



Carmen Caruso

November 4, 1939 - August 17, 2013

Carmen Caruso, 73 passed suddenly in his home on August 17, 2013 in Lehigh Acres, Florida. Carmen was born in Chicago, Illinois and the son of the late Albert and Josephine Caruso. He is survived by his brother Tony (Kathy) and many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his sister Gerri (Art) Wolf. He lived in the St. Callistus parish and graduated from the parish school in 1953. In September of that year he began his seminary training at Sacred Heart Seminary in Stone Park, where he graduated in 1957. He spent one year of novitiate, four years in college and took four years of theology at the St. Charles Seminary in Staten Island, New York. Carmen was ordained a priest on May 30, 1966 by Bishop Edward Swanstrom at Our Lady of Pompeii Church in New York. He celebrated his first Solemn Mass at St. Callistus Church in Chicago and joined the St. Alexis Church in Bensenville on June 19, 1966. His parish assignments included St. Alexander in Villa Park, St. Isidore Parish in Bloomingdale, and St. Isabel Parish on Sanibel Island, Florida. His love for travel took him to Italy, Ireland, Germany, and Switzerland where he shared his love for photography and food. There was nothing he would not try or explore. His passion for life illuminated through the people he loved. His teachings as both priest and man brought joy and comfort to many. He was full of life, had a big heart, and spoke honestly. His beloved dog Coco was the light of his life and together they shared an unconditional love. Carmen was truly a servant of the Lord and his presence here on earth was a gift. He will always be forever in our hearts. Online condolences may be made

at caruso-kathy@sbcglobal.net Please feel free to contact his family at this email.

Previous Events

celebration Of Life

SEP **14**. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

St. Isidore Church
427 West Army Trail Road
Bloomington, IL

Tribute Wall



“ *Carmen Caruso*

October 09, 2023 at 02:01 AM



“ *Carmen Caruso*

January 28, 2023 at 12:09 PM



“ *This Easter morning I awoke thinking of you, Carmen. My dear friend, I love you and miss you. Taire*

Taire Malloy - April 12, 2020 at 10:10 AM



“ *My Deepest Sympathy to the Caruso family. Fr Carmen was a fantastic guy & priest. We shared many fond memories at st Alexis in Bensenville*

God Bless him always

*Jimmy Collins.
Bensenville Il*

Jim Collins - July 14, 2014 at 04:03 PM

SM

“ TO THE CARUSO FAMILY MY DEEPEST REGRETS. I FIRST MET FATHER CARMEN WHEN HE WAS AT ST ISODORES.HE CAME INTO MY RESTURANT AFTER A FUNERAL AND WE BECAME INSTANT FRIENDS. I DID A LOT OF MOTORCYLES TRIPS ACROSS THE U.S AND WHEN CARMEN HEARD THIS HE WAS IN.WE TRAVELED ACROSS COUNTY WITH MANY FRIENDS AND CARMEN AND I SHARD ATENT TOGETHER AND SHARD MANY STORIES. ITS THESE STORIES THAT I WILL REMEMBER FOREVER.GOD BLESS YOU CARMEN YOU WILL IN MY THOUGHTS FOREVER.
SPIKER THE BIKER.

spike manusos - September 19, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ ALSO HAVE MANY PICTURES OF CARMAN ON OUR MANY TRIPS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE THEM SEND ME AN E-MAIL WITH YOUR ADDRESS AND I WOULD BE GLAD TO SEND THEM.

SPIKE - September 19, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RJ

“ *My husband and I were blessed to have Father Carmen consecrate our marriage many years ago in Boston. His warm heart, caring ways and his infectious smile will always be remembered.*

Jean and Ray

Ray and Jean - September 15, 2013 at 12:00 AM

FS

“ I have only come to know Carmen through the photos I've seen and the bits of information conveyed to me by Tony and Kathy. I truly wish that I had known him before his passing. I know from his faith and from the love that exudes from Tony and Kathy, that he was an exceptional man. I pray that he is at peace with our Lord in Heaven and that little Coco hears from him from time to time. Much love to all his wonderful family, Fran

Frances Swanson - September 13, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CJ

“ Carmen, I did not know you as well as your brother Tony, but you had to be one of the good guys. LOVE TO KATHY&TONY

AND MAY CARMEN REST IN PEACE.

connie&bill johnson - September 10, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Dear Tony, Kathy and Family,
I am deeply sorry for your loss.
As I mentioned in my card, Carmen touched me and I am so sorry there all all these miles between us.
Please let me know if someone is caring for his beloved Coco?
My love and prayers.
Your Cousin, Jeannette

Jeannette Littlebury - September 08, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Carmen Caruso

Joan and Tom Forte - September 06, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ *Very sorry for your loss Kathy and Tony. May he rest in peace and remain in your prayers always.*

Theresa and Rob Hildebrandt - August 31, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ *We were so sorry to hear about Carmen. We only met him once but what a wonderful first impression. He seemed like such a sweet a caring man. I am sure that he is up there right now thanking you both Tony and Kathy for taking such good care of his beloved Coco. Our deepest sympathies.*

*Love
Rob and Dawn*

Ron & Dawn Cervenka - August 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ *We all have great memories of Carmen, his stories of his trips to Italy and his long distance rides on his motorcycle. I hope that when he meets Mom he tells her how much we miss her. And her Burger King Whopper is waiting for her.*

Bojovic Family - August 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ *Carmen - this has taken me a while to write. I look at your house every day and miss you terribly. I felt like your "daughter". You made me smile with your stories. I wanted to protect you and take care of you. I told you I loved you a while back and I meant it. You never judged me or anyone else. I know you are in a "better" place, but we are lost without you. I love you my friend. RIP Carmen.*

Teri Sauer - August 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Carmen always made a visit to Florida extra special. Staying at the rectory in Sanibel was like being at private resort. Our times in Fort Myers were also very enjoyable. Carmen introduced me to the Grouper Sandwich, and many more gourmet delights. While breaking bread with you was always a great time, the real joy was sharing old stories, your humor and great laugh. You could light up a room, and everyone knew when you arrived. Hugs for all. Thank you for always making Florida time extra fun. I will miss that part in my upcoming visits. But more importantly I will miss you. Cousin Janice

Janice Caruso - August 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Father Caruso was our parish priest in Villa Park IL. His example and caring helped us raise our children in a faith based community. He was always their for us except when the Chicago Bares were on TV. God bless this Man and Priest

John & Pat Fry - August 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

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John & Pat Fry - August 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ We enjoyed being with Carmen both here in Illinois and in Florida. Carmen always new the best places to eat. He made our dinners memorable and enjoyable.

We will miss you Carmen..Put in a good word for us up there!

Love,
Ed and Claudia

Ed and Claudia - August 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ Carmen , as the years past I didn't see you as much as I did as a kid. The memories of all of us together at church or at one of our homes will never be forgotten!! We know you are seated next to the Lord and your heart is filled with much happiness !! We will forever hold you in our hearts. You will be truly missed. The DeCicco Family

Joe And Stephanie DeCicco - August 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ Joyce and I wanted to express our deepest condolences on your brother's passing. A brother's love is a very special and will be greatly missed but I'm sure Carmen is watching over you like a big brother always will. God Bless and we'll pray for carmen...I'm sure he has a very close seat to the Lord.

Love ya,
Bill and Joyce

Bill and Joyce Passero - August 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ *Carmen and I go way back from the Sanibel days. We shared many special times on his sailboat, dancing, with friends enjoying laughs and fine food. He officiated in my marriage at Chapel by the Sea in Captiva in 2011. I have many wonderful photos of special times. We know how much you loved Coco. Carmen, you will be missed by all and you are loved always.*

Connie Clancy-Fisher - August 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

PA

“ *While your life took many turns you always cared for others and shared your enthusiasm for life. I'm glad I was able to work with you while you were assigned here. Rest well at last.*

Paula Ailey - August 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LA

“ *Carmen,
We will miss your infectious smile and laugh! You always provided a positive comment or joke to all who knew you. Your love for Coco was unending as you delighted in all his antics! Watch over us and keep us safe, you will be missed!*

Lynn and Art - August 22, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ *Carmen was a neighbor, but so much more than that. Some folks "make" a neighborhood and he was such a man. He regularly walked his beloved Coco, speaking to anyone he came across during the walk, telling jokes, returning trash cans to houses, but he also wasn't afraid to tenderly broach deeper, more personal topics. I admired his easy going nature, his sense of humor, his love of Italy (and food!), and most importantly his love and affection for others. He had a servant's heart. Selfishly, I am so saddened by his passing, but I am also comforted in that I know he is in a loving place today. We'll miss you, Carmen!!*

Beth Laird - August 20, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BR

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Brian - January 17, 2015 at 08:56 PM

TN

“ *Our longtime friend from "Sanibel days" was an extreme example of Love, Caring, and Kindness. Who can ever forget the jovial priest greeting his parishioners with a bear hug, while sporting his signature garb of sandals and shorts under his vestments. He truly was one of a kind and The Church was lucky to have him as it's representative. Our friendship with him will always be treasured by Kenny and I. I feel blessed by his presence in my life and I am confident that he is at Peace with Our Lord. I'll miss you, Father & Friend!*

TRISH NIEMAN - August 20, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ *I will miss you my friend.*

Richard DeForge - August 20, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ *Carmen, I'll always remember the good times, the great times. We argued, we disagreed, but we were close friends. You had a profound influence on my life.*

Tony & Kathy, Carmen adored the two of you.

Joe Audy - August 20, 2013 at 12:00 AM

EB

“ *My condolences to the family of Carmen. I met him more than 50 years ago when we were both in the religious life together. He was full of life, had a big, big heart, spoke honestly and would always be there for you. Carm, pray for us who are still on the journey....*

Ernie Basile - August 20, 2013 at 12:00 AM