

A Celebration of Life



*"I carry you in my heart forever".
Your loving wife,
Marge*

Louis J. Meade

August 17, 1923 - March 22, 2015

Memorial Mass

Saturday, April 11, 2015 - 1:30 p.m.

ST. PATRICK CHURCH
Chatham, New Jersey

Obituary

Louis Jay Meade Sr., loving husband to his wife Margaret, the guiding light to his children Liz, Louis, Mark, Maggie and John, and the inspiration to his grandchildren Lauren, Sean, Alexandra, Kyra, Jack and Haley, passed on to the spiritual phase of life on March 22, 2015. He leaves behind a rich legacy to his family and friends.



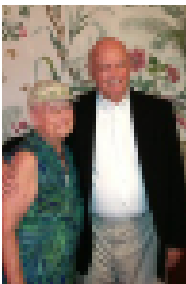
Born in Neponset, Queens in 1923, Louis developed an instant love for the outdoors and the ocean. He served many years as a lifeguard on Rockaway Beach saving countless souls that ventured too far into uncharted waters. He was a great swimmer and athlete and played semi-pro baseball for teams in New York and Long Island. Louis served honorably in WWII in the US Army Air Force and personified what has been called “The Greatest Generation”.

Upon returning home from India after the war, Louis became a New York City policeman. At police headquarters, he met and courted his future beautiful wife, Margaret. After marrying in 1953, Louis and Margaret started a family. Louis and Margaret moved to Brooklyn and raised 5 children together, providing a happy, loving and spiritual home.



Louis retired from the New York City Police force in June of 1970 and embarked in a new career as an Inspector of the US Treasury, Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms Bureau. After many years of providing for his family and serving others, Louis decided to retire and further pursue his education and personal interests.

He enrolled in Kingsboro College and took a physical education course, tennis 101. He became instantly enthralled, and played and excelled at the game for over 30 years.



In 1994, Louis and Margaret moved to Chatham, New Jersey to be nearer to their ever growing family of children and grandchildren. Louis spent many hours doting over his grandchildren and was happy, proud and felt truly blessed on his great fortune in life.

In addition to having strong family ties, Louis met many close and dear friends while playing tennis. He played frequently; sometimes 5 or 6 times a week, and thoroughly enjoyed the comradery.

Louis passed peacefully on March 22nd, 2015, the beginning of spring. His parting message to us is live life, enjoy life, love others, and that he is paving

Today is a day for remembrance and celebration of the life of Louis Jay Meade, Sr.

Although he is not here physically, he will forever be here in spirit watching over us. My Dad was my pillar of strength, my invincible Colossus of Rhodes, my mentor, and my best friend.

He was born in 1923 and lived in Rockaway Queens where he developed a true love for the ocean. He was a lifeguard for many years, saving people with his vigilance and quick action.

He served in WW II and began his police career with the NYPD in the 1950's where he met our beautiful mom. They were married in 1953 and soon there after we became a family of 7. Liz, Lou, Maggie, Mark and John had arrived.

After a few years in Ravenswood Queens we moved to 67-27th Avenue in Brooklyn where he and my mom lived for over 30 years. We shared a two family house with Aunt Theresa and Uncle Gus, and their 4 children Vincent, Mary, Gabrielle and Madeline.

I remember in the summertime as a kid, when my Dad had the 8am to 4pm shift; he would take all of us to Coney Island beach for "moonlight swims". He would load up the station wagon and head to the beach with all 9 kids. Back then the car did not have air conditioning and those sultry days in Brooklyn were unbearable. When asked why we had no AC my dad would simply remark that "We had 4-40 AC-that's four windows down at 40 mph."

We would swim for hours with my Dad standing at the shore watching over us like a sentinel. We felt comforted and confident with him watching us and providing guidance. He would always tell us to "kick your feet" when you are swimming and never turn your back on the ocean. He was always encouraging us to be the best we could be and always look for and try new experiences.

My Dad always was there for me. When I needed corrective eye surgery he would take me to the medical center in Staten Island for many examinations. We would ride the Brooklyn ferry from Owls Head Park and watch the construction workers build the Verrazano Bridge. I always thought it cool that my Dad would show his police badge and get to the head of the ferry line. After the doctor visit we would stop for a hamburger and a chocolate shake. I still remember that special alone time we shared. After we ate at the diner, it was time to go home.

The years went by and my Dad was proud of all of his children earning college degrees and becoming successful in life. He believed that his wife and kids were special and he was a blessed fortunate man. He was overjoyed becoming a grandfather and doting over his grandkids.

In the mid 1990's my Mom and Dad said adios to Brooklyn and moved to Chatham. His second love after family and friends was tennis. He thoroughly enjoyed playing with his friends and played all year round for almost 20 years.

My Dad strongly believed in his family and a better future. My parents took their life savings and invested in companies that we started with never-ending confidence that we would be successful. My Dad is a renaissance man who constantly re-invented himself while never compromising his family values.

My Dad was a pillar of strength, yet a humble man. When his buddies gave him a surprise 90th birthday party at the tennis club he was at a loss for words. He was always doing for others not expecting anything in return.

The child is the father of the man and life comes full circle. Recently while visiting my Dad, he asked if I would bring him a hamburger and a chocolate shake. It was his way of telling me it was almost time for him to leave. He held on through our winter of discontent to give family and friends the opportunity to visit him to say good bye.

My Dad was the smartest man I ever knew. He left this physical world the first day of spring, the season of hope, life, and re-birth. His message to us all gathered here today is love life, love your family and friends and believe there is life ever after.

My Dad knows the best is yet to come!! He is always with me and is here now.

I just want to tell him "I love you Dad".

~ Lou Jr. ~

They were known as the “Greatest Generation” and my father personified that moniker. He was always looking out for others, never afraid to take an action to save a life, or stop a crime, he would never sit while a woman stood, he would never allow a lady to carry anything heavier than her purse. He and my mother invested their very hard earned retirement savings in someone else's dream, and everyone's life was changed. He believed in living life and in adventure and he enjoyed everything he had accomplished. Most precious to him was his family. My father has helped me and my family through every hurdle, every tear and he has been there to celebrate for every joyous occasion. He was my protector to the end. Just last summer he was in his wheelchair chasing a snake through my yard and hunting down that noise we both heard one night. He lived his whole life fearless. He was a tremendous grandfather. Setting up a stand in front of his house for the kids to sell their crafts, he was there to do whatever needed to be done and he loved them so much and he was so proud. They sure loved him and all the special things he did for them like making everyone a blanket and the special French fries he made when he stayed over. He was always encouraging everyone to live fully, take risks and enjoy! Impossible to capture so rich a life in so short a space, My Dad was a man of Honor, Impossibly Strong and Brave. It has been such a very long time since I rode my bike to the train station to meet him after work and he rode me back home on that little bike, it sure went fast. He Had his very own take on the world, Quirky for sure, I will miss him, please keep him in your prayers.

~ Maggie ~

Our grandfather always made us laugh, even if he wasn't trying to, and always had a smile on his face. We were so thankful to be able to travel the world with him and to have him live with us in our home. We were so lucky to have such an active grandfather who loved to play tennis and walk around for hours. We still laugh thinking of the time we finished a long day of shopping which he opted out of in order to enjoy the city, and walked into a random pub to find him sitting there enjoying a beer. We are so proud to call him our grandfather, and he was always there for us at every grandparents day, and recital and play. We enjoyed our time with him so much and will miss hearing those 'special' sounds of him around the house.

~ With Love, Alex, Jack & Haley ~

Order of Service

Celebrated by: Fr. Bob

Gathering Song “Amazing Grace”
by: Pipe and Drum

Liturgy of the Word

1st Reading Psalm 23
Read by: Mark Meade

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 25 #51

2nd Reading - New Testament Romans 12:9-18
Read by: Louis Meade Jr.

Alleluia

Gospel John 14:1-6

Homily

Intercessions Read by: Alex, Jack, Haley, Hariri

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation Song....."On Eagles Wings"

Presentation of the Gifts Alex, Jack, Haley, Hariri,
Lauren & Shawn Meade

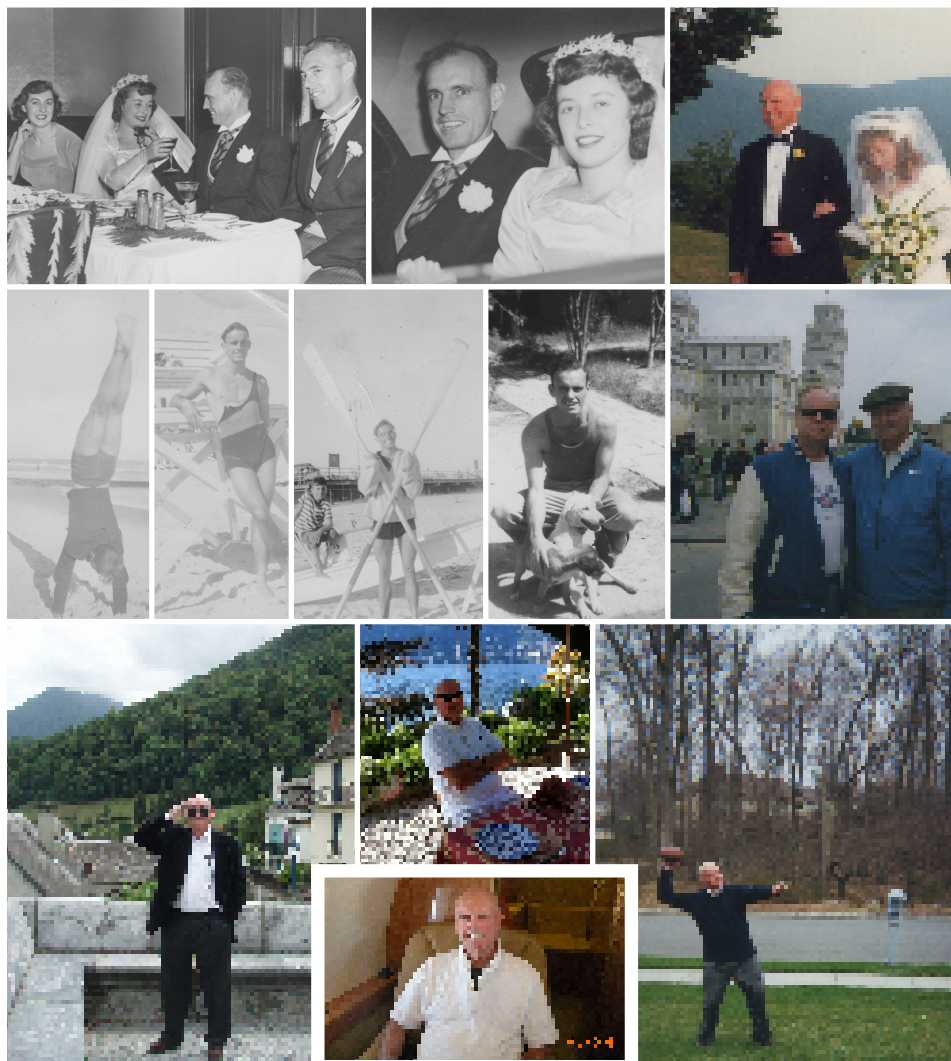
Communion Song “Be Not Afraid”

Final Commendation

Song of Farewell “Danny Boy Farewell”

Eulogy Mark Meade

Recessional Song



Acknowledgement

The family would like to thank those who helped care for Louie with such kindness and respect, Alicja, Dana and Luz. We would also like to thank his friends from tennis who bolstered his spirits with their visits.



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FUNERAL HOME

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