



## Ralph Nicosia

December 25, 1941 - October 18, 2022

Ralph Nicosia entered into God's Kingdom on October 18, 2022. He passed away peacefully surrounded by his family.

Ralph was born to Anthony and Elvira Nicosia on December 25, 1941 in Somalia, North Africa. Shortly after he was born, his family moved to Messina, Sicily where he called home. At age 13, he moved to the United States. Ralph graduated Manatee High School in Bradenton, Florida where he met his late wife Jacqueline Mathis. Ralph married Jackie in 1961 and they went on to have two children, Anthony and Stephanie.

Ralph attended the University of Florida and graduated with a Physics degree in 1960. He also received his PMD from Harvard Business School in 1976. He served on the Board of Directors for Tropicana Products and was also Director of Personnel for the company. When Tropicana Products sold, as a second career he went to work for Smith Barney as an investment consultant where he retired in 2017.

Ralph was a faithful and loyal servant to God. He was active in his church, First Sarasota and loved sharing Jesus Christ with those around him. He was a member of The Gideons International and served on numerous Christian-based foundations and boards. Ralph also loved traveling, reading, and ballroom dancing.

Ralph is survived by his son Anthony Nicosia (Karri) of Denver, Colorado; his daughter, Stephanie Lipnick (Michael) of Atlanta, Georgia; his grandchildren Anthony Nicosia of Woodland Park, Colorado, and Whitney St. Laurent (Joel) of Birmingham, Alabama; his four great grandchildren Anderson, Ralph, Jeffrey, and Stillman; his niece Yvonne Whitcomb (John) of Tampa, Florida; his four great nephews Taylor, Zachery, Alex, and Julian; his cousins Daniela, Alena, and Andrea Schiro of Sarasota, Florida; his sister in law Gayle Mathis Powell and niece Leigh Davis of North Carolina.

A service for Ralph will be held Friday, October 28th, 2022 at 11:30am at First Sarasota Church 1661 Main Street, Sarasota, FL 34236.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, October 27th, 2022, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm at Toale Brothers Funeral Home, 40 N. Orange Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34236.

Ralph will be deeply missed by all those who knew him.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to The Gideons International or Sarasota Medical Pregnancy Center.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **27**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Toale Brothers Funeral Home & Crematory - Colonial Chapel  
40 N. Orange Avenue  
Sarasota, FL 34236  
(941) 955-4171  
info@toalebrothers.com  
<https://www.toalebrothers.com/>

## Funeral Service

OCT **28**. 11:30 AM (ET)

First Sarasota The Downtown Baptist Church  
1661 Main Street  
Sarasota, FL 34236

# Tribute Wall

JD

“ My name is Jim Druker. I am 83 years old, living in New York. I grew up on LeJeune Road in Coral Gables where my next door neighbor and best friend was a boy named Ralph Nicosia. His parents came to the U.S. from Sicily. Ralph used to talk about his uncle who owned an orange juice company on the west coast of Florida. Shortly after we graduated from high school, a private plane came to Miami and took Ralph away to work for his uncle. He was a really nice kid, and I wished him the best. I am so sorry to hear of his death, but I am glad to hear that he had a good life.

Jim Druker - May 04, 2025 at 06:31 PM

CK

“ I am so sorry to hear this sad news. I spent a lot of time with Ralph when I was a kid. Our families were once close and I thought he was such a great guy, very nice, generous, and always wanting to make others happy, a trait I have come to appreciate more over the years. My sincerest condolences to Anthony, Stephanie, and his family and friends.

Christopher Kahn - December 04, 2023 at 08:56 PM

JM

“ Ralph was so instrumental in my life. He took me on my first mission trip with Italy for Christ and I am forever thankful. I will always cherish the hour of prayer we had alone in St. Peter's. I look forward to being with my friend one day again in the presence of the Lord. Much love to you Ralph! John Moore

John Moore - March 24, 2023 at 12:38 PM

CP

“ My name is Christine Palomaa. I had known Ralph through the ballroom community. He was one of the most gentle and kind souls I had ever met. What a gentleman 🦋 you will be missed Ralph on the ballroom floor. May you Rest In Peace and your angels soar by your side forever. Love to your family.

Christine Palomaa - November 28, 2022 at 10:54 AM

ND

“ Neill Dooley lit a candle in memory of Ralph Nicosia



Neill Dooley - November 15, 2022 at 02:04 PM