



Benjamin R Capua

FEB 2, 1940 - MAR 25, 2022



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Benjamin Robert Capua Sr., a devoted husband, father and grandfather who had a lauded 28 year-career with the Plainfield Fire Department, went on to be with the Lord, March 25, 2022 in Palm Coast., Fl. At the age of 82.

Ben was the second of Anthony and Julia Capua's five children. Born in Plainfield, NJ, Ben attended Plainfield public schools. He met his future wife, Connie Pompilio Capua, when the two walked together during their 8th grade graduation ceremony in 1954.

The pair dated through High School and got engaged after their 1958 graduation. On November 20, 1960, Connie and Ben exchanged vows, ones they'd keep for more than 60 years.

The couple welcomed two children, Ben Jr and Robin and eventually settled in South Plainfield, NJ. Ben Sr. Worked as a firefighter with the Plainfield Fire Department and took on many side jobs with fellow firefighters painting houses to provide for his family.

The former position allowed Ben to show-off his cooking skills. He specialized in Italian-American fare, including lasagne, Italian hot dogs and sausage and peppers.

Ben loved being a firefighter. He received multiple commendations for rescuing people trapped in burning homes.

In the early 1970s, Ben was elected as president of the city's Professional Fire Fighters Union. As union president, Ben negotiated a contract that promised fire fighters hospitalization insurance until their deaths.

In May 1986, City of Plainfield ordered all firefighters and fire officials to submit to a surprise urinalysis test. By mid-June, all employees had been tested. The 16 firefighters had results that indicated they had "the presence of controlled dangerous substances" in their urine. They were immediately fired.



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Ben immediately stepped up to protect his union members. The urinalysis, his union argued, violated the 4th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, which gives individuals a right to privacy and protection from illegal search and seizure. Ben, a co-plaintiff in *Capua v. City of Plainfield*. The case made national news and Ben appeared on the cover of *Life* magazine. The U.S. District Court ultimately sided with Ben and his union.

His retirement in 1990 and a move to Florida brought Ben and Connie literally and figuratively closer to their children, and ultimately their 3 grandchildren, Ashley Dudak and Nicole and Ben III Capua. "Pop" as they called him, would take them to school and pick them up everyday while their parents worked. They'd enjoy spending afternoons and summers with him.

Ben was a member of the Knights of Columbus as well as The Italian American Club. Ben also enjoyed golfing and spending as much time as he could with his grandchildren.

Ben could also be found at Lighthouse Bible Church, a ministry founded by his son-in-law, Ted Dudak. "Pop" enjoyed participating in many of the church's programs and activities.

Connie says she and Ben exchanged "I love you" every single morning and every single night."

Ben was predeceased by his parents and his older brother Anthony Capua. In addition to his wife, children and grandchildren, Ben's survivors include his brother Raffaele Capua and sisters, Marie Capua Jaeger and Carmella Capua McMullen: and many cousins, nieces and nephews.


In lieu of flowers, please send donations in memory of Benjamin Capua to Kindred Hospice, 4816 Palm Coast Pkwy. NW, Ste 3, Palm Coast, Fl, 32137 or Lighthouse Bible Church, 15 Hargrove Lane, Bld. 4-Unit D, Palm Coast, Fl, 32137


Arrangements lovingly entrusted to Heritage Funeral and Cremation Service.

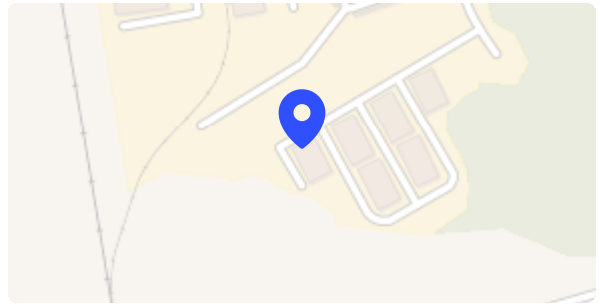


Celebration of Life Service

 **Saturday**, May 14, 2022

 11:30 AM ET

 **Lighthouse Bible Church**
15 Hargrove Lane, Palm Coast FL 32137





Tribute Wall

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Earl Brown Sr posted:

It is with most heart felt sympathy to the Capua family whom my brother Sonny and I Earl grew together on Johnston Ave in Plainfield,NJ.so many many memorieswith Junior,Benny (Bobby) ,Ray,Marie,and Carmella. The years have gone by but will never be forgotten. Sincerely Earl and Sonny Brown elbsr42@gmail.com

April 9 at 3:27 PM



With Love, The Machin Family sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Capua family.



May 13 at 5:04 AM



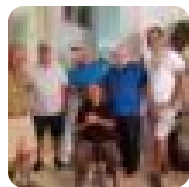
Alice Kaeser lit a candle in honor of Benjamin.



May 11 at 1:57 PM



Albert Hazen shared an album called **Memories Album**.



April 16 at 7:28 AM



Albert Hazen shared an album called **Memories Album**.



April 16 at 7:28 AM



Albert Hazen shared an album called **Memories Album**.



April 16 at 6:57 AM



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AK

Alice Kaeser lit a candle in honor of Benjamin.

April 15 at 4:53 PM



HE

Holly Eller posted:

Connie, my heart is so broken for your tremendous loss of your best friend and love of over 60 years. You two had such a beautiful full life together. Allow your memories to live on and know that Ben is waiting to greet you someday with open arms once again. These will be trying times ahead of you, so allow all that love you've shown to come back to you so you can rest. I love you and will keep you in prayers. Holly Eller

April 15 at 4:41 PM

NB

Nancy Buckley posted:

Mrs C, Ben & Robin, I know that Mr C will continue to protect you from a much more beautiful place than this one. I was so young when I met him for the first time and he never failed to make me feel welcomed. With his warm smile and sense of humor you couldn't help but feel comfortable in his presence. God Bless you all ❤️

April 4 at 6:37 AM

JT

Joanne T. sent a sympathy card to the Capua family.

March 31 at 11:01 AM



BC

Becky Carr posted:

We do love Ben and his entire family!! What a privilege that God brought him into our life when we met Ted and Robin. Ben was always so kind to us and always seemed happy to spend time with us. Loved his kindness and smile and the example he set by how he loved his family!! See you soon, Ben.

March 31 at 9:26 AM



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Karen Pasquariello posted:

I am so thankful I had the privilege of knowing Ben. There was always a smile on his face, a warm hug and kiss on the cheek. He was an amazing man as he walked this earth and had a heart of gold. All of us at Lighthouse will miss him. But We are Thankful and look forward to an eternal future together. Connie and family, I love you and so very sorry for the loss of you dear loved one.
Karen Pasquariello

March 29 at 5:18 PM



Theresa Hester Kaspereen posted:

Ben & Robin Our Thoughts and Prayers are with you and your family. What a beautiful write up of the "love story" of your Mom and Dad and the continuous journey your Father had during his life on earth. Wonderful Family man.GOD Bless The Kaspereen Family

March 29 at 4:41 PM



Dianepitak@Yahoo.Com posted:

Glen & Diane Pitak send our condolences to Connie, Benny, Robin, Teddy, Ashley, Nicole, and Ben. And may God's holy spirit give you strength, through this difficult time. You are all in our thoughts, and prayers! Your family was very blessed to have such a great man in your life!

March 29 at 2:05 PM



Dianepitak@Yahoo.Com posted:

I have so many fond memories of Ben. I first met him through his children, Benny, Robin and Teddy. He was one of the best people I got to know in my life. He was kind, considerate, loving, caring, and funny. I worked with him at the bowling alley. Where he cooked, he would also make special dinners for all the employees, one of my favorites, linguine and clam sauce. It was great! Ben always had a special place in my heart, and I will miss him very much. He will never be forgotten, he was a wonderful, husband, father, grandfather, and friend, love you Benny, I'll see you in heaven! Your friend, Diane.

March 29 at 1:48 PM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Capua family.

March 29 at 12:32 PM





Albert Hazen shared a photo to the **Memories Album** album.

April 16 at 7:28 AM



George Lynn, John Malone, Vince (Doc) Woolley, Robert Hudak, Albert Hazen and Benny Capua



Albert Hazen shared a photo to the **Memories Album** album.

April 16 at 7:28 AM



Albert Hazen, John Malone, Vince (Doc) Wooley, Robert Hudak, George Lynn, Ben and Connie



Media

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Albert Hazen shared a photo to the **Memories Album** album.

April 16 at 6:57 AM



Loving memories with Friends



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Benjamin by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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