



Francis John Cocuzzi

November 4, 1940 - May 2, 2013

Francis John Cocuzzi was born November 4, 1940 in Rochester, NY to the late Anthony and Mary Pepitone Cocuzzi. He began his musical career at the age of eight, taking group piano lessons in the public schools. He soon switched to drums, playing his first professional gig at the age of thirteen. Frank earned degrees in music education and performance from the Eastman School of Music performing at Carnegie Hall with the Eastman Wind Ensemble and touring Europe, the Middle East and the U.S.S.R. as a percussionist with the Eastman Philharmonic Orchestra.

After Graduation from college, Frank joined the United States Marine Corps Band, "The Presidents Own" in Washington, DC. For the next eight years Frank played drums in the Dinner Orchestra and Dance Combo at the White House for Presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson. He also toured with the Marine Corps as a timpanist and a marimba soloist. While in the Marine Corps Band, Frank earned a Master's Degree in Music Education from the Catholic University. Frank then began a thirty four year career in the Fairfax County School System—first as a Band Director in several middle schools, then as a counselor in the middle schools. He received a Master's Degree in counseling from Virginia Polytechnic Institute, finishing his career in Fairfax County Schools at Landmark Academy, an alternative high school. After leaving the school system, Frank applied his expertise as Director of Christian Education at Franconia United Methodist Church where he continued to mentor and serve. Frank continued to play and sing, sharing his

musical gifts as well as his optimistic, caring spirit, which was a blessing to all. His music will remain in our hearts and minds forever. He leaves behind his wife, Vicki; his children, John, Michael and Catherine, five grandchildren; brother, Paul (Mary Jean) and Jim (Georgeanne); sister Mary Ellen and numerous nieces and nephews.

Franks life will be celebrated 11:00 a.m. May 11, 2013 at Franconia United Methodist Church, 60 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA .

<http://www.franconiaumc.org/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Francis John Cocuzzi*

October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Obituary Wall*



Jefferson Funeral Chapel - January 28, 2019 at 09:56 AM



“ *At Whittier Intermediate School, Frank was Band Director (in the 70's- probably his first job in the Fairfax County Schools) Frank was always upbeat and positive; he made a wonderful contribution to the school, the students, and the staff. I was honored to be his colleague.*

May 11, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *Six of our seven girls had the privilege to be taught music by Mr. C and enjoyed every minute of it. His slowly expanding smile will be remember by many, many people. God bless, Mr. C.*

May 11, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Frank gave every dancer who treasured The Family Band "the beat." He will be unforgettable.

May 10, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Frank was a joy to work with and always available to visit when you needed a friend. Thanks for all you did for our Church - Carol & Pete

May 10, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Mr. Cocuzzi was my band teacher back in the 70's at Whitter. He was instrumental in developing my love for music and playing in a band. During my 7th grade year, he wisely had me switch over from playing the clarinet to bassoon. An instrument which I loved playing and continued to play through my high school years. Mr. Cocuzzi was a wonderful teacher and a kind human being! Heartfelt prayers go out to all his family and friends.

May 09, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Family, the God of all comfort will heal your broken heart, he has the power to give you the strength to endure and remember, he gives us the hope of a resurrection found at John 5:28 and 29.

May 09, 2013 at 12:00 AM