



Robert Francis Roche

August 13, 1924 - May 9, 2023

We regret the passing of Captain Robert Francis Roche (Navy) on May 9, 2023, surrounded by his wife Joan and family at their Napa home. Born August 13, 1924 in Grass Valley, California to Marie Osborne Roche and Maurice Augustine Roche, he grew up in Flin Flon, Manitoba, where he was the 3rd of seven children.

After being appointed to the US Naval Academy, where he graduated class of 1947, he married his first love Donaldda Geraldine Mclsaac. Together they had 6 children and had quite the adventure. He then started his 31 year military career with 3 years at sea, achieved a masters degree at MIT and retired in 1977, when he moved to the Napa Valley. He then began a consulting career with Seacor for 15 years.

He was a devoted parishioner of St Apollinaris and loyal member of the Knights of Columbus, and had many happy years singing in the choir.

His wife Donaldda passed in 1988 and he then married Apolonia Euser in 1989. They were happily married for 20 years, until Apolonia passed in 2009. After 6 years of bachelor life, he married Joan Bartlett in 2016. They had 7 happy years together, where they often enjoyed a glass of wine, singing and swinging on the porch of their home watching the sunset.

He will be missed deeply by all, and is survived by his wife Joan, daughters Ellen and Ruth Anne, and sons Rod (wife Diane) Terry (wife Debbie) and Steve (wife Donna). His eldest son Tim passed in 2016. He is also survived by many grandchildren and great grandchildren from all 3 families.

A viewing will be held at Claffey and Rota Funeral Home at 4:00 pm on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, followed by a recitation of the Rosary at 6:00 pm. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Apollinaris Catholic Church on Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 10:30 am.

In honor of Robert, donations can be made to:

The Knights of Columbus, Council #982

2430 Yajome St.

Napa, CA 94558-5307

Previous Events

Viewing

MAY 16. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (PT)

Claffey and Rota Funeral Home
1975 Main Street
Napa, CA 94559
(707) 224-5210
services@claffeyandrota.com
<http://www.claffeyandrota.com>

Rosary

MAY 16. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (PT)

Claffey and Rota Funeral Home
1975 Main Street
Napa, CA 94559
(707) 224-5210
services@claffeyandrota.com
<http://www.claffeyandrota.com>

Mass

MAY 17. 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM (PT)

St. Apollinaris Catholic Church
3700 Lassen St
Napa, CA 94558
(707) 257-2555

Tribute Wall

DC

“ Terry - I am so sorry for your family's loss. I hope you and your family can find comfort in knowing your dad is with our Lord. God Bless, Denise Clayton

Denise Clayton - May 11, 2023 at 03:53 PM

PH

“ Uncle Bob was an incredible icon for the Roche side of the family. Every time our paths crossed he contributed to some pretty incredible memories. Family seemed to mean everything to Uncle Bob and I only wish I could have had more time with him. Hugs to everyone in the family grieving his loss. He lived a great life surrounded by many who loved him as he loved them.

Pat Heffernan - May 11, 2023 at 01:35 PM