



Fred C Cicco

June 19, 1950 - May 9, 2020

Fred C. Cicco (69), of Valparaiso passed away unexpectedly on Sat, May 9, 2020. Fred was born on 6-19-50 in San Mango d'Aquino, a hilly region of Calabria, Italy. The family journeyed through Ellis Island when he was a year old, and he became a U.S. citizen, raised in Gary, IN. After graduation from Lew Wallace ('68), Fred served in the Army National Guard and began working at many trades, including USS, car salesman, ad sales rep for Post Tribune, owner of a health foods store, running a Cicco's dry cleaners/tailors in Valpo, restaurateur (Fred's Really Good Stuff), movie/tv "extra", and working in the family business, John Cicco's Menswear, and his corporate graphics division, ID Plus Mktg. Fred loved to learn and bring ideas to fruition.

Fred is preceded in death by his beloved mama and papa, Marta and John Cicco, his brother, John, and his niece, Marianne Popp. He is survived by his wife, Mary Anne; sisters, Theresa Cicco and Tina (Brian) Popp; son, Angelo (Kelly) Cicco of Valpo; daughter, Crissy (Kevin) Mulroy of NJ; and stepson, Ryan Exley of WI; grandchildren, Violet and Vincent Cicco, Wes, Cal, and Mae Mulroy, and Avery and Gavin Exley; and his niece, Gloria (Bobby) Morris, plus many cousins. Family was everything and he was so proud of each one.

Fred lived with joy...discovering new places, especially sandwich joints, traveling and snagging an exit row, enjoying the camaraderie of his endless friendships, driving with a rock anthem turned up loud, Las Vegas visits, and helping with innumerable charity events. Foremost, the essence of Fred was his friendship...always ready with a smile, a solution, an idea, a joke, an ear. Strangers were friends-in-waiting, and he made you feel his special brand of humor and care. He is deeply loved and missed.

A private family-only service will be held at Burns Funeral Home of Crown Point A celebration of Fred's remarkable life will be forthcoming as feasible. In lieu of flowers, memorials in his name to your favorite charity would make him smile. (And he'd love for you to treat yourself to a well-made Italian Beef or hot dog!) www.burnsfuneral.com

Comments



“ I was his Customer Service Rep at Hit Promotional Products. Fred and I had a very close relationship in this industry. He was so sweet and Kind and I made sure I took care of him with his orders. He had my personal cell phone number so he could reach me at any given time to check his orders. We went out for lunch one afternoon. Literally the kindest, sweetest and most generous person I knew. I left for Maternity leave and he reached out to check on myself and the baby and to let me know how his health was. Such a sweet loving guy. I was thinking about him today and how I haven't heard from him in awhile.. and I came across this. Rest in Peace Fred, you had a beautiful Soul and wish more people were like you! You were my #1 favorite customer and still are.. May your family find peace and remember you for the rest of their years!!!



Stephanie Fry - August 12, 2020 at 01:32 PM



“ The first time I spoke to Fred was the summer of 2016. I was one of his clothing supplier reps, and I just called to introduce myself and say hello. We proceeded to talk for an hour and he decided to fly from Indiana to Philadelphia so he could meet me and try an authentic Philadelphia Cheesesteak. We had a great time, and he continued to visit at least twice a year. This past September, I finally made it out to Indiana to see the store. Fred took me to the local hooters in classic fashion and I had a great day. He was the only client I ever worked with who sent me personal christmas cards and birthday gifts. He was honestly one of the most thoughtful guys I've ever met. He was hilarious and would have me cracking up on the phone with his crazy stories. RIP Fred, and thanks for taking me under your wing and guiding me through my first couple years in the promo industry.

Nicholas Kirby - May 27, 2020 at 04:25 PM



“ I worked at schoops and had the pleasure of waiting on him with the guys at the round table , he was such a pleasure to wait on and I enjoyed talking to him and joking with him . He is greatly missed Love you Fred . Theresa Gulley

Theresa Gulley - May 20, 2020 at 10:56 PM



“ Tina, our deepest sympathies to you and the family. We are so sorry to hear about Fred's passing. He was a very kind and generous man. Whenever we met him at different events we always left our conversation with smiles on our faces. What an interesting man! May the Lord welcome him with open arms!

Mike & Jill Schrage - May 17, 2020 at 09:56 AM



“ Wow, my name is Mike Shandrick and I am the Equipment manager for Purdue University football. I meet Fred twenty some years ago when he somehow got wind of a bid for dress clothes for our coaching staff for recruiting weekends. In typical Fred fashion instead of calling he just shows up, starts talking to everyone and the rest is history. He soon became a fixture in the Purdue football office and I believe he fitted everyone of our head coaches in suits from Coach Tiller to Coach Brohm. He would sit in Coach Tillers office and chat the time away, I can only imagine what those two great men were talking about!! LOL. I had just spoke with Fred the Wednesday prior to check in and promise him I had not forgotten about driving up and having breakfast with him when all this cleared up. Fred deeply touched me and all of my staff over this twenty year time period, he always took time to talk and joke with my students and even our players. What a one of a kind personality. In our travels I have actually was able to introduce him to my three children and share a meal together and each them commented on what a humorous and genuine man he was. Thank you Fred, I am so going to miss you and every time I get the chance to grab a portillo's , I will toast my luck for having gotten the chance to meet you! Peace my friend.

Mike Shandrick - May 14, 2020 at 01:55 PM



“ The staff at John Cicco's Menswear purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Fred C Cicco.



The staff at John Cicco's Menswear - May 14, 2020 at 12:24 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Fred C Cicco.



May 14, 2020 at 12:12 PM



“ Angelo, the last time I talked to your Dad was at the Last VU Home game this season. Always a friendly smile and good conversation. Sorry for your loss. Fred will always be remembered fondly.
Dave Richardson

david richardson - May 13, 2020 at 07:37 PM



“ DEAR MARYANNE,
SO SORRY TO LEARN ABOUT FRED'S UNTIMELY PASSING. HE WAS A GOOD MAN AND WAS LIKED WHEREVER HE WENT. SYMPATHY & PRAYERS TO WIFE AND THEIR FAMILIES.



PATTI PARKER - May 13, 2020 at 06:02 PM



“ USW LOCAL-1014 Send OUR Deepest Sympathy To the Family we will keep you in our prays Fred was Good friend to us all here at Local-1014

Nicole Greene - May 13, 2020 at 02:49 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to the family. I'm saddened that I'll no longer be able to talk with him but will turn to the many memories I have of our times together over the 25+ years we knew each other. A quick lunch (at any one of his regular spots) or a long car ride with sporadic stops for business and to some of the greatest eating spots all over Chicago are just a couple of things I'll miss about my friendship with Fred. Months might go by before we'd connect but when we did it was as if we just talked the other day. He was very helpful to me in both professional and personal matters and always took the time no matter what was going on with him. He really was part of a lost breed.....A TRULY GOOD GUY!!!! God rest his soul.

Michael Nochevich - May 13, 2020 at 10:45 AM



“ My deepest condolences to the Cicco family. Fred and I go way back as Marketing gurus and geniuses (in our own minds). Forever clever and witty, Fred's genuine demeanor was always welcoming and jovial. He will be sadly missed.

Thoughts and prayers continued.
Rich Shields

Rich Shields - May 13, 2020 at 10:12 AM



“ Fred will be missed his humor and generosity were outstanding. i will miss him like a brother I know his family and friends are very sad please accept our deepest condolences during this very trying times. Your brother from another mother.

Juan and Martha Arroyo - May 13, 2020 at 09:40 AM



“ I will forever be grateful for Fred in believing in me. 6 years ago, Fred was my customer! Seeing that I was not in a happy situation, Fred purchased the division I was running, handed me the client base, and made me a part of the IDPlus team! A year ago, he told me it was time to do this on my own, and handed me the client list again, and mentored me through to his very end!! My heartfelt thoughts and prayers go out to his entire family

Cheryl Seitz - May 13, 2020 at 12:41 AM



“ Fred was a great guy. He will be missed by many. Prayers for my cousin, his wife Mary Anne and all who loved him.

Linda wood - May 13, 2020 at 05:12 AM



“ Marilyn Revalee lit a candle in memory of Fred C Cicco



Marilyn Revalee - May 12, 2020 at 11:40 PM



“ Generosity! This man became a friend quickly when I became his billboard rep. Just one example of his generosity is when I was promoted to sales in Chicago. He said “You’re going to the show, you gotta look good - you need some suits”. I wasn’t in the position to buy “suits” plural. When I told him this he said not to worry. He said you’ll be making enough soon. He fixed me up with 3 suits, multiple shirts and ties. He said pay me a little every now and then when you can. I’ll never forget that act of kindness. I’d never really had anything like that done for me from anyone outside my family. Well it just goes to show we were all part of Fred’s family! I’ll miss him, but will have very fond memories. I’m just upset that we can’t be together to share our stories in person and pay tribute to the man that really deserves it.



Mike “Big Nose” Aloia - May 12, 2020 at 10:07 PM



“ Pina lit a candle in memory of Fred C Cicco



Pina - May 12, 2020 at 09:52 PM



“ Whenever I hear of Beef Barley soup, I think of Fred. He certainly enjoyed his food. I certainly enjoyed knowing this kind man. My heart goes out to the family.

Ken Drever - May 12, 2020 at 09:14 PM



“ Jeff and I were shopping at the beautiful store. Jeff said Fred why can't I find anything in my size?
Fred said, Jeff as soon as we get a kids department I'll call you!! We laughed and laughed! Jeff loved Fred!
Your family is in our hearts and prayers.

Victoria and Jeff Brant - May 12, 2020 at 09:05 PM



“ He will be missed. Fred's humor and personality were unique and special!

jon Groth - May 12, 2020 at 09:11 PM



“ Just an all-around nice guy. Often chatted with him at VU basketball games

John A. Mutka - May 12, 2020 at 09:36 PM



“ Fred and Mary Anne were our neighbors for 10 years. I often thought of Fred and his "wry" sense of humor and his observations on life and our "social experience" Memory Eternal
Fred and may the Lord welcome you into his Kingdom

Butch Shiplov - May 13, 2020 at 12:10 PM



“ Wow - what a surprise. So sorry for his family. Fred and I go back to Merrillville store in the late 70s, later restaurant and cleaners in Valpo. Always the gentleman. John Johnson

John Johnson - May 12, 2020 at 08:35 PM



“ Fred always had a smile... loved to talk food... The Shakey's pizza parlor family is sending the Cicco families our thoughts and prayers...

Brent Huard - May 12, 2020 at 07:12 PM



“ A good friend we grew up at Junedale little league and played in the drainage pipes and caught snakes. My condolences to his family he will be missed by many.

Tim Herbert - May 12, 2020 at 06:24 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Fred C Cicco.



May 12, 2020 at 06:17 PM



“ We would like to extend our deepest sympathy to the Cicco family on their loss.
SINCERELY Dean and Colleen Anast and family

Dean and Colleen Anast - May 12, 2020 at 01:21 PM



“ Sincere Condolences.
We are deeply sadden; as the world is a bit dimmer now,
God Bless the Good People, Fred was one of em.

Frank & Joy Renzo

FRANK & JOY RENZO - May 12, 2020 at 11:38 AM



“ I have no words. What a huge loss. Fred was a great guy and gone way too soon. I have many fond memories of his humor, laugh and smile. He had a heart of gold and loved life. He will not be forgotten. My deepest sympathy to Tina, Theresa, Brian and the entire family.

Laura Mannion - May 12, 2020 at 07:07 AM