



## Mark Stephen O'Connor

May 1, 1955 - November 12, 2020

Mark Stephen O'Connor passed away November 12, 2020 in North Port, Florida. Mark was a persistent individual who put others before himself. His life was devoted to family, friends and public service. From his time as a Lieutenant on the Scituate Police Department in his home state of Rhode Island, to his time as a Sarasota County Code Enforcement Specialist and City of Nokomis Fire Commissioner, Mark made an impact on many lives. He was a beloved father, brother, uncle, father-in-law, and dear friend. His newest but greatest title was grandpa "papa."

Mark is survived by his loving son Lieutenant Daniel O'Connor DCFR, daughter in law Jennifer, grandson Lucas James, brother Peter O'Connor, sister in law Marcia O'Connor, and companion Bridgette Bortz.

Mark is predeceased by his loving wife Suzanne O'Connor, father Daniel J. O'Connor, mother Mildred O'Connor, and brother Daniel "Danny" O'Connor.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Buffalo Wings and Rings on December 5, 2020 at 1pm. Please join us in sharing the memories of both Mark and Suzanne. This will not be a time for crying, but a time for celebrating the lives of these amazing individuals. Please bring your memories, stories, and photos as we toast to heavens newest angels.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations are made to the DeSoto County Volunteers' Fire Department. Donations can be mailed to DeSoto County Volunteers', 122 North Hillsborough Avenue, Arcadia, Florida 34266

Arrangements are under the care of Gendron Funeral & Cremation Services Inc. located at 14538 Tamiami Trail, North Port, FL 34287. 941-423-9110 [www.gendronfuneralhome.com](http://www.gendronfuneralhome.com)

# Previous Events

## **A Celebration of Life**

DEC 5. 1:00 PM (ET)

Buffalo Wings and Rings  
1081 West Price Boulevard  
North Port, FL 34388

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mark Stephen O'Connor*

October 09, 2023 at 02:01 AM



“ *Mark Stephen O'Connor*

January 28, 2023 at 12:09 PM



“ *Having met Mark and Susan during my tenure as a member of the R.I . State Police I can attest to their commitment to each other, their family, and service to the community. He laughed, loved, and served the people ...there is no higher accolade!*

*RIP ' Marco '*

*Respectfully,  
Luigi A. Reali*

Luigi Reali - November 21, 2020 at 08:30 AM



“ *I met Mark in 2000, when I started working at Solid Waste. He was always willing to help no matter what the task was, and most of the time in a cheerful way! On occasion, the Irishman would make his presence known! It was so sad when Suzanne passed, they were together for so many years, and with Dan were a very close family, it's seems now that that bond was not to be broken, they will both watch over Dan and his family together! You will be missed, Slainte' Mark and goodbye for now!!*

*Karen Godwin*

Karen Godwin - November 20, 2020 at 12:17 PM

GM

“ I will miss Mark and the talks we shared together. We had a lot in common like fire departments, Cert team, and sheriffs department. Stories about life in general past and present. Mark was very proud of his son and showed nothing but love for the little guy, his grandson. Mark I will miss you and your lasagna. Rest In Peace buddy.

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**George Morrell** - November 19, 2020 at 02:46 PM

KK

“ Mark will be missed greatly by his Cypress Falls family. Daisy Drive will never be the same. My deepest sympathy to his family and friends.

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**Ken & Karen** - November 18, 2020 at 05:22 PM

HT

“ I got to know Mark while living at Cypress Falls. He was a stand-up man who loved his family.

*Rest in peace Mark.*

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**Henry Timpone** - November 18, 2020 at 03:16 PM

JG

“ Mark was a wonderful soon to be father-in-law and he already became papa as soon as he met Lucas. You and Sue opened up your hearts to Lucas and I as soon as we met and made us part of your amazing family. I will miss the dinners you cooked for Lucas and I when Dan was at work cause you knew I’m not much of a cook. I’m going to miss our lunches together and you shaking your head at Lucas cause he either made a huge mess or is just goofing around. Lucas misses you like crazy and it’s so hard to explain to him that you can’t take him out on the golf cart like you use to or take him to the pool and why he can’t see you but I know you’re always with us. Lucas and I love you and miss you so much.



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**Jennifer Gregrich** - November 18, 2020 at 12:59 PM

LG

So sorry for your loss. 🌻  
Linda and Jack Gerlinger

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**Linda and Jack Gerlinger** - November 18, 2020 at 08:52 PM

BC

“ I first met Mark when we moved to Scituate in 1980. We immediately developed a close working and personal relationship. We continued our relationship even after he moved to Florida. He and Sue were two of the finest people we knew and will be greatly missed by all. Our deepest sympathy to Dan and his family. Bob and Carol Ceprano

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**Bob Ceprano** - November 18, 2020 at 10:53 AM

BB

“ You were the love of my life, I am thankful for every moment we spent together. We shared new friends and family. I was so in love with you, my life will forever be changed. You are now my guardian angel and I know you will watch over me. I love you Mark ❤️🙏❤️



**Bridgette Bortz** - November 17, 2020 at 09:11 PM

PG

“ Mark moved us the first time we met him when Bridgette and Mark joined us for dinner. He was immediately attracted to wonderful Bridgette. Bridgette and Mark easily became soul mates and began having great fun together. Mark was genuine with a great soul. He will be so missed by many. I feel so fortunate to have met this fine person, Peggy and Jim Biebel

**Peggy Greene** - November 17, 2020 at 08:02 PM

JH

I met Mark while working for Sarasota County Solid Waste Code Enforcement. Mark was my Supervisor and soon became a close friend. We shared many stories about life and worked through many situations.. Mark taught me to be patient and to listen to what other people had to say. I will always miss him but I know he is reunited with the love of his life Susiana. Every who knew him from the County enjoyed working with him. Mark will be missed by everyone at Sarasota County that worked with him.  
James Holderby

**James Holderby** - November 18, 2020 at 09:20 AM

PO

*I was fortunate to have known Mark for his entire life on this earth because I was his older brother. So, I can speak with some authority about Mark Stephen O'Connor. But first...I have come to know, while drafting this brief eulogy, that saying farewell to a younger brother still in his prime is unnatural, is emotionally shattering, and is painful beyond measure. From an early age, Mark was well balanced - always with a clear perspective of what is profoundly important in life. His professional path brought him remarkable success in local law enforcement, in county level services, and in a leadership role in a city fire department. In each phase of his career, Mark was recognized as a trusted leader, trainer, mentor, and friend always focused on the welfare of both the organization and his team. Entering his retirement years, Mark's singular purpose in life became the care of wife, Suzanne, whose medical condition required the continuous attention that Mark was selflessly and lovingly committed to provide. With Sue's passing this past spring, Mark had a significant void in his heart that young grandson-to-be Lucas was eager to fill. Most Sundays, come early evening, Mark and I would call each other to commiserate on politics or other world events, but the weekly adventures of Lucas, his Mom, Jen, and Daniel were invariably the highpoint of our conversation. I will dearly miss those calls, and I do hope that I will have regular calls with Lucas and with Daniel and Jen that will help fill the void in my heart.*

*Peter O'Connor  
Fairfax Station, VA*

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**Peter O'Connor** - November 19, 2020 at 09:53 AM

AN

*Heart felt Condolences to the O'Connor family. I knew Mark when we met at a LaSalle Academy mixer. I remember him always involved in protecting others and working at Midland Mall as a security officer. He had a clear defined career path, even at such an early age. May he Rest In Peace and continue his guard Over his family. Ann Fioravanti*

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**ann** - November 22, 2020 at 05:25 PM