



## Humbert "Zap" Zappia

July 6, 1962 - October 9, 2018

Humbert "Zap" Zappia of Rock Hall, MD, passed away on Tuesday, October 9, 2018, at his home. He was 56.

Born on July 6, 1962, in Charleston, WV, Zap was the son of the late Albert Zappia and Doris Lorene Adkins Zappia of Logan, WV. He graduated from Logan High School in 1980, earned his Bachelor's and Master's Degree at Marshall University. He served in the Army National Guard was honorably discharged in 1985.

Zap worked with the United States Geological Survey as a Biologist in Baltimore and then in Alabama. Mr. Zappia then worked as an Epidemiologist in West Virginia and finally as a Public Health Advisor with the CDC, where he was currently head of the Mid-Atlantic Region. On July 6, 1996, he married Sandra Marie Bullinger of Arbutus, MD. The couple and their children lived in Alabama and West Virginia before moving back to Kent County, MD in 2017. Mr. Zappia was a member of Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Parish. He enjoyed fishing, birding, hiking, and WWII history.

In addition to his wife, Sandy, and his mother, he is survived by two sons, Michael and Joseph Zappia; a daughter, Marie Zappia all of Rock Hall, MD; and a brother, Harold Zappia of West Virginia.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, October 19, 2018, at 11:00 am, at Blessed Sacrament Parish in South Charleston, WV. In lieu of flowers, please spends some extra time with your family today.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Humbert "Zap" Zappia*



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**Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home** - October 16, 2018 at 05:32 PM

SW

*Beautiful*

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**shannon Workman** - October 17, 2018 at 02:00 PM

JF

*The video was so sweet. He will be sadly missed. Prayers for Sandy and the kids.*

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**Jenae Ferrari** - October 19, 2018 at 06:02 AM

AS

*Zap and I were teammates at CDC and started about the same time. We had many conversations about work, family and our Italian heritage. He always tried, to no avail, to teach me some Italian words. He had a common sense approach and passion to our work in public health unparalleled to any other. He had such a big heart and from our conversations, I know loved his family terribly. I am just heartbroken for the loss of a good soul. Rest in peace my friend.*

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**Amy Stewart** - October 19, 2018 at 07:45 AM



“ *Humbert "Zap" Zappia*

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October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ Humbert "Zap" Zappia

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ Humbert "Zap" Zappia

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ I had the honor and pleasure of working with Zap at the USGS in Baltimore. A day out in the field working with Zap didn't seem like work at all. Just being around him made my whole day feel better. The tribute video was spot on. He sure loved the outdoors. To his family, please accept my sincere condolences on this huge loss.

Dan Phelan  
USGS, retired, Baltimore

Dan Phelan - February 10, 2019 at 10:26 AM



“ I worked with Zap in West Virginia 2004-2006. I very much appreciated his intelligence and humor and we'd kept up with each other over the past 12 years. Zap spoke often of his family and how special they were to him. Please know that Zap made many good friends who miss him dearly.

Julie Sinclair - November 01, 2018 at 02:14 PM

MW

“ Mike Woodside lit a candle in memory of Humbert "Zap" Zappia



Mike Woodside - October 19, 2018 at 01:49 PM



“ Thoughts and prayers. Zap was a smart and kind man.



Anna Sites - October 18, 2018 at 09:59 PM



“ I first met Zap when he interviewed for the position at CDC and was immediately impressed with his warmth, sense of humor and passion for the work we did. I had the pleasure of working with him for a few years to help advance the public health preparedness program in West Virginia, and we made great progress in large part because of his passion, dedication, and genuine care about the well being of the people in West Virginia! We are heartbroken to hear of his passing and our hearts go out to his family and friends on their loss. Rest in peace my friend - you will sorely be missed by your colleagues at CDC!



Glen Christie - October 18, 2018 at 06:16 PM

TE

“ Our family has lost a sweet and loving soul. My husband Dave is Humbert’s cousin. They spent many happy summers together growing up. There are no words that will comfort or lessen this tragic loss, but I know he loved and was so proud of his wife and children. He loved his mother and father and brother too with all he had, as well as the rest of his extended family. He was smart, well versed, an outdoor guy, a true gentlemen. We love you Humbert always and forever. Your father will be there waiting for you to embrace you into the kingdom.

*Terry and David Stone*

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**terry** - October 18, 2018 at 12:29 PM

LE

“ Linda Eddy lit a candle in memory of Humbert  
"Zap" Zappia



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**Linda Eddy** - October 18, 2018 at 08:50 AM

KM

“ I met Humbert only a couple years ago, after I started dating his nephew.

Though I didn't get to spend a ton of time with him since then, whenever I did get to see him he made me smile. He would poke fun at me and I'd watch his eyes light up as I returned his playful sarcasm. Right off the bat I knew he was friendly, kind, caring, and humorous - characteristics that made me look forward to seeing him again.

I've been able to witness how much he means to this family, and know he will be strongly missed by everyone - myself included. We all love you Humbert. Rest easy.

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**Kaitlyn Mauck** - October 18, 2018 at 01:00 AM

TF

“ Added by Tammy



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**Tammy Endicott Franklin** - October 17, 2018 at 11:47 PM

TF

“*Memories of Humbert and I go back a very long way. For those that do not know we are cousins. Our maternal grandfathers were brothers. Humbert and I were not first cousins but he was always number one with me. He and I shared many a weekend together, especially during our teen years. We spent a lot of time in the creek and on the mountain behind my home. We enjoyed discussing everything we could think of...life, fish, snakes, birds, dogs, wildlife, and especially people. He loved it out where I lived. We lived so far out that many people would bring dogs and leave them. Humbert loved the animals and his best buddies were the dogs. Lord he loved to play with those dogs.*

*Another memory, We both lost weight (I before him). I married and had a child first. It didn't matter that I went first he still was there to cheer me. Humbert met his beautiful Sandi and had 3 beautiful children. As we know "Everybody needs somebody to love." Please listen to this song by the Blues Brothers. Which leads me to the next memory.*

*Humbert was also a wonderful Blues Brother impersonator at Logan Senior High School. Now you cannot be a Blues Brother without the hat and that hat .....well let me say I cannot look at a Fedora hat without laughing and that is laughter that has lasted 40 plus years. This brings me to this memory that I will not share entirely but let me share this. Imagine parents asleep and being awakened during the night to Humbert dancing and singing in his hat and dark sunglasses doing a Blues Brother routine with 3 girls sitting on the couch watching him. I thought he is going to be a comedian.*

*Another memory is that my dad was very strict but he loved Humbert as if he were his own son, so this love allowed me more freedom when accompanied by Humbert. Humbert and I had each other's back for sure. I remember Loraine saying something similar to this "I believe if one of those two committed a crime one would cover for the other." We never committed any crimes but we did discuss people as I wrote above. I have so many memories with him. I will miss him so much, but I know he still has my back. Read*

*Matthew 5: 37-48 because reading this will give you a picture of us as children discussing the world with both good and evil within it and how we felt.*

*Tammy Endicott Franklin*

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**Tammy Endicott Franklin** - October 17, 2018 at 11:44 PM

TF

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Tammy Endicott Franklin** - October 17, 2018 at 11:44 PM

TF

“ *Humbert and Brittany Franklin.*

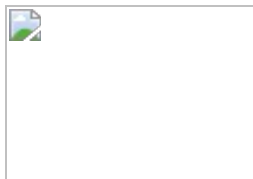


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**Tammy Endicott Franklin** - October 17, 2018 at 11:36 PM

TF

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Tammy Endicott Franklin** - October 17, 2018 at 11:33 PM

DH

“ I first met Humbert several years ago on a visit to Morgantown. He struck me as friendly, funny, and smarter than than most—a great guy. I hope those who knew him well will share memories here as a way to help keep Humbert in our minds and hearts.

To Humbert / Zap's family and close friends, I'm so sorry for your loss and hope you find peace.

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**Dana Hayward** - October 17, 2018 at 07:05 PM

SS

“ I haven't seen Humbert in many years, yet the abiding impression he left is one of friendship, humor, generosity, and love. He was open, welcoming, and left a sense of warmth that stuck with you long after he had left. We were lucky to have him in our world, and to retain his legacy now that he is gone. The best way I can think of to celebrate his life and his passing is to appreciate everyone we love while they are here. Hug them, hold them close, and tell them what they mean to us. Thank you, Humbert.

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**Steve Saffel** - October 17, 2018 at 03:37 PM

CS

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Chuck Strain** - October 17, 2018 at 09:21 AM

CH

Zap could always make you laugh!

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**Chuck** - October 17, 2018 at 03:28 PM

LI

“ I met Humbert many years ago when I started dating his older brother Harold. Zap was so much fun! Once he got to know you and love you, you were forever part of his circle. He gave me four great gifts when he married Sandy-the gifts were an amazing and loving sister-in-law, followed by precious nephews and a niece. He loved Sandy so much, and she was the best wife a man could have. Rest easy, Humbert. We'll watch over them. I love you so much!

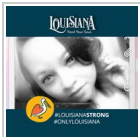
Lisa - October 17, 2018 at 08:06 AM

SH

“ I have been neighbors with his family for the last 30 years and they feel like my family. So sad that he is no longer with us and he will surely be missed by all who knew and loved him. May you rest in peace Humbert and we'll see you on the other side!



Sharon Hopkins - October 16, 2018 at 09:39 PM



“ Zap!!! I am so Bless to have had the opportunity to work with you during my time in OPHPR! We shared some awesome stories about family and WVa 😊 we laughed about time and attendance or we didn't get paid... so many stories~ my condolences to the family and knowing you will be truly missed~



Kim Milligan Beasley - October 16, 2018 at 03:03 PM

TJ

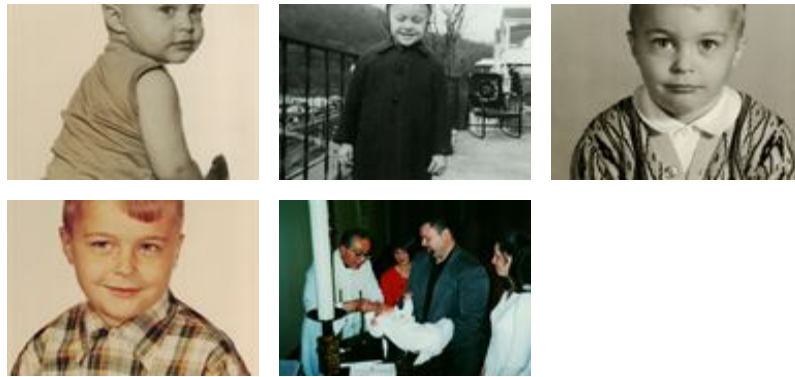
“ Zap, It was a pleasure to know you and to work with you. I did so enjoy talking to you about the challenges of West Virginia and the great work you were doing there. You will be very much missed by all of us. God bless you and your family. Tom Jackson

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**Tom Jackson** - October 16, 2018 at 02:50 PM



“ 264 files added to the album LifeTributes



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**Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home** - October 16, 2018 at 02:39 PM

AH

“ Zap, Although we only worked together a few times, it was an absolute pleasure to meet and know you. I specifically remembered the time we both served on the interview panel for the Deputy Director position. You were such a warm and gentle spirit. My prayers and condolences to the family.

*Andrea Harris  
(CDC/DSLRL colleague)*

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**Andrea Harris** - October 16, 2018 at 02:14 PM

DD

“ Zapp, you will be missed. I so enjoyed your passion for the job and for humankind in general. You had a wonderful heart and the world is surely a better place because of the contributions you made in your lifetime.

*Dee Dee Downie  
(former CDC/DSLR colleague)*

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**Dee Dee Downie** - October 16, 2018 at 10:49 AM

GO

“ So sorry I just loved him used to come into Murphy's and talk to me at the restaurant RIP myfriend

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**Gail Owsley** - October 15, 2018 at 09:55 PM

NC

“ Family of Helen and Otis Stone, so sorry for your loss, your family is in our thoughts and prayers, Mom and Dad always enjoyed visiting with your family



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**Nancy Cain** - October 15, 2018 at 09:31 PM



“ So sorry for your Loss Prayers for the Family



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**Robin Slice** - October 15, 2018 at 05:29 PM



“ *Sandy, Michael, Joseph and Marie. My deepest condolences to you. I'm very sorry for you loss.*

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**Lisa Mattox-Richmond** - October 15, 2018 at 04:11 PM

VN

“ *Thoughts and Prayers are with Sandy and the family in this most difficult time. Our hearts go out to them 🌸🌸🌸*

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**Vada Beckner Newman** - October 15, 2018 at 03:00 PM

CW

“ *Humbert was my very first friend before we ever went to elementary school. He lived two doors down from me. I have good memories of him. I cant wait to see him again in heaven.*

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**Cindy Powell Wickham** - October 15, 2018 at 01:52 PM

FW

“ *So sorry to Harold AND Doris worked many years across from family shoe repair at Silver Brand Clothes saddened for your loss. Frances Wilburn*

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**Frances Wilburn** - October 15, 2018 at 12:42 PM

JS

“ *I have some land on Jim Ridge, before you turned off of Jim Ridge to your placed.  
I got to know Zap when I was the state Veterinarian and he was with the health department. We talked often about getting together after work but never did. I was heart broken to hear of his passing. We now can get together in Heaven in a few years.  
My prayers are with the family.  
Joe Starcher, DVM.*

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**Joe Starcher** - October 15, 2018 at 10:42 AM

LW

“ I worked with Zap at WVDHHR. He was a smart and interesting guy. I remember him talking about diving in the natural springs in Crystal River, FL, manatee country. Extending my sincere sympathies to Zap's family.

Linda J. Winkel - October 15, 2018 at 10:25 AM

AE

“ Andrea Edwards lit a candle in memory of Humbert "Zap" Zappia



Andrea Edwards - October 15, 2018 at 09:25 AM

SJ

“ I'll remember ZAP the most for our one fishing trip which we talked about long before we went. Once we got on the river, it was an incredible day talking about our families...children and the future. As a CDC Public Health Advisor, I shared stories from my various assignments. We last spoke several months ago but I'll always treasure the times we talked. Rest In Peace my friend.

Samuel W Crosby, Jr - October 15, 2018 at 07:18 AM

SP

“ Sherry Lynn Pauley lit a candle in memory of Humbert "Zap" Zappia



Sherry Lynn Pauley - October 15, 2018 at 06:57 AM

SW

“ I met Zap working at the DHHR in Charleston, he was a nice and intelligent and great person to be around. We talked a lot about family and Logan county. I'm sadden for the family he loved at this time, lots of prayers and hugs to the family. I know he will be missed by many.

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**shannon Workman** - October 14, 2018 at 10:35 PM

CO

“ Incredibly intelligent and hard working. He was also such a gentle, warm and caring person. He was truly one of a kind and will be missed by all those who had been blessed to call him a friend and colleague.

*We will always treasure the memories of the many family camping trips and river floats together.*

*Brad and Michelle Cochran*

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**cochrans** - October 14, 2018 at 06:16 PM

CS

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Chuck Strain** - October 14, 2018 at 06:06 PM

CS

“ I am terribly saddened to hear of the passing of My Friend, Zap. To Sandy, Michael, Joseph and Marie...I send my deepest condolences and prayers.



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**Chuck Strain** - October 14, 2018 at 05:50 PM

BS

“ I am so sorry to hear of my old friend Humbert's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with the family. I will always remember the good times he and I had.

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**Benjie Staton** - October 14, 2018 at 02:54 PM

TW

“ He was a brilliant epidemiologist and an incredible public servant. The world lost a good man in “Zap.” Prayers for his family and friends ,and his public health family and colleagues. He did so much for WV during his time there. May he RIP.

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**Toby W** - October 14, 2018 at 02:38 PM

GE

“ So sad to hear of Humberts passing. I have nothing but wonderful memories of him throughout high school. Deepest condolences to the family.

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**Gee Gee Eplin** - October 14, 2018 at 11:13 AM

SV

“ My condolences and sympathy to the Zappia family on the early, untimely loss of your loved one. I worked a bit with him, on behalf of the FBI, in a liaison capacity, when he worked as an epidemiologist for the State of WV. He was a good guy, a gentleman, and a true professional. I was sorry to read of his passing in the Charleston paper. May friends and a strong faith sustain you during this sad time, and may you be blessed with a wealth of warm, loving memories that never leave you. God bless and may Humbert rest in peace always in the loving arms of the Lord.

Steven M. Viglianco  
FBI Special Agent, retired

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**Steven Viglianco** - October 14, 2018 at 11:07 AM

JS

“ You will be missed my friend....

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**Jim and Yolanda Sowards** - October 14, 2018 at 08:22 AM

JG

“ All of us in the Baltimore USGS office were fortunate to know and work with Zap. His enthusiasm for his work and his enjoyment of his colleagues will always be remembered. We will miss him greatly.

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**Jim Gerhart** - October 13, 2018 at 09:56 PM

MB

“ May God hold him in the hollow of his hand , and may God give comfort to his family.

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**Mike and Paula Bullinger** - October 13, 2018 at 06:03 PM

EV

“ He will be missed . Praying for strength for his family in their time of need .



Ethel (Tina) Varney - October 13, 2018 at 05:43 PM

AC

“ Allie Clay lit a candle in memory of Humbert "Zap" Zappia



Allie Clay - October 13, 2018 at 01:37 PM

BE

“ Bonnie Edwards lit a candle in memory of Humbert "Zap" Zappia



Bonnie Edwards - October 11, 2018 at 08:38 PM

LL

Zap was one of a kind and will be greatly missed. Thoughts and prayers for the family.

Lisa Lewis - October 14, 2018 at 10:08 AM

JS

May God bless and provide comfort to this family during this time. Rest in peace, my friend.

J. Simmons - October 15, 2018 at 07:02 AM

KF

*I worked with Zap at DHHR. So many others have written great descriptions of Zap, and of the love and care needed by his wife and children.*

*To his children: please talk about your loss with friends and family. Don't bottle up all those feelings. Your father loved you so much.*

*To his wife: You are so lucky to have been married to a man like Zap. I hope you find comfort in your memories of life with him. He was an extraordinary man, and I was always glad to be around him.*

*Rest in peace, Zap, such a gentle, kind soul. Heaven just got a very special angel.*

*Kim Fetty*

*Charleston, WV*

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**Kim Fetty** - October 16, 2018 at 04:04 PM