



Flavio "Frank" Panigazzi

April 13, 1927 - January 12, 2018

Flavio (Frank) Panigazzi

On January 12th, 2018, our family lost a remarkable man. Flavio passed away as he wished at his home, surrounded by his family, and the books, music and memories he treasured. Flavio was our rock, a man of integrity and ethics. A man who enjoyed life to its fullest over his 90 years.

Flavio Francesco Riccardo Panigazzi was born in Livelli, Italy on April 13th, 1927. At the age of seventeen months, Flavio and his mother Pierina were lovingly sent off from the Port of Genoa by his uncle Giacomo Brignoli to join his father Severino in San Francisco. Flavio, also known as "Frank", lived in San Francisco until he left high school at the age of 17 to join the United States Navy during World War II. It was important to him to serve and defend the country he had come to respect and love. Fortunately, peace was declared while Flavio was journeying by warship to Japan. He remained in Japan until his honorable discharge in July of 1946. Upon returning to civilian life, he began his education at City College of San Francisco. He then pursued a degree in Pharmacology at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska.

In 1965, with his first wife Victoria, and young children, Vincent and Diana, he moved to Napa to embark upon his lifelong profession as a pharmacist. He first enjoyed working at a local Napa pharmacy, then began his twenty year career at Queen of the Hospital. Shortly after Flavio moved his family to Napa, his parents followed him to the area and settled in their neighborhood. They enjoyed many Italian traditions including bocce ball with family and friends from Italy over the years. He was preceded in death by his beloved parents, Severino and Pierina Panigazzi.

Frank made many wonderful friends over the years, and in 1984 he met the love of his life, Joyce. During their time together they traveled the world extensively. A signature trip for Frank was returning to Italy 51 years after leaving for America. His uncle Giacomo once again was at the Port of Genoa to receive him, saying "I held him in my arms when he left, and I received him here again after 51 years apart." One of Frank and Joyce's travel highlights was a safari to Kenya, Africa, of which precious photographs are displayed prominently in their home.

Among Frank's hobbies were athletic activities including golf and tennis with dear friends

at Napa Valley Country Club, running in the Bay to Breakers, skiing at Lake Tahoe, and walks from his beloved home in Montecito to downtown Napa. He also enjoyed many hours creating a beautiful bird and butterfly garden sanctuary at their home.

2 Timothy 4:7 I fought the good fight. I finished the race. I kept the faith.

Flavio is survived by his devoted wife Joyce, his beloved children; Vincent Panigazzi of Santa Monica, Diana (Marc) Fratessa of Wheelock, Texas, Colleen (Scott) Allen of Cobb, Kathleen (Kirk) Brown of Napa, and his cousins Santa (Angelo) Bariani and familia of Sacramento and Italy. He is also survived by his much loved grandchildren Alessandra and Wyatt Fratessa, Jared, Christopher (Annie), Adam (Leonie) Rusin, Duke Rasmusen, Katie (Anthony) Assereto, Colin Cronin and eight great children.

All services will be held at Claffey and Rota Funeral Home in Napa. The Rosary and Vigil will be held on January 16th at 7:00 P.M. The Chapel Service will be held on January 17th at 1:00 P.M. Interment and Military Honors will be held at Tulocay Cemetery. Memorial celebration to follow.

Our family wishes to pay tribute to the incredible compassionate support of Collabria Care and Your Home Nursing. Memorial donations may be made in the name of Flavio Frank Panigazzi to Collabria Care and UCSF.

Tribute Wall



“ *Flavio "Frank" Panigazzi*

September 29, 2022 at 04:54 PM



“ *Flavio "Frank" Panigazzi*

September 29, 2022 at 02:55 PM