



Michael Kozzi

October 21, 1940 - March 16, 2020

Michael W Kozzi, 79, of Sarasota, FL, passed away peacefully on March 16, 2020 following an 18 year battle with Parkinson Disease. Mike was a long time resident of Toms River, NJ and a snowbird for the last 9 years before moving to a skilled care facility in Sarasota.

Mike was born in Newark, NJ and was a son of the late Michael Kozzi & the late Helen Kozzi (Zamieroska). He was a loving husband to Judith A Kozzi whom he married on August 29, 1965.

Mike was a teacher, administrator and basketball coach at St. Joseph/Monsignor Donovan High School (now Donovan Catholic), Toms River, NJ for 42 years. He was a graduate of Seton Hall Prep, West Orange, NJ, St. Anselm College, Manchester, NH and Seton Hall University (MA). Mike was an avid artist who enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren, travel, family vacations and cheering for the Seton Hall Pirates & NY Mets.

He is survived by his wife Judith (Smith); his children Michael Kozzi (Kathleen), Jonathan Cocilovo-Kozzi (Isabella) and Kyra O'Sullivan (Daniel); his grandchildren; Zachary Kozzi, Nokomis Cocilovo-Kozzi, Lethyrian Cocilovo-Kozzi, Shailyn O'Sullivan, Karleigh O'Sullivan and Ryan O'Sullivan. He is also survived by his siblings; Raymond Kozzi (Janet), Leonard Kozzi (Patricia) and Annmarie Siuta (Albert); nephews Raymond Kozzi, Alex Kozzi

and David Siuta; nieces Melissa Dicks, Colleen Sanchez and Rose Siuta.

Celebration of Life and memorial service to be arranged at a future date.

Tribute Wall

AW

“ Dear Judy and family,
Al and I were so saddened to hear that Mike passed away last year. Our family has such great memories of the years at “mon don”. Mike was a wonderful educator and a wonderful basketball coach to our 2 daughters. May he Rest In Peace.
Our sincere condolences to you and your family.
Andrea and Al Witfill, parents of Stacy (88) and Kristin(89)

andrea and al witfill - April 03, 2021 at 02:07 PM

JW

“ Michael Kozzi was an excellent teacher who knew his subjects inside out and taught us as a college instructor would.

He was very patient with and supportive of my teenage self, and I am forever thankful for everything I learned from him.
Joseph Weber
Costa Mesa, CA
St. Joseph High School
Class of 1973

joseph weber - March 31, 2020 at 08:50 PM

MC

“ Spent many years learning from Mike how to be an administrator. He was funny and patient, well like by all especially young teachers whom he mentored.

Michele Campbell - March 27, 2020 at 09:38 AM

WS

“ I loved Mike as a mentor, colleague and friend. I will always remember the "paint crew" during the summer months in the late eighties at Mon Don. Mike organized a couple of us young teachers and we painted classrooms, hallways and stairwells. Many laughs and good memories! Mike impacted many lives and truly made a difference!

William Slocum - March 26, 2020 at 03:27 PM

BT

“ Mr. Kozzi was a wonderful teacher and human being. I was one of his students at St. Joseph's High School (now Donovan H.S.) in Toms River, NJ. He was my world history teacher and he really made his course come alive. His course was a wonderful preparation for college and was one of the reasons I chose politics as my major. He was a kind man who often spoke of his family. He was also an inspiring coach who never was overbearing. He was a wonderful example to students, players, coaches and other teachers. RIP.
Barbara Thawley, Class of 1973.



Barbara Thawley - March 25, 2020 at 09:22 PM

EG

“ Mike was one of the Lay pioneers at then St. Joseph High School. He was a leader with our teachers. His supervisory skills guided and made for better teachers at our school. He was also a leader on the basketball court, coaching our students. Prayers go out to his wife Judy, and their family.

Edward Gere - March 25, 2020 at 03:41 PM

EM

“ Dear Judy and family - I enjoyed working with Mike for many years. As an administrator, teacher, coach and friend, Mike demonstrated knowledge, kindness and wisdom. He was a gift to the Donovan community. My prayers will continue for all of you. God bless, Eileen McCullion

Eileen McCullion - March 23, 2020 at 12:09 PM

CR

“ Judy - Please accept our Deepest Sympathy. You and your family are in our thoughts and our prayers. Numbers 6: 24-26. Carla and Gerry Ring - Neighbors on Mulberry Place

Carla Ring - March 22, 2020 at 09:09 PM

LJ

“ I was hired by Mike and Sr. Carmella in 1980 to teach at the High school and 4 years later he helped me get my teaching and coaching job at Freehold High School. He meant so much to my career in education and he was a great mentor to this young teacher. God bless to your family. He led a great life

Louis J Lanzalotto Jr.

Louis J Lanzalotto Jr - March 22, 2020 at 04:23 PM

JS

“ So sorry for your loss. He was one of the best - teacher, mentor, coach - one of the best I've had the honor to know and learn from. God bless him, you, and your family!

John Steigerwald - March 22, 2020 at 04:03 PM

CF

“ *Dear Judy and family. I was so saddened to hear about Mikes passing. I pray that your wonderful memories will help you during this difficult time. Carla and stan friedman*

carla and stan friedman. old friends - March 20, 2020 at 07:55 PM