



FRANK MICHAEL MASONE

July 12, 1952 - February 8, 2025

PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING AND RESPECTING THE LIFE OF
FRANK MASONE:

PLEASE COME AS YOU ARE DRESSED IN YOUR FUNERAL BEST OR
YOUR YANKEE, MT. GLEN LAKE, FISHING, OR SPECIAL OLYMPICS
SHIRT - ANYTHING THAT MIGHT REMIND YOU OF OUR BELOVED
FRANK!

VISITATION:

SATURDAY: FEBRUARY 15, 2025

12NOON TO 4PM

STICKLE-SOLTESZ FUNERAL HOME

PRAYER SERVICE:

SATURDAY: FEBRUARY 15, 2025

3PM

STICKLE-SOLTESZ FUNERAL HOME

PRIVATE FINAL DISPOSITION

Francesco Michael Masone, known to all as "Frank", of West Milford, NJ, died
early at 12:09am, Saturday, February 8, 2025... but before that day, he lived

in a big way.

Have you ever heard a squawking bird on Glen Drive of Mount Glen Lake? It was likely not a bird at all, it was your friendly, but crazy, neighborhood friend - Frank - and he was just trying to make you smile! Frank's vibrant personality could make any day feel like the warmth of summer at the beach. He could often be found floating in the Mt. Glen Lake water, jumping off a cliff, fishing with his friends, hanging out with his dog - Chip, or saying something off-beat just to make you laugh. Frank believed in the power of laughter and made sure that all who surrounded him were able to share in his humor.

Frank was the baby of the family to Assunta (Sue) Cavallero and Michael Masone who welcomed him in Heaven. Both Sue and Mike found ways to adorn those around them with music and joy - Michael with his guitar and Frank on his lap and Sue singing her silly songs as she made sauce and pasta on the stove, while Frank stole "S" Cookies from the cookie jar. His older sisters, Rose Marie and Julie were Frank's first teachers before they ever took that on as their eventual careers. With his coke-bottle glasses, and his small size, they would make sure that they took protecting their baby brother very seriously. They protected him so much that Frank was stung by multiple bees under the care of Rose Marie and attended dates with his sister, Julie, when she was supposed to be babysitting him. Frank carried on the family tradition by learning to sing to his two baby girls, to cook, to be silly, be flexible, to multitask, and protect the ones you love.

Frank loved his work community. It didn't matter what he did for work - he put his all into it and made friends along the way. Frank was a furniture delivery man for Huffman Koos in the 80s and then worked for the Lincoln Park and Paterson Boards of Education as Chief Custodian. He believed that work ethic would create and maintain your community, that your community would lead to life-long friendships, and that those friendships would fill your life with love.

This was true about every work community Frank was involved in. He has maintained lifelong friendships and colleagues who adore and admire him from every walk of his work-life.

Frank took pride in embarrassing his two daughters, Kristi Clave and Michelle Masone, many years prior to the invention of social-media but was able to quickly adapt to continue on his legacy as the technology evolved to that platform. In their early childhood years, Frank could be found coaching the girls' sports teams and hooting and hollering at Michelle and Kristi's soccer or softball games. Anything his girls were involved in - he was there. His love for his daughters was louder than his mouth - and that is LOUD! Frank was known to fight hard for what he knew was right - a lesson he taught everyone who knew him and was able to accomplish; gaining full custody of both girls in the 90s. There wasn't a single person who wasn't inspired by his perseverance and love. During their time spent as a family, Frank taught his girls how to play darts, card games, dominoes, board games, and horseshoes. They also would engage in incredibly competitive games of Mario Kart and Super Mario Brothers. They repaid him by walking on his back (he was later found to have several slipped discs). Michelle would be able to zoom down any mountain, go cliff jumping, or water ski, following in her father's adventure-filled life, where Kristi would take on Frank's connection-built pastimes of drawing and art, as they often spent time on homework and projects together in her youth.

If you were to ask Frank to speak about himself, he would immediately turn the conversation to the ones he loved most - that was the legacy he was most proud of. Both Kristi and Michelle found it natural to take career paths in caretaker and leadership roles because of the way he led and cared for them. Kristi is a teacher at Maple Road Elementary school where she teaches the Multiple Disabilities class and coaches the West Milford Special Olympics &

Unified teams (where Frank loved to cheer and support) and Michelle dedicated her life to aquatics - teaching people to swim and lifeguard the way that Frank taught many. Kristi took pride in beating Dad in cards right until the end at their weekly lunch-dates and Frank found joy in attending his granddaughter, Vivian's (8 years old) cheer, soccer, and softball games - reviving his loud cheering abilities! Michelle and Frank made memories at Michelle's new lake community and spending time with her son, Lunar (almost 2 years old). Both girls were always sure to live a close distance to their father to care for him and stay connected. They admired their father and learned big life lessons from him that they've taken into their parenting journeys. Frank's devotion to his family was a testament to the kind of person he was - selfless, humble, and always putting others first.

Frank was able to spend his last day with Kristi and Vivian where she exhibited wise words beyond her years, "I think choosing for him to be comfortable is very brave." She watched Price is Right while holding his hand, played dominoes and Rummy in his hospital room, sang to him, and made him crafts. She filled his room with love and light.

Frank was the person who taught us to be a giver- even if you have nothing, to find joy in any situation, to fight for what's right, to love without condition, to fish, play cards & dominoes, that most problems can be solved with a Vesuvio's meatball parm, always cheer for Yankees baseball, and that family does not have to be perfect to support one another. He taught us to give the shirt off your back to anyone in need and that work ethic is part of what builds your community. He never stopped being his daughters' biggest fan and then transferred that over to the way he loved his grandchildren.

Frank was grateful for Ryan for always fixing things for him and for the Nonas family, especially Jimmy, who continues to care for his dog, Chip. His neighbors Chris, Andy, and Lisa were also a large part of his life - always

checking on him and caring for him. Frank would thank anyone who came to visit him or care for him during his illness - especially the Gillen Family (and friends) and the 5 West (Denise) and ICU team (Alvena, Kathy, and Amanda) at Chilton Medical Center.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you contact them to make a donation to his favorite place, Mount Glen Lakes, to help maintain his lake dues so that his grandchildren can enjoy Frank's home and time at the lake together.

Frank will truly be missed but he will be welcomed with open arms and paws by many: his mother and father, his nephew - Jared, his neighbor and friend - Linda (Sudsy) Simpson, his former family dog - Pringle, and other aunts, uncles, and cousins who will be excited to see him and laugh with him, again. They will fish, watch over grandchildren, and be together... Heaven just became a little bit louder and more fun. We know he liked to tell stories... Please fill his obituary notes with stories about Frank!

Please join us in celebrating and respecting the life of Frank Masone: please come as you are dressed in your funeral best OR your Yankee, Mt. Glen Lake, fishing, or Special Olympics shirt - anything that might remind you of our beloved Frank!

The family will receive visitors on Saturday, February 15, 2025 from 12noon to 4pm with a prayer service at 3pm at the Stickle-Soltesz Funeral Home, 187 La Rue Road, Newfoundland, NJ 07435.

On line condolences and directions: www.sticklesolteszfuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **15**. 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Stickle-Soltesz Funeral Home
187 La Rue Road
(Parallel to Route 23 North between Clinton Road and Union Valley Road)
Newfoundland, NJ 07435
(973) 697-6700
info@sticklesolteszfuneralhome.com
<https://www.sticklesolteszfuneralhome.com>

Prayer Service

FEB **15**. 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM (ET)

Stickle-Soltesz Funeral Home
187 La Rue Road
(Parallel to Route 23 North between Clinton Road and Union Valley Road)
Newfoundland, NJ 07435
(973) 697-6700
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<https://www.sticklesolteszfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall

DD

“Michelle and Kristi,
My sincere condolences on the loss of your dad. May he rest in the sweetest peace. We only ran into each other as adults a few times but we were childhood friends. Our families spent years at Lake Rickabear picnicking, swimming, playing in the sand, building castles with Adirondack chairs. Frankie, Billy Sakacs (also passed) and myself were so blessed to be friends and share those times. No wonder your dad loved living at a lake and sharing those experiences with his girls. I will always remember him a fun, funny, sweet and gentle soul. I'm sure he's very proud of you and he's smiling down on you and his grands. "God gave us memories, so that we might have roses in December." I pray that beautiful garden brings peace and comfort. Denise Drexler

Denise Drexler - February 15, 2025 at 06:51 PM

AN

“Dear Kristi and Michelle,
Our heartfelt condolences to you and family on the passing of your dear father Frank. The love that you had for each other is everlasting. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,
Angela and Barry Zelman



Angela - February 14, 2025 at 06:05 PM

KG

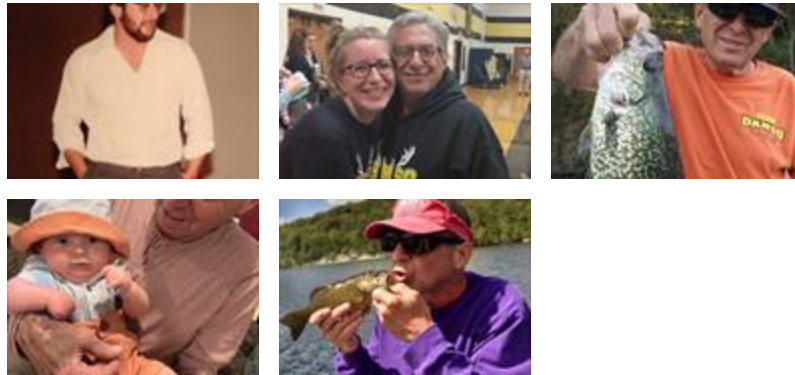
“ You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers, you were such a kind soul. Rest in eternal peace Frank 🙏.



Kerry Gerety - February 14, 2025 at 02:55 PM



“ 32 files added to the album Frank



Kristi Clave - February 14, 2025 at 02:03 PM

TF

“ The Gerety Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of FRANK MICHAEL MASONE.



The Gerety Family - February 14, 2025 at 01:55 PM

TF

“ *The Gerety Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of FRANK MICHAEL MASONE.*

The Gerety Family - February 14, 2025 at 01:55 PM

JB

“ *So sorry to hear about your dad. Thinking of you. Jack Bleiberg*

Jack Bleiberg - February 13, 2025 at 07:09 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of FRANK MICHAEL MASONE.*



February 13, 2025 at 02:03 PM

SP

“ *Dear Kristi and Michelle,*

I am very sorry for the loss of your father. He was a great dad and I know you loved him so!

I will be praying for you both and for the family and friends of Frank.

May God comfort you at this difficult time.

*Sincerely,
Suzanne Paoello*

Suzanne Paoello - February 13, 2025 at 09:53 AM

AA

“ I graduated with Frank and always remember him as kind and caring. Condolences to his family. Rest in peace Frank.

Amy Arnoldi-Moon - February 13, 2025 at 05:10 AM

DE

“ Frank, You were a great guy. I remember well how you raised and cared for Kristi and Michelle when they were at Maple Road School. You were a wonderful Dad. Mount Glen will miss you.

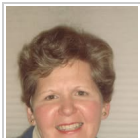
Deb and Ed - February 12, 2025 at 11:14 PM

BB

“ Bob & Cathy Behrle purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of FRANK MICHAEL MASONE.



Bob & Cathy Behrle - February 12, 2025 at 09:14 PM



“ A gentle spirit and a kind heart. He raised two beautiful loving daughters and he will be missed



Marilyn Walsh - February 12, 2025 at 01:46 PM

MM

“ I love you daddy.

Michelle Masone - February 10, 2025 at 07:37 AM

ED

I just learned of you Dad's passing on the Lakeland HS Class of 1971 Facebook page. I grew up on Decker Road, two doors down from Frank and his family and we graduated from Lakeland together. Your dad and I were buddies when we were kids. Please accept my sincerest condolences.

Ed Duetsch, Kings Mountain, NC

Edward Duetsch - July 02, 2025 at 01:02 PM