were his family and his beloved dog, Angel.

He is survived by his daughter, Karla Ruggiero, son-in-law, Matthew Ruggiero; grandchildren, Carson, Austin, and Mekenzie; great-grandchildren, Maverick and Weston; sister, Margaret Stanfield; niece, Karen; and numerous other family members and friends who will forever cherish his memory. Paul was preceded in death by his parents, Ruth Lee Johnson and Lee Hamrick Chapman; siblings, Wilma Jean Chapman, Patricia Ann Ziegele, Jerri C. Feola, Phillip Lee Chapman, and James T. Duett.

A private cremation will be handled by Gentry-Morrison Funeral Home in Lakeland, FL. A memorial service will be announced at a later date. The family requests that during this difficult time, thoughts and prayers be extended to them in lieu of flowers.

Tribute Wall



“ *I grew up calling him Unca Paul, I will miss his many messages.
Rest in Peace*

Teresa Smith - April 04 at 08:42 PM

KR

“ *Saying goodbye to my dad is the hardest thing I've ever had to do. He was more than a father-he was my protector, my teacher, and my steady place in an ever-changing world. He had a way of making even the simplest moments feel special, and his presence brought comfort and strength to those around him. From his daily txt messages of songs relating to my location in the country to phone calls when it was a full moon, he'd say "Karla Rae, my beautiful daughter, its a full moon, its time for a visit".
I miss you so much already.*

He loved the beach, where he could take in the beauty of both sunrises and sunsets with sand in his toes and quiet moments that reflected the peace and warmth he carried within him. His love was constant, his heart was huge, and his impact on our lives will never fade.

I will miss his voice, his advice, and the way he always knew how to make things better. Though he is no longer here with us, his love will guide me for the rest of my life.

I love you, Dad. Always and Forever

Karla Ruggiero - March 30 at 08:50 PM



*Love you Karla.
You were his life.
He would say to me " i dont know how you do it Marti. How do you
make it better for your child?" He was so worried about you.*

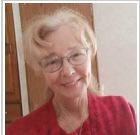
Marti Lu - March 30 at 10:16 PM



“ *Rest in peace my dear friend!
Please watch over and help heal your beautiful daughter Karla.
I'm glad we had the chance to reconnect nine years ago and remain
friends.*



Marti Lu - March 30 at 08:32 PM



“ *Paul and I have been friends for over fifty five
years. We have been through a lot of
changes in our lives, but always were there
for each other. We have an interesting history
as teenagers, and we reconnected years later
to remain friends throughout our lifetime. Paul was a generous,
giving person who always thought of others before himself. We both
loved our dogs and often went to dog park or taking them for a ride
around Lake Hollingsworth. We'd go out to Tapatios for lunch and
the Brunch box for breakfast. Sometimes , we'd just sit on the couch
and watch Jeopardy. Paul was very smart, and often got the
answers right. I'm going to miss that man very much. Love ya Paul.
RIP my friend. We'll see each other again one day. Sande*

Sande Metcalf - March 30 at 08:08 PM

KR

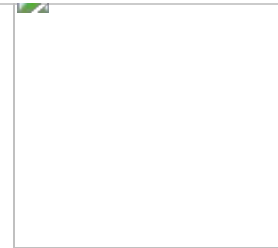
“ Fly free....tell granny and everyone else hello for me! Love you!



Karla Ruggiero - March 30 at 07:19 PM

KR

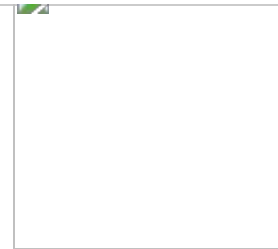
“ I Love you Dad and miss you terribly already!



Karla Ruggiero - March 30 at 07:18 PM

MR

“ Matteo Ruggiero lit a candle in memory of Paul Edward Chapman



Matteo Ruggiero - March 30 at 07:17 PM

MR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Matteo Ruggiero - March 30 at 07:13 PM

MR

“ Paul was truly one of a kind. A man who could make you laugh when you needed it most, who carried wisdom from a life well lived, and who would give the shirt off his back to help anyone in need.

He lived boldly, loved deeply, and never did anything halfway. Paul brought energy and heart into everything he did.

Above all, he loved his family. That love is what will carry on through his daughter, his grandchildren, and everyone lucky enough to know him.

Paul, your stories, your laughter, and your spirit will never be forgotten. Thank you for the memories, the lessons, and the love you gave so freely.

Rest easy you will be deeply missed and forever remembered.

Love your “handsome son in law”

Matteo



Matteo Ruggiero - March 30 at 07:05 PM

BA

“ 10 files added to the tribute wall



BreAnna Agee - March 30 at 06:32 PM