



# Frederick George Gatesman

November 16, 1938 - June 16, 2022

Frederick G. Gatesman passed away on June 16, 2022 at the age of 83, in Clearwater, Florida.

Fred's sense of humor, personal convictions, intelligence, commitment to wife, family and friends will be missed by everyone who shared in his life.

As Fred battled an acute lung disease, he and his family shared his final days laughing, reminiscing, playing cards, expressing love, and giving appreciation for God's blessings.

Just

hours before his passing, he had the strength to speak with and pray for every one of his grandchildren and great grandchildren. He passed with his five children at his side and in the

arms of his wife. His strength of character was evident to his final breath: showing his courage in

facing life challenges with dignity, his submission to the sovereignty of God, and concern for

others before himself. In his final years, he devoted himself to the care and support of his wife

and was a model of selfless love to his children and grandchildren.

Fred was born in Lucinda, Pennsylvania as the ninth of eleven children to Augustus and Clara

(Schmader) Gatesman. His devotion to the Lord, his incredible work ethic, and his "can do"

approach to any challenge is a credit to the values of his parents and grandparents, the camaraderie he had with his siblings and his cousin Art Schwabenbauer. Fred has joined his

parents and his siblings: Jack, Dana, Kenny, Joan Peluso, MaryLou Zeppuhar, Norma Mealy,

Bette Crowe, Bill, and Mark in heaven. He is survived by his youngest sister Kathy Schmader of

Leeper, Pa. Blessed by a large and loving extended family, Fred's love and appreciation for all of

his brothers, sisters, nieces, and nephews was evidenced by his constant interest in keeping up with their lives and sharing news of their accomplishments. Fred met the love of his life, Audrey (Augustine) in 1958. They married in 1961, and he loved and supported her and their family for 62 years. Together they have five children. Fred is the beloved father of Gary (Darla) of Indian Rocks Beach FL, Lisa Harding (Dave) of St Louis MO, Gretchen Fowler (Gary) of Northlake TX, Amy Meier (Martin) of Pinneberg Germany, and Gregory (Jacki) of Medford NJ. His children are blessed with decades of memories of exploring the world with Fred and Audrey: from their own backyard to the world beyond. His legacy includes twelve grandchildren. He spent over 30 years doting on and enjoying Kaitlin Harding Sides (Matt), Rebecca Harding Anderson (Brian), Elisabeth Harding, Lindsey Fowler-Wymer (Sean), Caroline Fowler, Benjamin Quigley, Aidan Quigley, Grace Quigley, Carlo Meier, Kalena Gatesman, Joshua Gatesman, and Samantha Gatesman. He delighted in his four great-grandchildren: Carson and Peyton Sides, Harding and Eloise Anderson. He lived a life to support his wife and children and their children. Being a grandpa was natural for Fred and he took great pride in each of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He invested his time, his talent and his love in supporting their efforts and celebrating their accomplishments. Fred and Audrey called Edgewater Park, New Jersey their home for 50 years. Fred loved spending time with his close New Jersey friends, John (Marge) Rieger, Joe (Ilse) Casolari, and Ken (Karen) Goetz. A lot of laughter and enjoyment came from their weekly gatherings. After retiring in 1999, he and Audrey split their time between homes in Southampton, New Jersey and Largo, Florida. They were faithful members of St Joseph Catholic Church of Beverly NJ and St Jerome Catholic Church of Largo FL. Fred was a lifelong learner. Although the sisters at St Joseph Catholic School in Lucinda would

be hard pressed to believe it, his life beyond his elementary and high school days was one of academic pursuit and professional accomplishment. After graduation from St. Joseph's, Fred joined the Army in 1956. As he served his country, his country served him by providing training in electronics and radio communications. Fred discovered a passion and a natural talent for the work. After the service, he was recruited to work in the nascent computer communications industry where he worked on developing the first computers and computing systems for military and commercial use. While working full time and raising a growing family with Audrey, Fred earned a Bachelor's of Science in Mathematics at LaSalle University in Philadelphia. Fred started his career at Remington Rand working on hardware, interfaces, and programming for the first generations of UNIVAC computing systems. He was also an instructor and authored technical manuals for training systems analysts. As Fred's career in computing development progressed at Sperry Rand, Bell Labs, and Unisys, he had the opportunity to support many areas of military as well as commercial communications. Fred, a humble man who rarely drew attention to his accomplishments, recently shared his appreciation for being on a team that supported ARPANET and for contributing to the creation of what is considered the primary forerunner of the Internet. Fred was industrious at home as well! He loved to "do it himself" and was a self taught architect, construction engineer, electrician, plumber, painter, roofer, auto mechanic, appliance repairman, and landscaper. His wife was blessed with a home that evolved over the years to meet her needs and his friends and neighbors were blessed with his generous lending of knowledge, tools, and a helping hand. His handiwork can also be found throughout his children's homes and in his grandchildren's play structures and tree houses. In his "free" time, Fred enjoyed beach walks, playing golf with his friends, winning at cards, riding his bike, and watching sunsets with Audrey at Indian Rocks Beach.

Throughout the years, Fred and Audrey loved their grandchildren by cheering at thousands of games, meets, and matches, attending countless performance and award ceremonies, and celebrating graduations, weddings, births, baptisms, first communions, and confirmations. Fred will be deeply missed as his family continues to grow and his legacy continues. Fred's friends and family are invited to gather to share happy memories and celebrate his life on July 1, 2022 at St Mary of the Lakes Roman Catholic Church, in Medford Lakes NJ. A time to formally visit with the family will begin at 10 am and Mass will begin at 11 am. There will be a luncheon and a time to enjoy gathering with friends and family immediately following the service at a nearby venue

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

JUL 1. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary of the Lakes R.C. Church  
40 Jackson Road  
Medford, NJ 08055

## Mass of Christian Burial

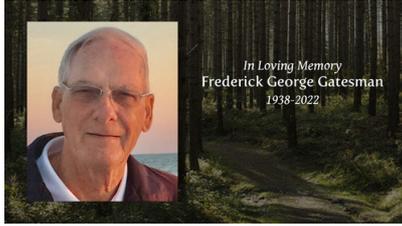
JUL 1. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Mary of the Lakes R.C. Church  
40 Jackson Road  
Medford, NJ 08055

# Tribute Wall

MH

“ *Huber-Moore Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Frederick George Gatesman*



Mathis Funeral Home - June 23 at 05:15 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Frederick George Gatesman.*



June 30 at 12:44 PM

DM

“ *David, Cory & Maria purchased the Divine Light for the family of Frederick George Gatesman.*



David, Cory & Maria - June 30 at 12:24 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Frederick George Gatesman.*



June 30 at 11:43 AM

LR

“ Love, Anu Rakowski purchased the *Fairest of All* for the family of Frederick George Gatesman.



Love, Anu Rakowski - June 30 at 10:16 AM

BK

“ Brad, Kerri, and Macy Keller purchased the *Full Of Love Bouquet* for the family of Frederick George Gatesman.



Brad, Kerri, and Macy Keller - June 29 at 07:28 PM

TC

“ The family of Bette Gatesman Crowe purchased the *Enchanted Cottage* for the family of Frederick George Gatesman.



The family of Bette Gatesman Crowe - June 29 at 10:31 AM



“ Memorial Trees was purchased for the family of Frederick George Gatesman.



June 27 at 05:33 PM

YM

“ Your CUP roomies, Lauri, Tina and Maria purchased the *Crystal Cross Bouquet* for the family of Frederick George Gatesman.



Your CUP roomies, Lauri, Tina and Maria - June 27 at 05:07 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray* was purchased for the family of Frederick George Gatesman.



June 27 at 03:11 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray* was purchased for the family of Frederick George Gatesman.



June 27 at 11:05 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Frederick George Gatesman.



June 26 at 06:25 PM



“ *Serene Retreat* was purchased for the family of Frederick George Gatesman.



June 24 at 08:39 PM

KS

“ *The past few weeks have been fondly recalling so many childhood memories of my grandpa. Helping him shuck jersey sweet corn and grill on his back patio, being pushed unimaginably high in the airplane swing in his tree, fishing trips where a raccoon made off with our catch during the middle of the night, making mud soup in his birdbath, and feeding all of the statues of critters around his yard.*

*I am so grateful that my son was fortunate to know him and create his own beautiful memories of my grandpa.*

*My grandpa had a big heart and never made me doubt his love or pride of me.*



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**Kaitlin Sides** - June 24 at 04:27 PM

BM

“ *What a beautiful and poetic tribute to a 'Life Well Lived'". Fred was kind and generous with a sense of humor that was engaging. Fred, you will be missed here at Villas de Golf. Love and support to Audrey and family. With deepest sympathy, Bernadette Moriarty*

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**Bernadette A. Moriarty** - June 23 at 08:03 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Frederick George Gatesman.*



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June 23 at 02:40 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Frederick George Gatesman.



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June 23 at 01:37 PM

MB

“ Uncle Fred will be greatly missed. I have many happy memories from our childhood of the time our families spent together. Uncle Fred and Dad were so close and it was wonderful to witness their admiration and love for each other. Uncle Fred had a great sense of humor and a wonderful laugh that I will always remember. We are sending all our love to Aunt Audrey and their entire family during this sad time. In time, I hope your happy memories will bring comfort.  
Love, Rick and Mary Ann

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**Mary Ann Betz** - June 23 at 12:59 PM

TE

“ Fred was such a great neighbor! Many chuckles and talk on our patio's. will miss his presence when we come back. Audrey, big hugs from our family to you. Be strong  
Tasha Ewert and families  
Toledo OH

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**Tasha Ewert** - June 23 at 09:53 AM

AS

“ Dave enjoyed being with Fred on bike rides or at the pool. Dave found Fred a personable, friendly man, always interested in other people. Dave said Fred was selfless.

He and Dave loved talking about computers.

I on the other hand, played bridge and Euchre with Fred. He was a competitor and he loved to play, and he was very good at play in both games for he had a sharp memory and was mathematical.

We shall miss Fred at Villas and are very happy to have known him, and seen him last enjoying the pool with his daughter Leesa.

Sincerely,

Anne and Dave Shanahan  
Gainesville, VA

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anne shanahan - June 22 at 08:39 PM

DB

To Audrey and her family I am so sorry for your loss and praying that the Lord will give you strength during this difficult time 🙏🙏🙏🙏 your friend Dee Largo FI

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Dolores Becker - June 23 at 07:05 AM

HW

Audrey, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. He was a very fine gentleman and he will be missed.

Helen Wilson

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Helen Wilson - June 23 at 11:32 PM