



Clement Peter DeFranco

October 11, 1945 - September 2, 2019

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Clement Peter DeFranco, aged 73, died peacefully on September 2, 2019, in Fresno, California. Clement was born on October 11, 1945, in Elizabeth, New Jersey, the son of Peter “Sam” and Marie “Rosa” DeFranco.

Clement lived life to the very fullest. Born in the Italian-American neighborhood of Elizabeth, known as Peterstown or “The Burg,” Clement grew up surrounded by not only his real family, but by many dear friends who were also considered family. He took great pride in where he was from and the values he was raised with.

Clement moved to Fresno, California in 1973 to be with his father. He worked as a salesman in the automotive industry until retiring in 2009. His daughter Ashley DeFranco was born in 1986.

Clement was happiest when spending time with family and friends. He touched many lives throughout his life. He enjoyed cooking, watching sports, going to the beach, listening to music, and conversing with friends. Clement loved animals. He called himself a “catster” and enjoyed taking care of all the neighborhood kitties whenever he could. While his health started to falter in his later years, he always found the strength to keep going.

Clement was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his sister Daria DeFranco, as well as his daughter Ashley and her husband Anthony Tapney.

The family would like to thank Clement's many friends for all their support, assistance, and love given to Clement throughout his life. Clement's family also asks that in lieu of flowers, memorial donations be made in Clement's honor to the H.O.P.E. Animal Foundation.

Visitation will be held on Monday, September 9, 2019, from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. at Chapel of the Light located at 1620 W. Belmont Avenue, Fresno, California 93728. During the viewing, a prayer service will be held at 10:00 a.m.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 9. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (PT)

Chapel Of The Light
1620 W. Belmont Ave.
Fresno, CA 93728
(559) 233-6254
<https://www.chapelofthelight.com/>

Funeral Service

SEP 9. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (PT)

Chapel Of The Light
1620 W. Belmont Ave.
Fresno, CA 93728
(559) 233-6254
<https://www.chapelofthelight.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ I love you Clem and miss you!! If any family member reads this I have lost touch with his daughter Ashley. Please send me a contact email or number if you can please 🙏 John Lindsey in Madera Ca 559-474-0868 thank you

John Lindsey - October 05, 2025 at 11:26 PM



“ Clement Peter DeFranco

September 15, 2022 at 09:34 PM



“ I met Clement on Facebook many years ago. There was an instant connection and bond. We talked about so many things over the years. He always told me he loved me and my Gracie. I always told him the same. There is an empty spot in my heart. I miss him so much. However, a much bigger portion of my heart will always hold Clem and memories. He was an awesome man and wonderful friend. As sad as it is that he is not here, any thought of him brings a smile to my face. Clem, you're always in my prayers and at my local church you will always be remembered. Gracie and I will always love you. Rest easy and one day we will meet. I'm counting on you to find me and Gracie. ❤️❤️❤️
Geri Elizabeth

Geri Elizabeth - October 07, 2019 at 07:24 PM

JO

“ My name is Joseph P. Caudillo, at the services Ashley , spoke as eloquently as her Father, and after she had shared her memories, I had to stand and deliver. My Memory of Clem was when he was getting a Heart Check up. It had been a year and his Dr. told him not to over stress himself....so no Sex!!
After his check up the Dr says he looks fine. The Dr left the Room and Clem says I forgot to ask him, he said I couldn't have sex, Please nurse could you ask to Dr if it would be okay to have Sex its been a year. The nurse goes to talk to the DR, Clem says what did the Dr say is it okay to have sex?? . The nurse looks at Clem and says its okay to have sex. Clem says Great.....CLOSE THE DOOR!

Joseph - September 10, 2019 at 03:49 PM

RC

uncle clemm rest in peace will be missed up in heaven with father and my grandfather Pete puggy Caruso. Rip !!

robert caruso - March 15, 2024 at 04:04 PM

AC

“ You be

Amelia and Bob Collina - September 09, 2019 at 10:34 AM

VG

“ *Paris, France August 1972*

*Clem,
So many great memories. Never going to forget you. Rest In Peace
my friend.
-Jules*



Vincent Giuliano - September 08, 2019 at 12:17 PM

CD

“ *Clement and I were friends on Facebook, but I felt as if we had known each other all our lives. He shared so many memories of our hometown Elizabeth that always made me homesick. In spite of the health problems he had, he always kept his sense of humor and would keep us laughing with his posts and comments. I phoned him once when I was worried about him and he told me it was such a wonderful surprise that he would never forget. I wish now that I had called him more often... Rest in peace, my dear friend, with no more pain or suffering.. I have and will always pray for you every night.*

Clare Doyle - September 08, 2019 at 12:23 AM

AE

“ Clement,,,,I Will Greatly Miss Your Facebook Friendship As I Have Always Enjoyed Your Posts My Friend,,,,,!!!
Also,,,,,I Will Miss Sending Out Post Cards To You Along My Travels,,,,
Say,,,,,When Ya Get Settled Up In Heaven,,,,,Send Me A P.M. With Your New "Pearly Gates" Address So We Can Continue,,,,,!!!!
You'll Always Be Remembered Buddy,!!!!
Love Ya,,!!!
Alan Ende.

Alan Ende - September 07, 2019 at 06:57 PM

GS

“ I am Clem's first cousin, Greg Stone. (His mom and my dad were siblings.) I had lost touch with him back in the 70s but we reconnected within the past few months. We had a great live conversation on the phone and exchanged many messages on Facebook. Despite his declining health, he managed to make us all laugh because he often told jokes at his own expense. I hope he rests in peace, in power and in paradise. Long live Clement DeFranco!

Greg Stone - September 07, 2019 at 06:06 PM

JG

“ Clemy goes back with our family from many years with my children and especially my oldest Vincent. My late husband Wings, cared for him very much as well as our entire family which he became a part of. So much fun with him over the years and he will always have a soft spot in my heart. Until we meet again, love Janet Guiliano and Family

Janet Guiliano - September 07, 2019 at 05:23 PM

NG

“ Clem,
So many great memories. Never going to forget you. Rest In Peace
my friend.
-Jules



Nick Giuliano - September 07, 2019 at 04:43 PM

LH

“ Clem : We will miss you at Easter and especially at Christmas Eve
when we play Bingo!

Larry and Esther Hochderffer - September 07, 2019 at 03:19 PM

TG

“ To know clemmy was to love clemmy.a truly one of a kind man . You
will be missed my brother
Thomas guiliano

Thomas guiliano - September 06, 2019 at 07:58 PM

DM

“ Clem you were fun rest in peace. Dave Miller

Dave Miller - September 06, 2019 at 04:23 PM

JM

“ Well Clem, from the neighborhood (the burg) with many hilarious stories, to Woodstock, to the many TRIPS to Freehold raceway with tips and \$ Rosa provided, to the few days we spent together last year my memories will always be of your smiling face and how u in only your way could raise a smile and provide a laughable comment. Until we meet again keep and u say “Joe what took u so long” love ya my dear friend 🥰

Joe Marino - September 06, 2019 at 10:27 AM

DD

“ REST IN PEACE MY PRECIOUS COUSIN. I LOVE YOU.

Doug Dimperio - September 06, 2019 at 09:39 AM

DH

“ Clemmy was one of the funniest people I have ever met, with the kindest heart and soul. He always reminded me that he prayed daily for my husband. That meant so much to me. Now I will do the same for him. I will NEVER forget. ❤️ Fly high my friend.

debbie harris - September 06, 2019 at 08:44 AM



“ My favorite memory of Clem was when we all stayed together in the same place during his daughter's wedding and we would sneak outside for a quick smoke and we shared some awesome conversations about how extremely proud he was of his daughter, our love for animals and our love for music. He shared with me what it was like to be young and living during the 50's and 60's and told me which bands were his all time favorites. During the past few months we chatted many times about our failing health and about how precious life and time is..... No matter how bad he was feeling himself, he always had time to tell me he was thinking about me and my health and wished me the very best. He will be missed by many..... RIP Clem..... I am happy that I got the Chance to know you..... Until we meet again..... Prayers lifted for the entire family!



Destrie Rathwick - September 06, 2019 at 02:55 AM

JL

“ Clem was a man of many talents. He was a superstar car salesman and could really sell Anything! Clem’s biggest achievement was his daughter Ashley who he could not stop talking about How much he adores her and her husband. I came along way to late in the game meeting Clem in 2006. But from that day he sold us my daughters car then two more to friends, we had a bond. We connected years later and became great friends. I knew Clem had many health issues but even during my three surgeries he would call me and see how I was doing, always cared for people in need. He was an animal lover and when his wonderful pet passed away I came to pick him up at his apartment and we took his dear pet to my moms. I dug a grave and he placed in a beautiful blanket into its resting place. Buried and placed a wonderful white crystal rock for its marker as he cried we both cried. We revisited the grave a yr later. Clem enjoyed good food and he was a well dressed man. Always looked like a star, sunglasses, shoes all the best for a man that struggled to put food in his table or pay his bills, but could find money for his cats and anyone down on their luck would get his last dollar. God bless HMU sir! I loved you a short time but now forever

John Lindsey - September 05, 2019 at 11:59 PM

DO

“ So sorry for your loss ...our hearts and prayers go out to the family. Stories of Clemmie from my husband are priceless. Love and prayers John and Doreen Sacco

Doreen - September 05, 2019 at 04:54 PM

PA

Clem, you were one of a kind. Always making everyone laugh even when you were hurting yourself. God broke the mold when He created you. I loved our chats via fb, always filled with love and humor. Till we meet again, dear Clem, rest safely in the arms of Jesus. You were one special, special man 🥹

patricia altobelli - September 08, 2019 at 05:09 PM

VM

Clemmie, you will be missed. I enjoyed our phone calls and how we would reminiscence about the ole neighborhood. I have so many funny memories of you that would take forever to write about. You cared for all of our friends who passed and we'd talk about just about every topice possible. I prayed for your health daily and now you are moved from those who need healing to those who are enjoying the splendor og Heaven. Love you

Vincent Malta - September 08, 2019 at 06:24 PM