



## Mr Jerome Paul Raispis

July 17, 1928 - March 17, 2017

Jerome Paul (Jerry) Raispis passed away at home on March 17, 2017 at age 88 surrounded by his family.

Jerry was born and grew up in Chicago, IL. Being athletically gifted, after high school he received a basketball scholarship to the University of Detroit where he starred on the team. He served in the U.S. Army as a signal operator in the Korean War and also played on the Army's European basketball team.

After returning from the service, he met his future wife Joan Schulist. They were married in Chicago in May of 1956 and celebrated their 60th anniversary last year. He was hired by Revere Copper and Brass as a computer analyst which moved the young couple to New York City. There he was trained to write business operational software and operate IBM Mainframe Computers. Through his job with Revere they were moved to Rome, New York where they started their family. An unfortunate accident claimed their first son Joseph in 1959. In 1965 the family moved to Baltimore, MD. where their youngest son of 6 boys and one girl was born. The family moved to Scottsboro in 1967 and have called Scottsboro home ever since.

Being a pioneer in the software field, he could be seen working in Revere's large, air conditioned computer rooms with magnetic tape and punch cards. Through his work, he became part of the Revere consulting team and enjoyed the travel associated with his consulting role. When Norandal opened he became part of their technology team. He retired in 1987 and enjoyed his retirement volunteering for various causes and staying involved with St. Jude Catholic Church.

Jerry became an active member of the mission Catholic Church. Through his involvement, this mission church grew to become St. Jude. He was instrumental in the building of the new church and in 1973, after two years of intense theological studies, became the first ordained Permanent Deacon of the Catholic Church in the state of Alabama.

In his role as deacon, Jerry became the face of the church in Scottsboro and surrounding area. He performed many baptisms, weddings, and funerals. He could often be seen visiting the sick around town, administering to those in need, and providing comfort and guidance to anyone who asked. Jerry loved his role as a deacon as it allowed him to serve God and others through the Deaconate Ministry.

Jerry loved people and always strove to be inclusive of everyone and make everyone feel welcome. He became part of the Scottsboro Players and could be seen in their productions throughout the years. Jerry always had a quip or a joke to put people at ease. He genuinely enjoyed life and, even in his final days when he really wasn't up to it, he was having fun, laughing, enjoying his beer and always more concerned about others than himself.

Most of all, he was a loving husband and father. Raising seven children is never easy but he was always above all the ruckus. He always came home from work happy to see his family! He was fair, led by example and always practiced what he preached.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Emily, his oldest son, Joseph, and his brother Joe. He is survived by his wife, Joan, brother Frank Raispis, sister Nancy Gilla, seven children (Dan, Tom, John, Judy, Andy, Chris and Stan) and ten grandchildren (Raispis: Ed, Stanley, Jody, Will, Jake, & Luke; Vincent: Paul, Daniel, & Walker; and Paige Mullins).

The wake and a vigil will be held on Wednesday, 22 March at St. Jude Catholic Church in Scottsboro, AL. The wake will be from 4:30pm - 9:00pm followed by the vigil from 9:00pm – 12:00am.

The funeral Mass will be held at St. Jude Catholic Church at 11:00am on Thursday, 23 March. The burial will be at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Scottsboro immediately following the mass.

A luncheon will be held at the St. Jude Parish Life Center immediately following the burial.

In lieu of flowers or gifts, please make a donation to your favorite charity or to:

Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration

Address: 3222 County Road 548, Hanceville, AL 35077

Phone: (256) 352-6267

<http://olamnuns.com/>

<http://www.poorclares.org/donations>

St. Jude Catholic Church

Fr. Tom Woods

Address: 17205 Al Highway 35, Scottsboro, AL 35768

Phone: (256) 574-6156

<https://discovermass.com/church/st-jude-catholic-church-scottsboro-al/>

St. Ignatius College Prep

Frank Raispis Scholarship Fund

1076 West Roosevelt Road, Chicago, IL 60608

312-421-5900

# Cemetery

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# Events

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**Cedar Hill Cemetery**

Cedar Hill Dr

Scottsboro, AL, 35768

**MAR**

**22**

**Wake**

04:30PM - 09:00PM

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St. Jude Catholic Church

17205 Alabama Highway 35, Scottsboro, AL, US, 35768

**MAR**

**23**

**Funeral Service**

11:00AM - 12:00PM

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St. Jude Catholic Church

17205 Alabama Highway 35, Scottsboro, AL, US, 35768

# Comments

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“ That wonderful, deep, slow, steady voice of Jerry's.... will always be a fond memory !!!

And his true devotion to his faith & his Lord, and how "he lived it".

And his hugs every time we saw him in Charleston!!!!

And his eloquent blessings before our family meals together.

And his relaxed pose, sitting in Judy's den, overlooking the Ashley River and downtown

Charleston.... and, of course, often napping as he gazed at the beauty.

And his appreciation and enjoyment of one of Chic's special beers !!!

And his prayers for my "not yet" born grandchildren that were so comforting.

And his beautifully written, sincere letters and thank you notes (which I have saved over

the years and will continue to treasure.)

And his calming effect, just by his presence sometimes.

And his tiny, little tears (I thought I observed) when he talked about how special his family

was !!!! (or better described as his eyes filling up.... with "liquid love".)

AND HIS LOVE FOR HIS FAMILY, & IN RETURN, THEIR LOVE AND RESPECT FOR

HIM !!! and how they all know the true meaning of "FUN". :-)

AND HOW BLESSED MY FAMILY IS... TO BE A PART OF THE WONDERFUL RAISPIS

GANG !!! Jerry will be missed by us all, but never, ever forgotten.

With love, Rinne (Vincent) Sade (so proud and happy to be "Judy's sister", too)

**rinnesade** - April 08, 2017 at 12:36 PM

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“ Our deepest sympathies are with the family, having been friends with son, Dr. Chris Raispis, for many years. We send our heartfelt wishes and thoughts at this difficult time.

Wilson Luquire and

Ron Roberts

**Wilson Luquire** - March 22, 2017 at 07:07 PM

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“ Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Mr Jerome Paul Raispis.



March 22, 2017 at 02:57 PM

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“ Liz, Gene Jr. and Rob Peterpaul purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Mr Jerome Paul Raispis.



Liz, Gene Jr. and Rob Peterpaul - March 21, 2017 at 04:31 PM

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“ I'm remembering so many wonderful times with the Raispis family over the years.....Jerry and Joan hosting "After Christmas Midnight Mass" parties at their home.....they were GREAT!!! Also, dinners with the family, being included in a family reunion in Charlotte, NC.....also GREAT!!!! I'll never forget when Jerry eulogized my Mom at her memorial service. He had spent so much quality time on visits with her at the nursing home, that he was able to tell several stories from her past that even I knew nothing about! That was so special to me and my family. Thanks Jerry and Joan for being the Patriarch and Matriarch of such a very special family. God blessed you beyond measure. So much love to all, Donna Greer

Donna Greer - March 21, 2017 at 02:17 PM

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“ Of all my fond memories with my dear friend Jerry, I recall fondly the trips to Huntsville for his doctor visits, and then stopping into Hooters afterward for beer, wings, and the enjoyment of the scenery. I also must mention a couple of trips to Huntsville's Finnegan's Pub to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. We really enjoyed this, especially when TV Channel 31 visited the Pub.....we were on the 5:00 p.m. local news. Great memories with a wonderful friend. Love to the entire Raispis family from Gene Greer

**Gene Greer** - March 21, 2017 at 02:03 PM

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“ Uncle Jerry and Aunt Joan used to let me push their dog lady Hawkins in my baby carriage all the time I loved it Marcia Peterpaul Plunkett

**Marcia Peterpaul Plunkett** - March 21, 2017 at 02:00 PM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr Jerome Paul Raispis.



March 21, 2017 at 09:51 AM

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“ Tom and Eleanor, thinking of you and your family during this difficult time. May you find comfort knowing your Dad was surrounded by the love of his family. Our deepest sympathies and hugs to you both - Robb, Anne, Katy & Chase Tatham

**Anne Tatham** - March 21, 2017 at 09:00 AM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr Jerome Paul Raispis.



March 20, 2017 at 03:43 PM

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“ Jase Traylor, Amber, Jessalyn & Mario Trujillo purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr Jerome Paul Raispis.



**Jase Traylor, Amber, Jessalyn & Mario Trujillo** - March 20, 2017 at 01:28 PM

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“ Jerry and Joan were two of the first people I met when I moved to St. Jude 8 years ago. They made me feel very welcome and become good friends. As I met other pastors around town and they learned I was from St. Jude they always asked if I knew Jerry. The next comment was always - "I love him. He is a wonderful man and a wonderful Christian." If you knew him, you know that was true.

**Pam A** - March 18, 2017 at 03:36 PM



“ Rest in peace Uncle Jerry

**Marcia Peterpaul Plunkett** - March 21, 2017 at 03:36 AM

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“ Maurice And Darlene Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr Jerome Paul Raispis



**Maurice and Darlene Smith** - March 18, 2017 at 03:09 PM