



## Lawrence Ramalho M.D.

March 29, 1941 - July 8, 2022

Dr. Lawrence Ramalho, or Dr. Larry, as he was often called, of Fresno, California, died peacefully in his sleep of natural causes on the morning of July 8, 2022. He was 81 years old. In his own words, he had “lived a great life.”

Larry was born in Perth Amboy, N.J. to Larry DaSilva Ramalho and Mary Elizabeth (Csirke) Ramalho. He attended grade school and worked in his father’s fish store until he was 12 years old. His family then moved across the country to settle in Fresno, California, where they owned a vineyard near Kerman. It was through raising animals on the ranch and participating in 4H that he developed a great love for animals which continued throughout his life.

Larry was an altar boy at St. Patrick’s Catholic Church, where his mother’s cousin, Rev. Francis Tacy was the pastor. It was here he discovered a talent for singing, and was a highly sought-after wedding singer. He was an eloquent spokesman, and won many awards giving speeches. Larry graduated from Central Union High School, and went on to Fresno State, earning a B.S. in Chemistry. He worked for the FDA as a food inspector while working his way through college. Receiving many scholarships and grants, he attended medical school at the prestigious Washington University Medical School in St. Louis, MO. It was here that he met a young nursing student from St. Louis, Nanette Lavon Saracini. After graduation in 1967, Larry and Nanette were

married and he brought her to Fresno to start his internship and four-year surgical residency at Valley Medical Center. They had two children while in Fresno, Lara Anne Ramalho (Ragsdale, Richard) and Barrett (Barry) Jay Ramalho. Larry had two grandsons, Zachary Ragsdale of Houston, and Jared Ragsdale of Fresno.

During the VietNam War, Major Larry Ramalho served two years at Beale Air Force Base near Sacramento as Chief of Surgery, treating the pilots of the SR-71 spy plane and the B-52 Fighter Wing. It was at Beale AFB that he earned his pilot's license. Larry was a Board Certified General Surgeon, and completed his Board Certification of Colon and Rectal Surgery under the residency of Dr. Eugene Salvati in New Jersey in affiliation with Rutgers University.

Dr. Ramalho returned to Fresno with his young family and started his colon and rectal surgical practice in 1975. He was on staff at St. Agnes Hospital, Community Hospital, and Clovis Hospital. He was a member of the Fresno-Madera Medical Society during his career, and in retirement he maintained his medical license for concierge medicine until his passing. One important note, Dr. Ramalho was the first physician to bring the practice of colonoscopy to the Central Valley; and because of colonoscopy, many lives were saved.

Nanette and Larry divorced in 1985, but remained good friends until his death. They always stood as a solid base for their children and grandchildren. Larry remarried and divorced one more time. Nanette married Gerald V. Lyles in 1988. The Lyles family was very gracious in accepting Larry at their family events, and Larry provided kind medical attention to many of the Lyles' relatives.

Dr. Larry was passionate about exercise, nutrition, and keeping a positive mental outlook. He passed his time writing books on those topics, sailing,

playing with his dogs, and traveling. His favorite destinations were Palm Desert, Carmel By-The-Sea, and Europe. He was also very proud of his Portuguese and Hungarian heritage. He was a unique and kind man, a doctor with a great bedside manner, and a good friend to many. He will be greatly missed by his family and all who knew him.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Lawrence Ramalho M.D.*

September 15, 2022 at 09:34 PM



“ *Larry, you were a wonderful brother-in-law to me for many years. Your kindness and that of your mother and father in welcoming me during my visit to Fresno will never be forgotten. Go to God - Love, Sue Saracini Jochens*

**Sue Saracini Jochens** - August 24, 2022 at 04:24 PM



“ *I knew Dr Larry here in the Desert . I played Polo and he often came to watch . He set up a Tent on Sundays and invited all his friends to enjoy his gracious hospitality . He was kind and generous with his time and knowledge, whether it was a medical problem or just life in general. He was an accomplished surgeon, intelligent ,handsome with a winning smile and love of life and those around him. He was a Class Act and one of a kind. God Bless*

**Trish Fitzgerald** - August 01, 2022 at 06:20 PM

SB

*Dr Larry was my dearest friend in the world.  
My heart will hold his friendship always.  
His kindness and gifts to humanity will not be forgotten.  
He saved many lives and touched many souls.  
He was an angel on earth and Heaven has been graced with a beautiful, bright light.  
Susan Bennett 🍷💕😭*

**susan bennett** - August 07, 2022 at 04:34 PM