
Joseph Paul DeMaestri Sr.(1928 - 2016)

Joseph Paul DeMaestri Sr. Born December 9, 1928, passed away peacefully from natural causes on August 26, 2016 in San Rafael. Born in San Francisco, Joe's parents moved to Marin County where Joe attended and graduated from Tamalpais High School. Joe was a standout baseball player at Tam and went on to play shortstop in the major leagues for the Chicago White Sox (1951), St. Louis Browns (1952), Philadelphia and Kansas City Athletics (1953-1959) and New York Yankees (1960-1961). He had a front row seat to watch Maris and Mantle chase Babe Ruth's home run record in 1961. In an 11-season career, Joe was a .236 hitter with 49 home runs and 281 RBI in 1,121 games played. He was a member of the American League All-Star team in 1957 and was a member of the World Champion New York Yankees in 1961. Joe retired from baseball after the '61 season and began working at DeMaestri Distributing Company with his father, Silvio DeMaestri, in 1962. Joe sold the business in 1991. Joe was an avid golfer and member of the Marin Country Club in Novato where the family lived since 1960. Joe was respected by all and held in the highest esteem by those who worked with him or enjoyed his company socially. Joe was happily married to Margot (nee Jehly) for 56 years until her death in 2007 and preceded in death by his parents, Silvio and Lillian DeMaestri. Joe is survived by his devoted children, Christine Lea (Preston), Joe DeMaestri Jr (Julie), and Donna Peltz (Matthew). Joe was adored by his grandchildren Cassandra Dyke, Mandy Selwyn, Margot Lea, Joelle Lea, Lindsey Patrick, Carl Patrick, Jay DeMaestri (Joseph Paul III) and Russell DeMaestri. Joe also leaves six great grandchildren and cousin, Eddie DeMaestri of Fairfax, CA. Friends are invited to a Memorial Service on Wednesday, September 28 at 11:00am at Keaton's Mortuary, 1022 E St., San Rafael with a celebration of life immediately following at San Rafael Joe's, 931 Fourth St., San Rafael. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Marin Humane Society, 171 Bel Marin Keys Blvd, Novato, CA 94949.

Funeral Home**Keaton's Mortuary**

1022 E Street San Rafael, CA 94901
(415) 453-0571

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