



## Dr. George T. Stroia

July 26, 1931 - February 23, 2017

Dr. George T. Stroia, of Crown Point, passed away on February 23, 2017, at Franciscan Alliance Medical Center. George, born on July 26, 1931, in East Chicago, Indiana, was the son of John and Elizabeth (Boudi) Stroia.

George dedicated his life to the betterment of education, church, community, and family. A graduate of Froebel High School, he served in the U.S. Army, earned a Bachelor's and Master's degree in education at Indiana University, and a doctorate from Oklahoma State University. He began his teaching career at Lew Wallace High School and was appointed Supervisor of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Athletics for the Gary public schools. He later served as Professor and Chairperson of the Department of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation at Chicago State University. He was also an adjunct professor at St. Xavier College, Chicago, IL and Calumet College of St. Joseph, Whiting, IN.

George was a member of the Calumet Officials Association, officiating Indiana and Illinois high school and college sports. He served as president of numerous professional and philanthropic organizations, including the Indiana Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance, Catholic Youth Organization, Exchange Club, Indiana University-Northwest Alumni Chapter, Junedale Little League, and the Gary Senior League World Series. He was appointed to President John F. Kennedy's Fitness Council, a board member of the Northwest Indiana Boys and Girls Clubs, Merrillville Park Board, and Lake County Parks Department. He was a member of the

Macedonian Social Organization, American Legion, Merrillville Post 430, Knights of Columbus, Msgr. Ryder Council.. He also served as Precinct Committeeman for both Merrillville and Crown Point. He was the founder of Camp George (named in his honor) family and youth outdoor camp facility in Wolcottville, Indiana.

George made a lifetime commitment to his faith as president and administrator of St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church in East Chicago, Indiana. He was the first lay President of the Association of Romanian Catholic of America (ARCA), and was instrumental in securing an appointment for the Romanian Byzantine Catholic Church's first bishop.

George was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award from the "Gary Old Timers" in 2017, "The Order of St. George" from the Diocese of Canton for lifetime contributions to the church in 2013, the Elizabeth Guba Community Service for Northwest Indiana Award, and the President's Award from the Midwest District of AHPER&D. The George T. Stroia Romanian Golf Classic is an annual event, established in 1995, in his honor.

George is survived by his wife- Rose; his three children- Mary Clark (Bruce), John Stroia, and Kathleen Stroia; grandchildren- Brad Clark and Kara Clark; sister- Elizabeth Breaz; sister in-law- Helen Volk, as well as his many loving, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his father- John Stroia, his mother- Elizabeth Drag, his brothers- John Stroia and Virgil Strauss, his sister- Virginia Rudovich and in-laws.

Friends may visit with George's family on Sunday February 26, 2017, from 1-7 p.m., with the Parastas service at 4 p.m. at Burns Funeral Home, 10101 Broadway, Crown Point, Indiana. The funeral service will be held on Monday, February 27, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. DIRECTLY at St Michael's Byzantine Catholic Church, 557 W. 57th Ave. Merrillville, IN. The Most Reverend John Michael Botean, Bishop of the Romanian Catholic Diocese, Eparchy of St. George in Canton and Very Rev. Basil Hutsko and Very Rev. Michael Evanick,

concelebrating. The burial to follow at Calumet Park Cemetery, 2305 W. 73rd Ave. Merrillville, IN. Memorial contributions may be made to Camp George Fund or to a charity according to the wishes of the family, c/o Burns Funeral Home, 10101 Broadway, Crown Point, IN 46307. George loved life and the company of family and friends. He will be dearly missed by all. [www.burnsfuneral.com](http://www.burnsfuneral.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Calumet Park Cemetery

2305 W. 73rd Ave.  
Merrillville, IN 46410

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 26. 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Burns Funeral Home & Crematory - Crown Point  
10101 Broadway  
Crown Point, IN 46307  
(219) 769-0044  
info@burnsfuneral.com  
<https://www.burnsfuneral.com/>

## Parastas Service

FEB 26. 4:00 PM (CT)

Burns Funeral Home & Crematory - Crown Point  
10101 Broadway  
Crown Point, IN 46307  
(219) 769-0044  
info@burnsfuneral.com  
<https://www.burnsfuneral.com/>

## Funeral Service

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FEB 27. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Michael's Byzantine Catholic Church  
557 W. 57th Ave.  
Merillville, IN 46410

# Tribute Wall

TH

“ *Im sure my Coach Herbert and Coach will have plenty to talk about .  
My Prayers are with you Tim Herbert*

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**Tim Herbert** - June 18, 2017 at 07:54 PM

JA

“ *Coach Stroia was a terrific man! He was a mentor for me while in  
junior high at Lee Wallace. I will always remember him. God Bless.*

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**John Apolzan** - February 26, 2017 at 05:34 PM

CP

“ *Our deepest sympathy to George's family.  
Memory eternal.*



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**Chris and Doug Pruitt** - February 25, 2017 at 08:50 PM

RH

“ *Our condolences on your loss. George Stroia was a long-time family  
friend. His wit and joviality will be sorely missed, but his memory will  
light the candle in our minds. Our prayers go out to you all.  
Sincerely,  
Ramona Horton-Diaz*

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**Ramona Horton-Diaz** - February 25, 2017 at 12:37 PM

VK

*He was a great person. My mom and dad worked with him on many  
occasions. The first time I met him I knew the kind of person he was.  
Blessings to your family*

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**Victor Kay** - February 26, 2017 at 11:43 AM

LL

“ My deepest condolences to Coach Stroia's family and friends. I played on Cjoach Stroia's Lew Wallace 8th grade basketball team. Even though Coach always kept us on our toes, we always had fun playing for him. Besides being a great coach, he also was an outstanding teacher. Coach will be missed by all.  
Louie Lindinger



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**Louie Lindinger** - February 25, 2017 at 11:15 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. George T. Stroia.



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February 25, 2017 at 10:48 AM

JB

“ Our deepest condolences on your loss. George will be dearly missed. His life accomplishments touched us all. Your Family will be in our thoughts and prayers.



Sincerely, Jaime Brazina and family

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**Jaime Brazina** - February 25, 2017 at 09:09 AM



“ *The Pereny Family - Detroit, MI purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Dr. George T. Stroia.* ”



**The Pereny Family - Detroit, MI** - February 25, 2017 at 08:00 AM



“ *Sapphire Skies Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. George T. Stroia.* ”



February 24, 2017 at 10:15 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. George T. Stroia.* ”



February 24, 2017 at 06:14 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. George T. Stroia.* ”



February 24, 2017 at 01:46 PM