



George Michael Kavros

November 28, 1924 - August 21, 2024

George Michael “Chic” Kavros, of Alexandria, passed away peacefully on August 21, 2024, at 99.75 years of age.

Chic was born on November 28, 1924, in McKeesport, Pennsylvania, to Michael George and Adamandia Kavros. He was one of four children, including sisters Katherine (deceased) and Reynea (deceased) and brother James. Because he had a B+ average during his senior year in high school, they allowed him to graduate early so that he could join the Navy to serve his country in World War II on the U.S.S. Saginaw Bay. He completed two years of college at the University of Pittsburgh before working to support his family at the local steel mill after the death of his father.

It was Chic’s mother, Adamandia, who first met Irene Miller when she was only 14 years old, and she hoped Irene might someday want to marry her son. Her dream came true when Irene was just a few months shy of 19, and they enjoyed nearly 74 years of marriage. They went on to have two children, Dianne and Michael.

Chic began working for All American Airlines in 1947 as a mechanic’s helper, operating radios and sometimes chasing deer and bears off the runway. When they transitioned to a passenger airline, he became certified through the International Association of Machinists (IAM). Though he knew from his time

in the Navy that he wanted to work on airplanes, he realized he enjoyed working with people even more. When the IAM became the bargaining unit for the airline, he began as the spokesperson for his group and eventually became very involved in the Labor Movement.

Over his 47 years of working through multiple airline mergers that concluded with USAir, he served as a shop steward, as part of the IAM negotiating team, as Assistant General Chairman, and as a District 141 Executive Board member. Chic was most proud of his work helping people get their jobs back through his mediation work. He deeply understood that someone's life at home could affect their jobs and vice versa and was at the dawn of ensuring that employees had access to benefits that helped people with substance abuse or mental health issues as well as financial troubles.

Of his work, he said, "Those who are able to spend their lives doing what they enjoy should consider themselves lucky. Those who are able to spend their lives doing what they enjoy while at the same time helping others should consider themselves blessed. I've been both lucky and blessed."

Chic was also a member of the American Hellenic Educational and Progressive Association (AHEPA) serving on his chapter's local board and he was a 32nd degree Mason.

In his retirement, Chic loved being in his yard, mowing his lawn up a steep hill until he was nearly 95 years old. He also enjoyed spending time at Lake Anna, where he was frequently the one to start the burning of brush and tree limbs. He enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and his great-grandchildren telling them stories, teaching them to play cards, putting puzzles together, taking them on walks, teaching them to ride bikes, riding rollercoasters with them, and snuggling on the couch. He was known for telling jokes, having the best puns, continuing to complete daily Sudoku

puzzles, and playing solitaire on his iPad.

He is survived by his wife Irene, their daughter Dianne Kavros Fogarty (Bob), their son Michael Kavros (Roxanne), their grandchildren Eleni Kavros DeGraw (Allen), Patrick Kavros, and Teddy Kavros; their great-grandchildren Callista, Sabrina, Lucas, Nico, and Jacobi.

Calling hours will be Monday, August 26 at 10 a.m. at St. Katherine's Greek Orthodox Church, 3149 Glen Carlyn Road, Falls Church, VA 22041. The funeral service will be held at 11 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Guide Dogs of America (mail to: 13445 Glenoaks Boulevard, Sylmar, CA 91342) <https://give.guidedogsofamerica.org/give/551762/#!/donation/checkout> or checks to St. Katherine's Greek Orthodox Church, 3149 Glen Carlyn Road, Falls Church, VA 22041.

Cemetery Details

Quantico National Cemetery

18424 Joplin Rd
Triangle, VA 22172

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **26**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church
3149 Glen Carlyn Road
Falls Church, VA 22041

Funeral Service

AUG **26**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church
3149 Glen Carlyn Road
Falls Church, VA 22041

Graveside Service

AUG **27**. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Quantico National Cemetery
18424 Joplin Rd
Triangle, VA 22172-1636
(703) 221-2183

Tribute Wall

DJ

“ We loved Uncle Chic. Prayers for the family from Anne Manis, Diane, Katyna and Nicki.

Diane Jacobs - August 28, 2024 at 06:41 PM

TB

“ As he was to many a young union representative, Chic was one of my mentors when we worked together on the IAM District 141 Executive Board. He was always generous in sharing his vast experience and knowledge of collective bargaining and contract administration in the airline industry, and he always had a story or a joke that made working with him a pleasure. He was valued and respected by those he represented and those he worked with, whether they be management or union. His retirement as an active union representative didn't end his commitment to the union, as he continued to do volunteer work, teaching at the union's education center, attending union meetings, and making himself available to those who could benefit from his experience and perspective. When I went to work at IAM Headquarters, he would call my office and drop in now and then, still mentoring me right up to my own retirement. He was a valued friend and union brother. My deepest sympathy to Irene and the Kavros family. May he rest in peace.

Tom Brickner

Thomas Francis Brickner - August 25, 2024 at 02:51 PM

DT

“ This was a long time ago, but I met Chic (when I was a boy) during a party for grand daughter, Eleni. Even now, I remember how happy not only he and Irene were together, but how close he was with his daughter and his grand daughter. I recall he was always really well put together too - impressive. In general, he was part of a feeling of love and family when I remember being around him. And he was kind. A good man. My love goes out to the Kavros clan and especially Irene.

David Tenenbaum - August 24, 2024 at 03:33 PM

JV

“ I was notified today that a true trade unionist and one of my mentors has passed. Chic was a dear friend and IAM colleague. He will be missed. To Irene and the Kavros family, please accept our deepest sympathy.

Jim & Elaine Varsel

Jim Varsel - August 23, 2024 at 04:02 PM

ED

Hi Mr. Varsel, thank you so much. We were just talking about you yesterday. I wanted you to know he still had a photo of the two of you in his desk. Thanks for the lovely note. 💜 —Eleni (granddaughter)

Eleni Kavros DeGraw - August 25, 2024 at 12:40 PM

JB

“ I met George and his family in 1976 and have been in touch since. Kind, loving, intelligent and caring. Rest in eternal peace.

J Bruno - August 23, 2024 at 02:40 PM

R1

“ Please accept our heartfelt condolences
on the loss of your loved one.
Potomac Air Lodge #1976, Retirees' Club

*IAM & AW Potomac Air Lodge 1976
228 Moon Clinton Road
Moon Twp, Pa 15108*

Retiree's Club, Potomac Air Lodge 1976 - August 23, 2024 at 10:15 AM

MM

“ *Uncle chic I will miss you your
Jokes our talks and just being around you love you rip and will miss
you God bless*

Mike miller - August 22, 2024 at 06:36 PM

GD

*I have known, Mr. and Mrs. Kavros Since Diane, their daughter, was 18
years old. And I knew their son Michael. But I have been friends with
Diane and her parents since then,
I was deeply saddened to hear about her father's passing. He will be
greatly missed and a true gentleman, a father, and a kind person.
May he rest in peace and his memory be eternal*

Georgia Dimitras - August 22, 2024 at 10:10 PM

DB

*Mike
Delmas and I are so sorry for your father's passing. He sounds like an
amazing man. We are never ready for our loved ones to leave this
earth.
Grace ,peace,and strength for the coming days
Sincerely
Deb and Demo*

Debbie Bartley - August 23, 2024 at 06:31 AM

MC

So sorry for your loss, Chic was a great person, mentor, and true Unionist .

Mike Cicconi - August 23, 2024 at 07:52 AM

RC

Chick was a mentor and a bother to me ... I learned so much from Chick it led to a union representative life for me and Kathy. We loved Chick and he will be missed but remembered forever. My brother I will see you again in heaven together. Randy and Kathy Canale.

Randy Canale - August 25, 2024 at 07:56 PM



We Love YOU Pappou!

COVID-19 is keeping us from being with our loved ones today to celebrate our incredible lives with you.

Jacobi, Nico (greats) & Patrick.

I am grateful to you for your patience in teaching and downloading your experiences, infinite jokes, and infinite wisdom into simple terms. "God is in the details" - hard work and discipline are required for any project.

I am grateful my children benefit from all of the above but mostly the importance of an undefeated lexicon. All AP Classes around here start in 9th grade. It's the Chic Kavros Calm demeanor. There is no storm and if there is just turn down a hearing aid.

We will miss you in the physical.

Ted, Eleni & Fam, My Fam will carry on a Legacy.

Your Grandson -{Patrick Kavros}

Patrick Kavros - August 27, 2024 at 01:38 AM