



## Joseph R. Mariano Sr.

January 19, 1941 - August 5, 2022

The world lost one of its very best when Joseph “Buster” Richard Mariano, Sr., loved by everyone who was fortunate to know him, died on Friday, August 5, 2022 at 81 years old.

Mariano died peacefully at Cape May Regional Hospital surrounded by his entire family after a courageous battle with esophageal cancer. They just don't make 'em like Joe Mariano anymore and his passing will have a substantial impact on everyone he touched.

Joe was a 1959 graduate of Monsignor Bonner High School, where he excelled at football and baseball and was drafted professionally by the Cincinnati Reds and St. Louis Cardinals before deciding to take on the family business in 1971, Mariano Welding in Clifton Heights, where he had worked since the age of 11. His work ethic was unmatched, and nobody could outwork Joe, he could still be seen recently in his shop. Mariano also owned several other businesses locally throughout the years.

Joe was well-known in Clifton where many referred to him as the unofficial Mayor, having known everyone in town and giving so graciously, not only monetarily, but of his time and in his kindness. He was honored as the Grand Marshal of the Clifton Heights 4th of July Parade last month alongside lifelong friend, Dominic Longhi. It was a fitting tribute to a man who dedicated his life

to the community and meant the world to Joe.

Soft-spoken in nature, but larger than life in character “Buster,” who his closest friends affectionately called him, was the role model family man. His warm smile and contagious laughter welcomed those around him to sit and enjoy a Manhattan with him, play pinochle, or just take in a few innings of the Phillies game. A true icon of a man, Joe was someone whose presence was immediately felt when he entered a room.

Joe was a man of faith, regularly seen at weekly mass at St. Francis of Assisi church in Springfield with his beloved wife, June, whom he devoted his life to through 60 fond years of marriage. Joe loved spending time with his family in Avalon, NJ where the family has enjoyed summers together for decades and he had a passion for playing softball in many leagues with teammates he called his closest friends.

Survived by his dear wife, June (nee Harper), devoted father of Debbie (Anthony) Cotellese, Robin, (James) Lavelle, June (Steven) Falcone, Joseph Mariano, Jr., loving grandfather of Gabriele (Alexa), Steven, Nicholas, Arianna, Alexandria, Joseph III, Sienna, Gianna, Isabella, and great grandfather of Gabriele Marcello IV, and dear brother of Dolores McNaughton.

Funeral mass will be held on Friday, August 12, 2022 11:00 am at St. Francis of Assisi church at 136 Saxer Avenue, Springfield, PA 19064. The family will receive friends from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM with mass to immediately follow. Burial will be at Saints Peter and Paul Cemetery at 1600 South Sproul Road, Springfield, PA 19064. Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.lombar dofuneralhomes.com](http://www.lombar dofuneralhomes.com).

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the American Cancer Society at <https://donate3.cancer.org> or Cleft Lip & Palate surgeries @ [rotaplast.org](http://rotaplast.org)



# Cemetery Details

## SS. Peter & Paul Cemetery

1600 Sproul Road  
Springfield, PA 19064

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 12. 9:00 AM (ET)

St. Francis of Assisi  
136 Saxer Ave  
Springfield, PA 19064

## Service

AUG 12. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Francis of Assisi  
136 Saxer Ave  
Springfield, PA 19064

# Tribute Wall



“ *Joseph R. Mariano Sr.*

October 22, 2023 at 05:57 PM



“ [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of Joseph R. Mariano Sr..

August 12, 2022 at 12:07 PM



“ *Tom & Janis Martinicchio lit a candle in memory of Joseph R. Mariano Sr.*



**Tom & Janis Martinicchio** - August 11, 2022 at 11:26 PM

TF

“ We were so saddened to hear of Joe's passing. Joe was a close friend & truly one in a million! We will miss him dearly and know he will be missed by all who knew him. We have so many happy and funny memories of times spent with Joe & June, Don & Joan and Mary & Don at our weekends at Penn State & our trip to California. We spent so many other great times together through the years, including our many dinners at the Concordville Inn with Joe & Georgia and the "Penn State Eight"! We always had so much fun, we shared lots of laughs, funny stories & good food! We'll never forget all the times Joe & June came to watch our son, Thom play baseball when he was younger, it always meant a lot to him that they came to watch him play. Please accept our heartfelt condolences, June and to all of your family. We love you all and are keeping you in our thoughts & prayers.

The Martinicchio Family - August 11, 2022 at 11:25 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Joseph R. Mariano Sr..



August 11, 2022 at 08:28 PM

IL

“ IKG USA, LLC purchased the Simply Elegant Sp  
athiphyllum for the family of Joseph R. Mariano  
Sr..



IKG USA, LLC - August 11, 2022 at 12:31 PM

TF

“ Troland family purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Joseph R. Mariano Sr..



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Troland family - August 11, 2022 at 09:44 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joseph R. Mariano Sr..



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August 10, 2022 at 11:15 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Joseph R. Mariano Sr..



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August 10, 2022 at 09:00 PM



“ Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Joseph R. Mariano Sr..



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August 10, 2022 at 08:48 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Joseph R. Mariano Sr..*



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August 10, 2022 at 04:45 PM



“ *So sorry to hear of Joe's passing. First off, he played softball with my Dad Juny McGrath in the Clifton League and also at many tournaments over the years. I have some pictures to prove it! My Dad always told me that Joe was one of the best, if not the best, softball player that he ever saw and ever played with. Was always great to see Joe. He always asked about our family. Was a super good guy. And what a businessman and hard worker! He will be missed, but will be hitting line drives and fielding grounders in Heaven! Prayers and best wishes to his family and friends. RIP Joe*

*Mike (Juny's son) & Dawn McGrath*

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**Mike McGrath** - August 10, 2022 at 01:34 PM



“ *Don, Joan, Debbie, Donna, Joe, Col, Mike & Lori purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Joseph R. Mariano Sr..*



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**Don, Joan, Debbie, Donna, Joe, Col, Mike & Lori** - August 10, 2022 at 11:43 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joseph R. Mariano Sr..*



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August 10, 2022 at 10:18 AM



“ *Please accept my condolences on behalf of everyone here at DN Supply. I apologize for being unable to make the service. My family was business partners with Joe for many years. He was one of a kind.*

*Scott Ronayne*

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**Scott Ronayne** - August 10, 2022 at 09:28 AM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Joseph R. Mariano Sr..*



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August 10, 2022 at 09:11 AM



“ *Deepest condolences to June and the entire Mariano family. Joe was truly a remarkable person and will be surely missed. Lou and Candi Caporale*

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**Candi** - August 10, 2022 at 09:02 AM

CD

“ Christine D. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Joseph R. Mariano Sr..



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**Christine D.** - August 10, 2022 at 08:49 AM

CV

“ Though I did not know your Father, I always knew he was very much loved by you Robin and your Family. You all are in my thoughts and prayers.

*Chris Del Viscio*

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**Christine Del Viscio** - August 10, 2022 at 08:29 AM

DM

“ The Mariano's and Massimo's families have been intertwined through our history. It starts with something simple like our last names both beginning with a "M" and ending with an "O" but it is considerably way more than that. It was our values we learned thru our childhood and adulthood. Joe almost perfected those values as he was on his way to perfection .He can now join my dad and rest in peace knowing that they would not change anything they did on their time on earth. Joe, you will be deeply missed by me but never forgotten. AMEN, DENNIS

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**Dennis Massimo** - August 10, 2022 at 03:27 AM

GW

“ Joe I enjoyed our poker games, the cousin luncheons, and our time at the shore. I will have these memories for a lifetime. You will be missed by all. Buzz and the Wilson Clan.



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**Gerald Wilson** - August 09, 2022 at 07:56 PM



“ Joe made an enormous impact on our family’s life. My son, Kyle, fell in love with blacksmithing and welding at the age of 11. Kyle was constantly tinkering and trying to make his own anvil out of whatever scrap materials he could find. My husband went to the shop one day and talked to Joe about Kyle and his unusual intrigue with metal work. Shortly after that conversation Joe himself came to our house and said he was thinking about it and felt it would be a cardinal sin not to give Kyle the chance to learn, he mentioned that his father was a blacksmith and Joe worked with him from age 11. He offered to teach and apprentice Kyle. As a homeschooler Kyle had flexibility in his schedule so he went to the shop a few days per week and learned to weld. By the time he was 14 and had his working papers Joe hired him as a welder. Kyle learned good old fashioned Delco blue collar work ethic, he witnessed Joe’s endless grace and compassion towards people and now has a trade early in life that is becoming a career. All because Joe went the extra mile to create the opportunity to apprentice Kyle.

*He was a kind and generous world-changing guy with the most humble and approachable demeanor.*

*We will forever be grateful to have known him.*

*Praying for comfort for the family and every one that will continually miss him.*

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**Steff Sned** - August 09, 2022 at 05:44 PM

WF

“ Wilson Safe Company family purchased the Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet for the family of Joseph R. Mariano Sr..



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**Wilson Safe Company family** - August 09, 2022 at 04:56 PM

TS

“ My condolences to the entire Mariano family.

*Tim - East Coast Steel*

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**Tim Scanish** - August 09, 2022 at 04:37 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Joseph R. Mariano Sr..



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August 09, 2022 at 04:24 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joseph R. Mariano Sr..



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August 09, 2022 at 02:38 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Joseph R. Mariano Sr..



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August 09, 2022 at 01:31 PM



“ Memories, where do I start? How about Joan with the Seven Fishes every Christmas eve & Joe cleaning all the pots & pans for her. The Mariano & Longhi Christmas party, the first Saturday in December every year, at the Columbus Club. Joe, June & I cleaning up the Holt driveway at the end of the Pig Roast every year. Joe & I picking up the booze & tables for the Windward Harbour's Labor day parties. Our cruises to the Mediterranean, the Carabean & the Panama Canal. Our two wonderful & funny week-ends with the Martinicchios & Perfettis. at Penn State with the same four couples at the Perfetti wedding in California. The many restaurants where we ate, drank & became merry. last but not least, the many Members Night Out at the the Columbus Club with our families & friends. The never ending pinochle games, the last one he played, won with Rudy.. Will I miss him? I already have, but the memories will never let me forget my buddy. I'll be seeing you Joe, rest in peace.

Your Buddy,  
Don

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Don Longhi - August 09, 2022 at 01:26 PM

MM

*I remember Joe and his wife as they were regular patrons at Guiseppi's Restaurant and La Compania in Clifton Heights where my husband would be their waiter for many years.*

*Rest In Peace ,Joe  
God Bless your Family 🙏*

**Maryann McCaffrey** - August 10, 2022 at 06:31 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joseph R. Mariano Sr..*



August 09, 2022 at 11:56 AM

MP

“ *So sorry to hear the news. Such a great friend to our family over the years. I will miss seeing him so much. RIP my friend !*

**Martin Pagliughi** - August 09, 2022 at 11:38 AM



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Joseph R. Mariano Sr..*



August 09, 2022 at 10:28 AM



“ . purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Joseph R. Mariano Sr..



. - August 09, 2022 at 10:23 AM



“ James & Jacquelyn Wilson lit a candle in memory of Joseph R. Mariano Sr.



James & Jacquelyn Wilson - August 09, 2022 at 10:23 AM



“ Your Brother In Law Dane, Santi & Family purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Joseph R. Mariano Sr..



Your Brother In Law Dane, Santi & Family - August 09, 2022 at 10:09 AM



“ Jack Henry Lending and Deposit Group purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Joseph R. Mariano Sr..



Jack Henry Lending and Deposit Group - August 09, 2022 at 10:00 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Joseph R. Mariano Sr..



August 09, 2022 at 09:12 AM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Joseph R. Mariano Sr..



August 09, 2022 at 08:37 AM



“ Joe was our dear friend for over 60 years. He was the nicest person you could ever meet. He would do anything for you. We enjoyed his company over the years at parties, holidays, family get togethers , and traveling to Florida the past 12 years for winter vacations. He was a special person and we are going to miss him dearly. Our sympathy goes out to the Mariano Family for the loss of a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, uncle, brother, and a dear friend to so many people . We feel honored to call Joe our friend and he will never be forgotten. Love you and God Bless.  
Joanne and Tom Vivaldi

Joanne and Tom Vivaldi - August 08, 2022 at 07:25 PM

JV

“ *Joanne And Tom Vivaldi lit a candle in  
memory of Joseph R. Mariano Sr.*



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**Joanne and Tom Vivaldi** - August 08, 2022 at 07:10 PM