



Francis Mersinger

June 19, 1943 - September 27, 2015

Francis "Ross" Mersinger, 1943-2015

Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever, Psalm 23:6

Sunday, September 27th at 2:03 AM, Francis "Ross" Mersinger, 72, left his earthly body to return to his heavenly home with his Lord and Savior. Left behind to grieve his passing is his loving family including his wife of 46 years, Patricia "Tish" Mersinger, five children; Pamela Mersinger of Chicago, IL, Michael Mersinger (Tracey) of Clarendon Hills, IL, Christopher (Laura) Mersinger of Naperville, IL, Patrick (Summer) Mersinger of Fairfax Station, VA and Joseph Dominic "JD" (Katie) Mersinger of Tampa, FL and mother-in-law, Josephine Ciavonne of Naples, FL. Ross was a proud grandfather, known as Granddad Cookie Monster, to fourteen grandchildren: Lillian, Brett, Charlotte, Peyton, and Brooklyn (Michael & Tracey), Aiden, Ava, and Kaitlyn (Christopher & Laura), Sienna, Sydney, Wyatt, and Drake (Patrick & Summer), Madeline and Dominic (JD & Katie).

Francis Ross Mersinger was born on June 19, 1943 in Baltimore, MD. He grew up on the east coast, attending Loyola Jesuit high school. As a high school baseball athlete, Ross was recruited to the University of Maryland, where he played college baseball and graduated with a degree in engineering. After college, Ross was drafted by the Pittsburgh Pirates, playing on their minor league team, the Batavia/Gastonia Pirates. In July of 1964, Ross pitched a no-hitter for the Gastonia Pirates. In 1966 he was traded to the Chicago Cubs, and played for several teams in their farm systems.

After retiring from baseball due to an injury, Ross began working at United Airlines. As Manager of Charter Marketing, his position required frequent travel, and on one such fortuitous business trip he met a beautiful United Airlines flight attendant, Patricia Ciavonne. They were married on December 29, 1968 and she became the love of his life.

Ross transitioned from the airline industry to the travel industry, serving as the Executive Vice President for Carlson Companies out of Minnetonka, MN, until late spring of 2001.

Upon retirement, Ross and Tish settled in Naples, FL to enjoy the weather and indulge in his favorite pastime, golfing. Not one to sit idle during retirement, Ross soon began working for Lennar Homes where, in 2003, he was named the salesman of the year. Ross continued working for Lennar Homes until his death.

Preceding Ross in death are his beloved father and mother, Francis “ Frank” Mersinger and Mamie Ross Mersinger, and an infant sister Joan Mersinger, as well as his father-in-law, Roxie Theodore “Popie” Ciavonne and brother-in-law, Michael Allen Ciavonne.

A funeral will be held at St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church in Naples, FL on Thursday, October 1st at 10 AM. In lieu of flowers, please consider sending a memorial to Avow Hospice, 1095 Whippoorwill Lane, Naples, FL 34105.

Comments



“ Ross will be missed. It was always so nice to work with another true professional in our industry. Ross will be truly Missed. My heart goes out to Ross and his family ❤️
Bonnie Zaikov

bonnie zaikov - 15 hours ago



“ Tish, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your entire family today. May you take comfort in knowing that Ross is at peace, and will always be watching over you & your family.

Teresa Thompson & Family



Teresa Thompson - Yesterday at 05:53 AM



“ We met Ross and bought a home from him 2 years ago, one of the nicest guys you will ever meet. We are currently looking for another home and he was the 1st person we were just going to call, so sorry for your loss.

The MacLeans - September 30 at 12:32 PM