



MSG Frank L. Magistro III

October 27, 1947 - September 26, 2022

Master Sergeant Frank L. Magistro III, 74, passed away peacefully surrounded by his wife and children at his Topeka, KS home on September 26, 2022.

In April of 2010, Frank was diagnosed with Mantle Cell Lymphoma which has been tied to exposure to Agent Orange during his service in Vietnam. With the available treatments, he was given a 12-18 month life expectancy, and bravely endured every available treatment and new advance as they became available. After two recurrences and remissions he was cancer free until September 2022 when he was diagnosed with a new form of cancer in his lungs and was too weak to endure any additional treatment. He returned home with assistance from Midland Care Hospice where he could be with his wife, children and pets.

Frank was a Naval Veteran who served three tours in the Vietnam war and following employment with the Santa Fe Railroad, Frito Lay, and American Refrigerated services, enlisted in the Army National Guard, retiring as the Transportation Manager for the State of Kansas at the age of 60 with 23 total years of military service.

MSG Magistro was born on October 27, 1947 in Topeka, Kansas to Frank and Margaret Magistro. In 1954, the family moved to The Bronx in New York City

where he developed a lifelong love for the New York Yankees and was in Yankee Stadium to witness the 61st home run of Roger Maris. He attended Catholic Grade School and went to Cardinal Hayes High School for his Freshman year where he played basketball against a Power Memorial High School team led by Lew Alcindor, (they didn't win).

In 1962, the family returned to Topeka where Frank began his sophomore year at Hayden High School. After graduating with the class of '65, Frank enlisted in the Navy in May of 1966. Following Boot Camp in San Diego, California, he was assigned to the USS Hamner DD718 which provided Gun Fire Support and Plane Guard Detail during the Vietnam War. Although there were some frightening moments, he fondly remembers his first time crossing the equator where he was initiated from a Pollywog to a Shellback. Frank was also a member of the USS Hamner DD718 Reunion Association and attended reunions all across the nation and was also a member of the Tin Can Sailors.

Frank was an avid reader, but never let a good book get in the way of watching sports. Any sports, but was especially loyal to KU Basketball, Yankees Baseball, and Chiefs Football. Several years ago, he discovered Facebook and being a dedicated conservative, enjoyed posts of a political nature, but also posts of his beloved grandchildren and pets. Among friends, he proudly owned the title "King of Useless Information" for all trivia related quandaries. His love of music led him to start his own DJ company where, for several years, he entertained guests at parties and events.

He had a fierce love for family, his children, grandchildren, pets and never met a pasta dish he didn't like. He enjoyed many years playing softball, shooting pool in local leagues, pheasant hunting, poker nights and hanging out and playing trivia with his best friend Michael Dreher. Frank also made monthly donations to The Fisher House Foundation, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, SCARS, Gary Sinese Foundation, Guiding Eyes for the Blind, St

James Academy, Allegro Choirs of KC and many other organizations by request. He was a charitable, kind, funny, larger than life, opinionated man and he will be greatly missed.

Frank was preceded in death by his parents Frank and Margaret. He is survived by his wife, Kim Bartunek; his children, BJ (Mandy), David (Meghan), and Maggie; grandchildren, Braden, Harper, and Griffin; brother, Steve (Penny); sister, Mary Lee (Ed); and several nieces and nephews.

Family will receive visitors 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, October 4th, at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614, where rosary will be prayed at 7 p.m.

Funeral Services will be 11 a.m. Wednesday, October 5th, at the funeral home with committal service following in Mount Calvary Cemetery with Military Honors in the Veterans Garden. Following the inurnment, family and friends are invited to join us for a celebration of life and storytelling at The Pennant in Historic Downtown Topeka, 915 S Kansas Avenue.

In lieu of flowers, we request that donations be made to Guiding Eyes for the Blind, or Allegro Choirs of KC, and sent in care of the funeral home.

Full obituary may be viewed and condolences sent online at www.kevinbrennanfamily.com.

Cemetery Details

Mount Calvary Cemetery

801 SW Westchester Rd
Topeka, KS 66606

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 4. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home
2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
(785) 272-7888
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

Rosary

OCT 4. 7:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home
2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
(785) 272-7888
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

Funeral Service

OCT 5. 11:00 AM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home
2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
(785) 272-7888
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

Tribute Wall



“ I just found out about Frankie's passing. I grew up with him in the Bronx. We lived a couple of doors away from each other. I remember Frankie and Stevie fondly and will miss him until we play baseball together again. Joe Lifrieri

Joseph Lifrieri - December 16, 2024 at 05:19 PM



“ MSG Frank L. Magistro III

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ Steve, I just found out about Frank I am so sorry for your loss. I enjoyed Frank when we worked together at Frito he was always fair with everyone. I will miss his sense of humor and his posts on Facebook. You and your families are in our thoughts and prayers.

Kevin McDowell - October 07, 2022 at 01:09 PM



“ Kim and family, we knew Frank through the Amerita Club and by living next door to Mike Dreher for 10 years. We always enjoyed visiting with Frank and the family at the Amerita gatherings. We have lost a truly great man and he will be missed by many. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family at this sad time.
David and Debbie (Inman) Parks and family

David and Debbie (Inman) Parks & family - October 05, 2022 at 12:38 PM

RM

“ I played a lot of softball with Frank and had the pleasure of working with him for many years at the USPFO. He was always able to make things happen and provided outstanding support to the Kansas Army National Guard. A true professional NCO. He always kept things real and would have a joke for everything.

You will be missed

RIP Frank

Robert Merkel

Robert Merkel - October 05, 2022 at 12:32 PM

CE

“ *RIP Frankie!! Enjoy your dads spaghetti and your mom's hugs.*

Connie Everett - October 04, 2022 at 05:54 PM

JS

“ *MSG Frank Magistro was outstanding and professional NCO. Frank was always there to make things happen and at the same time sensitive to the individual soldier. Many a time did Frank stay around to ensure the buses made it on time to pickup fellow soldiers or ensure heavy vehicles could make their routes safely. Frank was one of those guys you knew would just make it happen. My hat is off to you Frank. Thank you for smile and work ethic. You will be missed. COL (R) James Stewart*

Jim Stewart - October 04, 2022 at 12:15 PM

PP

“ I never had the chance of meeting you in person We became friends on FB We had one thing in common Arthur Ave in the Bronx NY I will miss your comments on FB and your love for your country Thank you for all your common sense comments and for your Service to our Country May you Rest In Peace My Friend

Phyllis Petraglia - October 04, 2022 at 10:35 AM

DR

“ Frank,
I always enjoyed chatting with you at the USP&FO when I stopped in. It usually always consisted of what new handgun either of us had bought. 📝 Thank you for also being the DJ at our wedding back in 2007! You will be missed my friend!

Dusty Roberts - October 03, 2022 at 07:08 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of MSG Frank L. Magistro III.



October 03, 2022 at 11:41 AM

ST

“ My son Andrew gave Uncle Frank the nickname Big Frank, and that's what we have called him ever since. I miss the Sunday afternoons around Grandma Magistro's kitchen table. Big Frank was so funny. Most of the time we were laughing so hard at his stories about when they were kids. Mom and Uncle Steve would have to take their glasses off they were laughing so hard. Big Frank, you will be greatly missed. Hug Grandma and Grandpa for me! Love you!!

Stephanie - October 03, 2022 at 09:26 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of MSG Frank L. Magistro III.*



October 02, 2022 at 09:05 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of MSG Frank L. Magistro III.*



October 02, 2022 at 08:56 PM



“ *Although we worked in different buildings when we were in the Kansas National Guard, I would always visit Frank when I was in his work site because it was always great (and usually funny) chatting with him. He was a man of great integrity and had a wonderful sense of humor. My condolences to all his many friends and family.*
Mike Larkin

Mike Larkin - October 02, 2022 at 12:42 PM



“ *Frank and I worked together in the DPI at the USP&FO. We became immediate friends. This ginormous white guy and this short black guy. To this day, I call Frank not my friend, but my brother. I am just blown away by this news, but I know that my brother is right now looking upon our Savior. My condolences to Kim, BJ, David and Magee. You are in my prayers.*

Eddie Patterson - October 01, 2022 at 09:26 PM

 Tom Depper

“ Being that Frank allowed me to call him Moose I would consider us friends. He talked me into my first (and only) drunken Navy tattoo in Pearl Harbor. He has gotten the blame for it for about 50 years now. And I'm pretty sure that my friend Moose won't mind if I keep laying the blame on him. So very sorry for your loss Kim. He will be missed.

RD3 Tom Depper

Tom Depper - October 01, 2022 at 08:11 PM

NL

“ RIP Frank, gonna miss our chats..

Nancy Lister - October 01, 2022 at 06:45 PM

WM

“ Frank was so very wonderful to us during our 12 year fight with the VA. RIP Frank and bless you and your wonderful family. God bless

Wayne Torrey MM3 - October 01, 2022 at 06:31 PM

JM

“ I love you very much and will miss you greatly. Be sure to say hi to grandma and papa canes for me.

Julie Miles - October 01, 2022 at 02:00 PM

RG

“ My thoughts and prayers are with all of the Magistro family

Robert Grace - October 01, 2022 at 12:14 PM

AM

“ Sorry for your loss. Worked with your husband and father. At Frito-lay. He was one of the good guys.

Annette Munoz - October 01, 2022 at 11:02 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of MSG Frank L. Magistro III.



October 01, 2022 at 08:38 AM

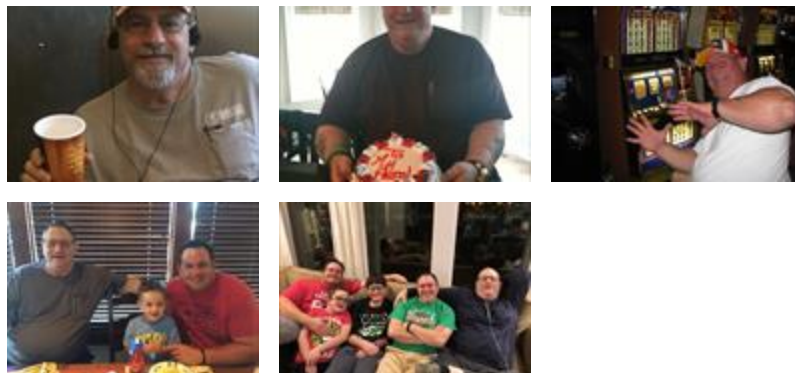
TL

“ Both my husband, Tim, and I worked with Frank for many years. What an upstanding, hard working man. He was a joy to be around, full of laughter and many great stories. Our condolences to his family. He will be missed. Beth Layden

Tim and Beth Layden - September 30, 2022 at 06:13 PM

Kim Bartunek

“ 8 files added to the album family Photos



Kim Bartunek - September 30, 2022 at 03:11 PM