



Sam Colizzi

October 16, 1930 - February 2, 2016

Sam Colizzi, 85, a proud Italian and the life of the party, passed away, surrounded by his children, on February 2, 2016 in Charleston, SC. He was born October 16, 1930 in Charlotte, MI to Pietro and Caterina (Capodiferro) Colizzi. He attended Charlotte schools, graduating in 1948, with having served as class president for three years, played saxophone in the band, was a member of the football and track teams and part of many committees and events.

Shortly after high school, he served two years in the US Army in Korea during the Korean War. After having worked in his parents' store, Liberty of Sweets, he formed a family love for running a successful business. He bought his own soda shop/party store in Eaton Rapids called Colizzi's Candy Kitchen, which he operated from 1953-1962. As a strong supporter of the community in which he was born and raised, he decided to come back to Charlotte to sell real estate for a period of two years.

He married Marlene Johnson on June 12, 1965 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Charlotte, MI. Until 1977, he and Marlene resided in Charlotte, with their three children Tony, Greg and Kristina. After answering an advertisement in the Lansing State Journal, Sam interviewed for a position with Seagram's Distillery, which led to several relocations including Brighton, West Virginia and Virginia, which spanned for nearly 40 years. He retired as the State Manager for Virginia and West Virginia for Seagram's.

He was a very active member of St. Mary's Men's Club, as well as the Italian-

American Club of Richmond, and a VFW life member. He was extremely proud of his Italian heritage, enjoyed spending time with relatives, cooking Italian dishes and keeping the strong bond of family alive. He took great pride in his children, their many sporting events, academic successes, and spending time with the Colizzi and Johnson families. His spirit, smile and generous ways won the hearts of many; because of this, he was fondly remembered for many years, by the communities of Charlotte and Eaton Rapids. Everyone always a story to share, of the adventures with Sam Colizzi. Those who knew Sam truly appreciated his generosity, uncanny humor, radiant smile and kind heart. Like a typical Italian, he was strong willed, always right and like to supervise, critique and offer advice to his children; both in their younger years and adult lives. He cherished his grandchildren, teaching them the art of sports, and enjoyed telling them stories of his journey in life. He made friends wherever he travelled, and always found a reason to have and host the biggest and best parties!

He is survived by his wife, Marlene, of South Carolina, son Tony Colizzi of Daniel Island, South Carolina, son Greg (Jeannine) Colizzi of Manakin Sabot, Virginia and daughter Kristina Colizzi-Windom (Robert) of Daniel Island, South Carolina, grandsons John Colizzi, Joseph Colizzi, Max Windom and granddaughter Morgan Windom. He is also survived by his brothers Don (Elaine) Colizzi of Charlotte, MI, John (Joy) Colizzi of Northville, MI, brother-in-law Dan Stango of Fort Wayne, IN, and brother in law Gordon (Margurite) Johnson of Charlotte, MI, special cousin Pete Forte of Charlotte, MI. Nieces Nikki Lennemann (Jack) of East Lansing, MI, Monique Colizzi of Charlotte, MI, Neysa Colizzi of Walnut Creek, CA, Angel Colizzi – McCrumb (Richard) of Eaton Rapids, MI and nephew Leonardo Stango of Fort Wayne, IN, several great nieces and nephews, and family in Italy. He was predeceased by his father Pietro in 1979, sister Anna Marie Colizzi Stango in 1990, mother Caterina (Kate) in 1995, and foster sister Lucille LaPointe DeWitt of Nacogdoches, TX in 2015.

Sam's Celebration of Life will take place Friday, June 17 with a 12 noon mass

at St. Mary's Church, Interment following the mass, and Italian Luncheon at Riedy's White Rose Café. If desired, the family suggests memorials to Charlotte Public School Colizzi Memorial Fund.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN 17. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Mary Catholic Church
807 St. Mary Boulevard
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Sam Colizzi.* ”



June 15, 2016 at 06:26 PM