



## Susan Nancy Tarantino

October 14, 1961 - January 30, 2024

Susan (Sue) Nancy Tarantino, 62 of Mooresville, passed away on Tuesday, January 30, 2024. She was born on October 14, 1961, in York, PA to Sabino "Sal" Tarantino and Susan Guzzo Tarantino.

Sue held an Associate's degree in Fire Protection Technology from Central Piedmont Community College, a Bachelor's of Science degree in Industrial Psychology from Appalachian State University, and a Master's degree in Business Administration from UNC Charlotte. She began her recruit firefighting career with the Charlotte Fire Department in 1984 assigned to Station #8, moved through the ranks to become Captain, and then promoted to Battalion Chief in 1999. While working with the department, she also served as an instructor at Central Piedmont Community College. Sue retired in 2011 from Battalion 6. She also acted as president of the family-owned company, Eyes on Fire Investigative Services. In addition, she was an instructor in numerous training programs throughout the United States and abroad, including Bath Iron Works, Norfolk Naval Station, and Texas A&M University. Sue was a known athlete, earning a scholarship in gymnastics and diving while at Appalachian State University. She competed in numerous running events throughout the Eastern United States, and represented the Charlotte Fire Department at the 1991 World Police and Fire Games in Memphis, Tennessee. During these events, Sue brought home the gold medal in the Women's Open Triathlon and placed 4th overall for the Women's Cycling Open Road Race.

Sue was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother who was dedicated to her family and her fire service family. Sue was also a very dedicated caregiver to her parents, whom she loved dearly.

Those left to cherish Sue's memory are her loving husband, David A. Lowery; sons, Mark W. Lowery (Stefanie), Matthew B. Lowery (Jackie); brother, Rich Tarantino (Mary); sister, Barbara Panas (Jeff); grandchildren, Jacob, Hannah, Carson and Kailey.

A Prayer service will be held at 1:00 PM, Tuesday, February 6, 2024, at Cavin-Cook Funeral Home chapel with Father Carmen V. Malacari officiating.

The family will receive friends following the service at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Tunnel2Towers Foundation (<http://t2t.org>), Arthritis Foundation (<https://www.arthritis.org>), or Holy Spirit Catholic Church (Denver, NC).

Cavin-Cook Funeral Home, Mooresville is proudly serving the Lowery-Tarantino family.

# Cemetery Details

## Cavin-Cook FH & Crematory

494 E. Plaza Drive  
Mooresville, NC 28115

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

FEB 6. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Cavin-Cook Chapel  
494 E. Plaza Drive  
Mooresville, NC 28115

## Receiving Friends

FEB 6. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Cavin-Cook Funeral Home  
494 E. Plaza Drive  
Mooresville, NC 28115

# Tribute Wall

DC

“ I met Sue in the mid '80's after she finished a Criterium bike race in Charlotte and found out she was also an Appalachian graduate.



We ended up dating for a while and I got to know her as not only fiercely competitive..... but she was fiercely loyal to her beliefs.... all in a calm demeanor of "I've got this, we've got this".

I reached out to Sue back in 2017 just to mention I had taken up cycling and was doing a 252 mile ride across SC to help raise funds for Alzheimer's awareness. She made a significant contribution and I officially rode in honor of my Mom and Dad and her Dad, Sal.

My condolences to all of her family and all that knew her. She is missed by many.

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**Dan Collins** - January 30, 2025 at 09:00 AM

JC

“ I was just thinking of Sue and googled her name and got this sad news. Sue was my very 1st friend at ASU. I was still a senior at Watauga High School and taking 1 class at ASU, The History of Rock and Roll. Sue was so helpful in guiding me through the transition from high school to college academia.

I will never forget her.

My greatest sympathy for her family.

John Carrin

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**john carrin** - March 08, 2024 at 07:25 PM

PB

*Sue and I were good friends when I was a teenager. I would ride with her to practice gymnastics in Raleigh, N.C. We were in an auto accident and I hung out at her house while we recuperated. Her mother cooked the most delicious food I had ever eaten. God, I'm so saddened to find this. I googled Sue's name and was instantly heartbroken.*

**Pam Barfield** - September 13, 2024 at 05:11 PM

TT

“ *Taylor Rehab Physical Therapy purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Susan Nancy Tarantino.*



**Taylor Rehab Physical Therapy** - February 06, 2024 at 09:36 AM

HT

“ *Thoughts and Prayers to the Family we taught Unified Command all over the State of N. C. Rest in Peace..*

**Herbert Thomas** - February 05, 2024 at 04:19 PM

PR

*Dave, sending love and prayers for you and family. Sue, will be missed. Ted and Peggy Rink*

**Peggy S. RINK** - February 08, 2024 at 03:06 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Susan Nancy Tarantino.*



February 05, 2024 at 03:11 PM

DJ

“ David, so sorry to hear the sad news about Susan. You guys are in our prayers.

*Doug and Shannon Jones*

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**Doug and Shannon Jones** - February 05, 2024 at 02:09 PM

DE

“ Douglas E. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Susan Nancy Tarantino.

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**Douglas E.** - February 05, 2024 at 02:02 PM

IC

“ Dear David, We are so sorry for your loss. We were in shock hearing the news. We are so thankful for all the wonderful memories we shared together, not only at the firehouse, but all the fun trips we traveled together. Chief Sue and all the memories we made will forever be cherished in our hearts. We pray God's peace, that surpasses all understanding, be with you and the family during these difficult days ahead. With Deepest Sympathy, Irwin and Ronda Carmichael

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**Irwin and Ronda Carmichael** - February 05, 2024 at 01:56 PM

DD

“ David and Kathy Duffy purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Susan Nancy Tarantino.



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**David and Kathy Duffy** - February 05, 2024 at 12:25 PM

DD

“ *Donnie and Rene Dolinger purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Susan Nancy Tarantino.*



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**Donnie and Rene Dolinger** - February 05, 2024 at 11:15 AM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Susan Nancy Tarantino.*



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February 05, 2024 at 09:26 AM

JF

“ *David, my heart is with you. Sue and I had so many fun girl's days out! My fondest memories were on your deck or boat with Sue, You, Rick, and I. Lots of Sal stories too, even while cleaning his apartment. I am sending you all the love I can. Jennifer*

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**Jennifer Frenette** - February 04, 2024 at 06:22 PM

FF

“ *A most remarkable human. Caring, sharing, kind and engaging. Not a little Italian sausage that kept quiet when safety and professionalism were the subjects. Thankful we had the “import” to love.*

*Resting In Peace, we pray.*

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**Frank Coley, “Ms Jo” & Families** - February 04, 2024 at 11:54 AM



WS

“ Wesley S. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Susan Nancy Tarantino.

Wesley S. - February 02, 2024 at 02:45 PM

JD

“ Sad to hear this news, my thoughts with David and the family.

Jim Dedmon - February 02, 2024 at 02:13 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Susan Nancy Tarantino.



February 02, 2024 at 12:23 PM

CW

“ Calvin and Sherri Wright planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Susan Nancy Tarantino.

Calvin and Sherri Wright - February 02, 2024 at 12:23 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Susan Nancy Tarantino.



February 02, 2024 at 08:40 AM

JW

“ Jim & Carole Windle planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Susan Nancy Tarantino.

Jim & Carole Windle - February 02, 2024 at 08:40 AM

WD

“ In my role as chaplain of the Charlotte Fire Department, I had the privilege of marrying Sue Tarantino to David Lowery. It was an unforgettable day of celebration at their beautiful home on Lake Norman. I pray that God's peace will comfort David at this time. #ChaplainWayneDetzler

Wayne Detzler - February 02, 2024 at 06:51 AM

BH

“ Brandon Helms purchased the Simply Elegant Sp athiphyllum for the family of Susan Nancy Tarantino.



Brandon Helms - February 01, 2024 at 05:33 PM

BH

“ Brandon Helms planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Susan Nancy Tarantino.

Brandon Helms - February 01, 2024 at 05:33 PM