



Lawrence Samuel Zobrest

September 12, 1947 - December 5, 2024

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Larry was born September 12, 1947 in Warren, Pennsylvania to Lawrence and Mary Jane Zobrest (Regina). In 1981, he and his family moved to Tucson, Arizona where he owned and operated a dry cleaning company. After closing his company, he finished his career as a Sales Manager. When he retired, he and Sandi followed their son, daughter-in-law, and grandchildren to Mooresville, North Carolina where he lived out his last 6 years.

Larry was a beloved husband to Sandi, father to Jim and Sam, father-in-law to Michelle, and grandfather to Lina, Santino, Gianni, and Sabrina. He loved cooking, hunting, fishing, and boating, but most of all he loved his family and spending time with them.

Larry was best known for his generosity, sense of humor, and love of life. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

Tribute Wall

BM

“ Larry was the Brother I never had... he loved the outdoors and no matter how lhard he tried he was never able to help me catch a fish. He was however able to help my two boys to catch their first fish on Edinbora lake. I will always remember him delighting in cooking multi- course Italian Dinners for Family and friends. I shall miss his homemade sausage. I am forever thankful for his faithful and enduring love of my Sister. FAIR WINDS AND FOLLOWING SEAS...

BOB M

Bob Mangone - December 18, 2024 at 04:37 PM

“ I love Larry. I am blessed and privileged to have been in the Zobrest family for the past twenty years. Larry was an exceptional father-in-law. He always called me his favorite daughter in law, of course, I am his only daughter-in-law. 😊 I have so many Larry stories, I don't even know where to begin. I will just list some things about Larry.

Larry was proud to be from Warren, Pennsylvania and continuously proved that all roads lead to Warren. Every time he met someone, he would trace their connection to Warren, then tell us all about it.

Larry based his decisions on how things were done in Warren. For example, we were blessed to see Larry nearly every day. When Sandi told Larry that he should call before stopping by, Larry said, "That's not how they do it in Warren. In Warren, you just go to visit someone whenever you want to, and then you have something to eat."

Larry loved to tell us about the West End, and how he was fed and watched over by various families. Larry liked to tell us about eating all you can eat fish with his friends, piling up the plates on the table, and eating all of the fish in the restaurant to the point that they drew a crowd and they had to turn the "all you can eat" sign off. There were many more "food" stories from Larry.

Larry loved to talk about Warren Truck Service and shared an article about how his dad helped the fire department in Warren. Larry loved reading and sharing Warren news.

Larry loved to cook. He fed me the first time I met him - all of the best pasta, salad, bread, and wine (Paisano because he could no longer find Cribari) - so I never missed a Sunday dinner and never left Sam's side. Larry always made sure everyone was fed.

Larry made his own meatballs, sauce, and salad dressing. His lasagna was so phenomenal that my mom stopped making lasagna because she knew she could never make it like Larry.

Larry wrote down his recipes, but they are in his handwriting, which may have been his way of keeping them secret!

Larry and Sandi valued family. While I dated Sam, my grandfather passed away, and Sam's family attended my grandfather's memorial - that meant so much to me because I was new in their lives, but they made sure to be there.

Larry and Sandi watched our four little children while I attended nursing school. I could not have gotten through and graduated without them and their help.

Larry not only picked our kids up from school on a continual basis, but he also had a snack ready in his truck for the ride home.

Larry went to every football game, soccer game, and baseball game - he loved to see his grandchildren play. This also gave him an opportunity to greet everyone as he walked through the bleachers and could trace their connections to Warren!

Larry would drop everything and anything to help me, Sam, or the kids.

Larry cared for my three nephews. When my brother-in-law passed away, Larry would take my nephews to experience the wonderful Tucson desert and mountains. He was very proud of my sister's boys - they worked together with Larry and my dad to do a huge amount of cement work around our home when my own kids were very little. Larry showed my nephews how to cover up from the AZ sun by using an old white dress shirt, keeping cool by hosing down the shirt in the 110+ degree weather. My dad really enjoyed having a kindred spirit with Larry, as they were both men who built their own homes in the Arizona desert.

Larry could fix almost anything -he would fix things rather than throw them away. Therefore, we coined the phrase "Larry rigging."

Larry loved the outdoors and always made sure that our boys had clothes and boots for going hunting. Then he also sat out in the woods with Sam and the boys - I don't know how many hours they spent.

Larry shared his love for boating, fishing, carpentry, and mathematics with all of our kids. He was always quizzing them with math.

Running out of room - I will wrap this up in the thread/comment below...

Michelle Zobrest - December 14, 2024 at 10:14 PM

MZ

Larry would wear the same shirt every year on my daughter's birthday because it is the shirt that he wore on the day she was born, when he first held her. This was his first grandchild, who is about to be 18 years old. Larry was very sentimental about his family.

Larry ended every day by calling my children. He loved them so much and they love him tremendously. I am so thankful for everything he has laid into their lives.

Larry had a wonderful and humble way of being brave. It was Larry's way of saying, "I don't care about that" when there was a barrier standing in the way, or something that was going to hold someone back. Larry always kept going, and so we did too.

Larry was such a great grandfather and father-in-law that many of my friends told me they "wished they had a Larry." I completely understood how valuable my relationship with Larry was.

Larry was always with us. I always loved having him there, even though he could not keep silent during the spelling bees, often whispering the incorrect spelling of words.

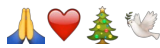
Larry sat with me at every activity for my children. He attended every baby dedication, every baptism, every school performance, every everything!

God has spoiled me by bringing Sandi, Larry, Jim, and Sam into my life. I will miss Larry, but I take comfort in the memories,, and I see his reflection in Sam and my kids every day. Thanks to everyone here for the wonderful love and support for our family.

Michelle Zobrest - December 14, 2024 at 10:15 PM

CM

“ Last March we stopped in Mooresville to spend time with Zobi and his lovely family!! A tour of the military museum and coffee shop with dinner provided by Larry and his family!!
Sandi was delightful, Jim and Sam so hospitable and Sam’s family a pleasure to chat with.
Dinner was exceptional and conversation fun!
Their fight for the rights of Jim at the capital was inspiring!! We never know when our cycle of life is ending but the legacy created is the result of a beautiful life! I am honored and thankful to have meet this lovely family and will treasure our Mooresville adventure with true friends!! Thanks for the memories!!
Thoughts, prayers and big hugs as you celebrate a wonderful life!!



Cheryl Maloney - December 13, 2024 at 07:35 AM

LM

“ Dear Sandi, Jim and Sam,
Larry was such a great person with a sense of humor to match. So very sorry for your loss. I can still hear him saying "You know Leni, you're no box of truffles! :)" and I can still hear the devious laugh. (and in looking at the picture, he had a point.) Prayers to all of you.



Leni Malherbe - December 11, 2024 at 05:27 PM

SZ

Great pictures. He looks like my youngest son in the one that he’s carrying you.

Sam Zobrest - December 11, 2024 at 05:51 PM

LM

I've never seen pictures of your kids. So it gives me a frame of reference.

Leni Malherbe - December 12, 2024 at 12:48 AM

BM

“ *Dearest Sandy the Erie relatives are thinking of you and your family. Larry was such a good soul and had a great sense of humor. We loved your visits to Erie Pa. Growing up with Larry was such a treat and there are a lot of good memories.*

Bernadette McKechnie - December 11, 2024 at 12:24 PM

ML

“ *Larry was such a wonderful man and always joking around. He spent time with my 3 boys after my husband died, and took them on several outings. It meant so much to all of us! We love and miss you Larry! Special love to my sister Michelle, her husband Sam and my nieces and nephews. Prayers and love to Sandi and Jim as well. God grant you all peace and comfort.*

Melody Light - December 11, 2024 at 11:42 AM

DS

“ *Sandi, Sam, Jim
I will miss that devilish laugh! Your Larry was a good guy. So much history together! I remember our days in Erie when I was toddler Jim's speech therapist. The Zobrests became my friends. Years later there we were with my dad representing them at the Supreme Court! What a story. Love you all. Ginny Ball Stack*

Donald Stack - December 11, 2024 at 11:32 AM

TM

ZOBIE was absolutely the friendliest guy on earth. He and his Gannon roommates at their house on W5th St in Erie befriended me way back in 1970 during a rough patch in my life and I will never forget that. He called me each Veterans Day to thank me for my service. Thankfully I got to spend a couple of days with he, Sandi and family last year in Mooresville on our way home from wintering in Florida. ZOBIE, thank you for being you. You will be sorely missed.

*Tim Maloney
Erie, Pa*

Tim Maloney - December 12, 2024 at 02:39 PM

KA

“ This is a devastating loss for your family and for our family. We love you, Cousin Larry. I’m gonna miss all your jokes some not as much as others... And I still feel so guilty for biting your toe at Christmas at auntie Ann’s house. 🙏😞

Kelly Abbott - December 11, 2024 at 10:37 AM

DS

“ Rest In Peace my long time friend. You will surely be missed. So many memories growing up in the West End. My condolences to your family.

Daniel Suppa - December 11, 2024 at 10:05 AM

JP

Rest in Peace Zobie! You are a long time friend that I will never forget. So many great memories growing up. Prayers for you and the family.

Joe Pace - December 11, 2024 at 10:36 AM

LV

Rest in Power my friend. One of many West Enders that impacted my life. Set an impeccable example while I was growing up. Prayers to you and your family. God bless.

Lou Vizza - December 11, 2024 at 11:10 AM

GE

Sandi, Sam, Jim I am in shock. So sorry to hear of Larry's passing. Always a jokester, enjoyed being in his company and hearing from him. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Rest in peace.

Gerry - December 11, 2024 at 12:20 PM

DR

Our condolence to Sandy, Jim, Sam and family. From growing up together in the West End, hunting camp days and many good times since you were a good friend and will be greatly missed by me & Anne. I will treasure all that time we had with good memories of a good man but sad.

Dennis Rock family

Dennis Rock - December 11, 2024 at 12:48 PM

SM

Rest In Peace Zobie! We will always remember the good times we had when you would have dinner at our house n how you would call our Mom Molly n the dance with Molly at Alicia's wedding. West End friends .The Brindis family

Susan Brindis Morley - December 11, 2024 at 04:53 PM