

## Leonard Michael Insalaco

February 9, 1940 - April 23, 2011

Leonard Michael Insalaco, 71, a seven-year resident of Kent Island, formerly of Howard County, passed away at home on April 23, 2011 after a long battle with cancer.

Leonard was born February 9, 1940 in Pittston, PA to the late, Michael and Concetta Lombardo Insalaco. From the age of two, he resided in Buffalo, NY and attended Grover Cleveland High School. In 1971 Leonard he moved to Columbia, MD where he worked as a staff member of Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center. He and his wife, Brenda, built a home in Lisbon, MD where they enjoyed 20 years together enjoying country living. Leonard was employed with Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority beginning in 1979 and retired after 26 years of service.

After retiring, Leonard continued to lead an active life. He enjoyed exploring the Chesapeake Bay in his boat, kayaking, and walking the beach to gather sea glass. Leonard loved traveling with his wife and visiting his children and grandchildren.

Leonard will be dearly missed by his loving wife, Brenda (Navarre); five children, Linda Del Toro and her husband, Edward of Scottsdale, AZ, Donna Striecher and her husband, James of Temecula, CA, Steven Insalaco and his wife, Shannon of Scottsdale, AZ, Cicely McElwain and her husband, Bryan of

Salisbury, MD, and Mikahla Insalaco and her fiancé, Jeremy Jestes of Woodstock, MD; grandchildren, Matthew and Andrew Del Toro, Ryan and Tess Striecher, Anthony and Gemma Insalaco, and Wyeth, Gabriel, and Jonah McElwain; sisters all of Buffalo, Theresa Catalano and her husband, Paul, Josephine Marranco and her husband, Michael, Maria Sterlace, and Gemma LaMonte, and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, Leonard was preceded in death by his brothers, Samuel and Joseph Insalaco.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Hospice of Queen Anne's County, 255 Comet, Centreville, MD 21617.

A private memorial service will be held.

# Tribute Wall



“ Leonard Michael Insalaco

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ Leonard Michael Insalaco

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ Leonard Michael Insalaco

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“Let’s do this thing”

*That is what Leonard would say prior to any activity we were about to embark on.*

*Meg and I have had the pleasure of being friends with Leonard for almost 40 years. We participated in the home birth of Cicely and watched her grow from a high school tuba player to be an accomplished woman, a loving mother as well as a successful provider and teacher in her profession. We witnessed the budding relationship between Leonard and Brenda, and witnessed their romance blossom from dating, to living together, to marriage, building a home with their own hands, and giving birth to Mikahla, a beautiful woman, both inside and out. We witnessed their joy, and shared their sadness. We were at their small, beautiful wedding under a tree outside our friend, Meree’s house. We visited Leonard and Brenda at the hospital when Mikahla was born. They visited us at the hospital when our daughter, Tracy was born. We saw good times and bad. We matured and grew older together. We had the honor of watching Leonard draw his last breath.*

*I first met Leonard in the early 70’s at Grassroots Crises intervention Center in Columbia, Maryland. He was the charismatic dude who arrived from Buffalo in an old Volvo and always had lots of female friends. At Grassroots, Leonard was a trainer and I was a jail counselor. Meg remembers a time when I was on vacation and Leonard was interviewing inmates at the old Howard County jail in Ellicott City. An inmate said to Leonard:*

*“Boy, we thought Ringel was ugly, but you’re uglier”*

*Leonard and I did a lot of photography together. He directed me in the building of a darkroom in the basement of a home I was renting. He also added his two hands to the difficult dodging techniques I used when printing one of Cicely’s birth photos. But, most of all, I remember walking in the woods taking photos:*

*One day we were walking on a path in the woods with Meg's dog Moonshadow following us. We came to a large puddle of water covering the path. Leonard, of course, walked straight through the puddle with me following. Moonshadow had the good sense to walk around the puddle before returning to the path. Our shoes got soaked while Moonshadow stayed dry.*

*In February 1989, Brenda, Leonard, a very pregnant Meg and I went to the movies. Once outside, I asked Leonard what he wanted for his upcoming birthday. He said "a baby". Tracy was born 3 days later on Leonard's birthday – February 9th.*

*We took both families to a cabin in West Virginia one Halloween. Meg was washing baby Tracy in the kitchen sink while Leonard was sneaking a smoke outside. I was videotaping the bath. When he came into the cabin, Brenda must have smelled the cigarette smoke because the next thing I knew she had found his cigarettes and dumped them in the sink next to Tracy and was berating Leonard for smoking. Baby Tracy wasn't sure what to make of this event. We have this captured on videotape.*

*Leonard loved Brenda, his children and their families. He was the brother I never had. Let me end with:*

*"Brother, I love you, let's do this thing."*

*Norm Ringel*

*Meg Friedman*

*April 30, 2011##imported-begin##Norm Ringel & Meg  
Friedman##imported-end##*

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April 30, 2011 at 08:00 PM



“ Oh ...I am so very sad to hear of Leonard's passing. He was a great influence in my life, and because he touched my my life I have become who I am today. I send my love to Brenda, Mikahla, Cicely and the rest of the family. My thoughts and prayers go out to you all. Rest in peace my friend... you will truely be missed. LOVE you all Noel.##imported-begin##Noel Bretz##imported-end##

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April 28, 2011 at 10:02 PM



“ He was a great man, humble and kind. We always enjoyed visiting with him, he will be so missed by his entire family.##imported-begin##Anne Marie and Michael Bauman##imported-end##

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April 27, 2011 at 07:24 PM



“ Dear Brenda, Mikahla & Family,

*We are deeply saddened by the loss of Leonard!! He was a very thoughtful, caring, sensitive & loving brother-in-law who will be deeply missed.*

*We treasure the memories of family times spent together and those special quality moments we shared.*

*We are holding each of you close in our hearts at this sad & difficult time and pray that you will find comfort & peace in the days ahead.*

*We love you & will always love & hold Leonard dear to our hearts knowing that he is now in a peaceful & pain free place.*

*With all of our love,  
Dave & Sherry##imported-begin##Dave & Sherry  
Holmes##imported-end##*

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April 27, 2011 at 08:41 AM



“ Dear Brenda and family,  
Uncle Leonard battled hard, persevered and triumphed through many of life's challenges that were within his control. I know he wanted desperately to overcome the cancer and stay with us longer, however the deck was not stacked evenly for that fight.  
I will always think of Uncle Leonard in terms of redemption. His life was a beautiful example of rebirth, forgiveness and conscious living. Uncle Leonard's humor, humanity and humility were his greatest strengths and I am sure his wife, children and grandchildren were his muses and his inspiration. He left a wonderful legacy for those who are still here to incorporate into our lives.  
My thoughts and prayers are with you all.  
Love,  
Patti###imported-begin###Patricia Masters###imported-end##

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April 26, 2011 at 07:40 PM



“ Brenda:  
I am so sorry to hear about Leonard. My thoughts and prayers are with you and Mikahla during this very difficult time. Please know that I can help in any way.  
  
Fondly,  
Kandy###imported-begin###Kandace Williams###imported-end##

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April 26, 2011 at 07:29 PM



“ 60 YEARS OF MEMORIES WE WILL MISS YOU. SEE YOU ON THE OTHER SIDE JIM & DIANE SCIME###imported-begin###JIM &DIANE SCIME HOBE SOUND FLORIDA###imported-end##

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April 26, 2011 at 02:50 PM



“ Our hearts are broken for you today. Please know you are in our prayers and we are all thinking of you.##imported-begin##Kathy & Greg Adams##imported-end##

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April 26, 2011 at 10:34 AM



“ Brenda & Mikahla,

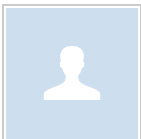
*I am so sorry for your /our loss of Uncle Leonard; he will be missed greatly. I always looked forward to seeing all of you at the holidays and hope that we still will. God Bless you all at this time of sorrow.*

*Love*

*Mark##imported-begin##Mark LaMonte##imported-end##*

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April 26, 2011 at 08:52 AM



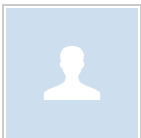
“ I will miss you forever in my life and I will never forget you being all happy when we got our new house and I will love you for the rest of my life. I wish you were still here with us right now. love

*Tess*

*p.s. I love you##imported-begin##Tess Streicher##imported-end##*

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April 25, 2011 at 08:35 PM



“ Dad,

*I will miss you greatly. I will love you all the rest of my days. You are a part of me FOREVER.*

*Love, Donna##imported-begin##Donna Streicher##imported-end##*

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April 25, 2011 at 04:54 PM