



Richard Michael Gargano

November 26, 2021

Richard Michael Gargano, “Rich”, 80, of Lancaster, PA, passed away on Friday, November 26, 2021. Born in Brooklyn, NY, he was the son of the late Francesco and Carmella (DeSanto) Gargano and his late stepmother, Marion V. Arrigo.

He came to Lancaster in 1954 after attending LCHS he was given the nickname “Brooklyn”; all that came to know him, knew him as Brooklyn. After serving in the Army, he started Gargano’s Pizza on Redwood Drive in 1967 and later Gargano’s Rathskeller bar, night club, and restaurant on East Lincoln Highway. Rich also had locations in Marietta and East Petersburg. In addition to his success with several pizza restaurants, later in life he managed Regal Theaters in both Lancaster and York, as well as the Deli Departments in both Lancaster and Ephrata Walmart Superstores.

As an avid coin collector, Rich was a member of the Lancaster Coin Collector Club. He was a model train enthusiast; he was a member of the Lancaster Model Railroad Club. Rich and Gloria enjoyed many years of antiques. They acquired an extensive antique collection of clocks, stone ware, trains, coins, Delpt ware, and Quimper. He loved his Italian heritage and family, he often shared stories of his childhood making pasta with his beloved grandmother and growing up in Brooklyn. He had a passion for cooking Italian food.

He is survived by his wife, Gloria A. Gargano of 31 years of marriage. Also surviving are his two daughters, Regina Fronina of Lancaster, Michelle Gargano of Mountville; his two stepsons, Michael Kilgour of York and Patrick Kilgour (Maureen) of Millersville; his three grandchildren, four step grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; his brother, Joe Gargano (Melanie) of Columbia; sister-in-law, Dawn Melito (John Gitto) of Myrtle Beach, SC; and a host of nieces, nephews, grandnieces, and grandnephew. He was preceded in death by his sister, Camille Gargano.

A Memorial Service will be held at The Groffs Family Funeral Home, 528 W. Orange Street, Lancaster on Friday, December 3, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. Friends are welcome to greet the family at 10:00 a.m. until the time of service. Interment will immediately follow at St. Joseph's New Catholic Cemetery, Bausman, PA.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the American Cancer Society, 314 Good Drive, Lancaster, PA 17603.

Cemetery Details

St. Joseph New Catholic Cemetery

Lancaster, PA

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 3. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc
528 W Orange St.
Lancaster, PA 17603
(717) 394-5300
admin@thegroffs.com
<https://thegroffs.com/>

Memorial Service

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Tribute Wall



“ *Richard Michael Gargano*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ *Gloria - I am so sorry o hear of Richie's passing. I hope you are okay. I think of you often.*

Linda Rothweiler - December 12, 2021 at 09:40 AM



“ *We were truly saddened to read of Richie's passing and offer our sincere condolences to the family.*

I first met Rich when he first move to Lancaster right around the corner from my house. It didn't take long for him to make new friends, and to hang out with the kool kids.

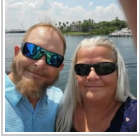
I believe it was Jim Kirchner who came up with the nickname "Brooklyn", and Richie's accent was the envy of the whole gang.

Over the years we would run into him occasionally and always be greeted with a friendly smile, a handshake, and conversations about the "old" days. I vividly remember talking with him at the Pizza shop, the nightclub, and the Regal at Manor shopping center.

Our thoughts go out to you all. May he rest in peace.

*Woody and Sandy Gingrich
Lancaster*

woody gingrich - December 05, 2021 at 05:18 PM



“ *My deepest condolences to Rich's family. I was honored to work for him in Marietta. Praying for comfort at this difficult time. Lisa (Nein) Horner*

Lisa Horner - December 03, 2021 at 11:29 AM



“ *My sincere condolences to the family. I am sure that Richie was a true life force in the family and will be missed by family and all who knew him.*

I worked part-time at Gargano's on Redwood Drive in 1971 when I was in high school at just 15 years old and was there until graduation in June of 1974. Richie was a good boss and mentor who strived to do things right. He was quite young at around 29 years old, the shop was doing extremely well and he was full of energy and business ideas. A good memory was celebrating his 30th birthday at the shop. I appreciated Richie's guidance, all that I learned at Gargano's, the good memories and friends I worked with there.

Over the years I would occasionally bump into Richie, it was always a happy meeting. The last time I happened to bump into him was at Joey's shop in East Petersburg and we were able to sit and talk for a while over a coke.

God bless you Rich Gargano and Rest In Peace.

Kent Loew

Kent Loew - December 02, 2021 at 04:46 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Richard Michael Gargano.



December 02, 2021 at 10:43 AM



“ my best memories of Rich were him coming to Frey's to buy model trains from me. We could talk trains for hours and he was always a pleasure to see. May he rest in peace.

Gary Burger

gary Burger - December 02, 2021 at 07:58 AM



“ Hey POP it is daughter #1, peanut, pebbles. I never thought this day would come. I hope you feel the love surrounding you both here and in heaven. See you soon then ... xo Gina

Gina - December 01, 2021 at 09:31 AM



“ Gloria and family, I am so sorry for your loss! Rich was and always will be my favorite boss of all time, he was a fantastic person full of life and I will always have wonderful memories of him as I am sure you all will . He was a true gem of a human being, someone we should all strive to be. May God bless and keep you.
Babs

Babette Jackson - December 01, 2021 at 09:03 AM