



John Frank Rapp

December 10, 1928 - October 6, 2023

John Frank Rapp, age 94, from Raleigh, NC, died peacefully at home, in the care of his family, on October 6, 2023. He was born on December 10, 1928, in Buffalo, NY, where he lived before moving to North Carolina in 1997. John was preceded in death by his wife, Barbara Mix Rapp; his parents, Joseph and Paula Rapp; his wife's parents, Charles Wesley and Rachel Mix; his sister, Rose Brooke; and his grandson, John Castro-Rapp. He is survived by his children, Joseph Rapp (Nancy), Michael Rapp, Christopher Rapp (Maria Castro), John Rapp (Myra), David Rapp, Lawrence Rapp (Joseph Napierkowski), James Rapp, and Mary Bellanti; by Joanne York, Kelly Rapp, and Joseph Bellanti; by his grandchildren, Bryon Santschi, Brian Daboll, Christopher Castro-Rapp, Jessica Castro-Rapp, Samuel Rapp, Sara Rapp, Ana Bellanti, and Maddie Bellanti; and by his great-grandchildren, Mark Vogel, Christian Daboll, Aiden Vogel, Haven Daboll, Avery Daboll, and Luke Daboll. John Frank was known as Dad to his eight children and as Papa to his many grandchildren. He was the son of immigrants from Germany. He grew up in modest circumstances and became a skilled craftsman. John was a hard worker, but he also had a generous, playful spirit. He had a good sense of humor; his philosophy in life was that if something wasn't exactly right, it could always be improved with a little ketchup. He enjoyed playing the piano and accordion. As a young man, John played in a band. Later in life, he and his best friend Ido would play boogie-woogie music at retirement homes. Some people would get up from their wheelchairs and dance; others would wake up

and smile.

John Frank was a light to many. He valued home, family, and faith, rising every morning at 4:30 to pray. His home was the gathering place for birthday and holiday celebrations, Masses, and memorial services. All of us witnessed the love he had for us, for his God, and for his late wife, Barbara. In his words, “marrying that gal” was the best decision he ever made. We will miss him but are glad that he is reunited at last with his lovely Barbara and with all family members who left this world before him.

Visitation and Wake Service will be held on Thursday, October 12, 2023, between 9:00-10:00 a.m., at St. Mary, Mother of the Church, in Garner, NC. A funeral Mass will follow at St. Mary at 10:00 a.m. The inurnment will take place at St. Andrew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church in Apex, NC, immediately following the funeral. Remembrances and condolences may be left at www.wakefuneral.com.

Cemetery Details

St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church Columbarium

3008 Old Raleigh Rd
Apex, NC 27502

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 12. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary, Mother of the Church
1008 Vandora Springs Rd
Garner, NC 27529

Funeral Mass

OCT 12. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary, Mother of the Church
1008 Vandora Springs Rd
Garner, NC 27529

Tribute Wall

GS

“ *Condolences to the entire Rappl family from a OLBS classmate of John, and player for Coach Mike. What a fine family Mr & Mrs Rappl raised!*

Greg Steele - October 13, 2023 at 09:11 PM

TD

“ *Rest in Peace*

Terry Duff - October 11, 2023 at 05:49 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Frank Rappl.*



October 10, 2023 at 07:40 PM

KK

“ *I stayed with the Rappels one summer in college when I couldn't travel home to my family. Mr. Rappl lovingly made me a lunch to take work every day with a sandwich, apple, pretzels and chocolate. To this day I love the pretzels and chocolate combination. What a gentle man with a generous spirit.*

Kristen Kulinowski - October 10, 2023 at 07:38 PM

EU

Our prayers and sympathy go out the the rappl family 🙏 Eileen Ulrich and Mike Donlon

eileen Ulrich - October 11, 2023 at 05:13 PM

CS

“ Cameron- S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Frank Rappl.

Cameron- S. - October 10, 2023 at 03:38 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of John Frank Rappl.



October 10, 2023 at 12:42 PM

JS

“ Thinking and praying for you and your family Mary. Love the "little Ketchup" comments and a nice philosophy - Jay and Christine Stockslader

Jay Stockslader - October 10, 2023 at 08:42 AM

DK

“ Deborah K. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Frank Rappl.

Deborah K. - October 10, 2023 at 05:15 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Frank Rappl.

October 09, 2023 at 06:04 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John Frank Rappl.*



October 09, 2023 at 06:04 PM



“ *Bryon & Kathy Santschi purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of John Frank Rappl.*



Bryon & Kathy Santschi - October 09, 2023 at 04:14 PM



“ *Bryon & Kathy Santschi planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Frank Rappl.*

Bryon & Kathy Santschi - October 09, 2023 at 04:14 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Frank Rappl.*



October 09, 2023 at 03:42 PM

BS

“ Bryon Santschi lit a candle in memory of John Frank Rappl



Bryon Santschi - October 09, 2023 at 03:38 PM

BS

Prayers to all! From the first day I met this man: Papa and Nana both accepted me with open arms to this RAPPL family as one of their own. Thank you for all you and Nana have done for me. My best memory of Papa is when he hugged me after I won the Yes I can award in Toronto Canada back in 1990. Papa and Nana said, "Bryon I am so proud of you". They both did so much for me. Thank you, Papa and Nana for everything. RIP

Bryon Santschi - October 09, 2023 at 04:01 PM



“ Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of John Frank Rappl.



October 09, 2023 at 02:48 PM



Margaret Warren

“ Our Condolences to Larry and the family. Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Please reach out to us if you need anything. Allen & Margaret Warren

Margaret Warren - October 09, 2023 at 10:22 AM

MB

Our thoughts and sympathy goes out to the Rappl family. Mr. Rappl was always so welcoming and kind to us kids. The wonderful memories we all have of him will make this time a little bit easier.

Mark Batt and Family

Mark Batt - October 09, 2023 at 11:00 AM