



## Dr. Frank J. Zeleznik

December 25, 1935 - July 20, 2021

Dr. Frank J. Zeleznik, Jr., 85, passed away July 20, 2021.

Frank was born Dec. 25, 1935 in Cleveland, OH to Frank, Sr and Mildred (Picha) Zeleznik. He was a 1953 graduate of Garfield Hts. High School and received his bachelor degree from Western Reserve University. He went on to receive his Doctorate of Dental Surgery from Western Reserve University in 1962.

Ensign Frank Zeleznik served 2 years active duty as a dentist in the U.S. Navy stationed in San Diego, CA. as well as several years in the Navy reserves.

Frank was a dentist in Cleveland, OH for more than 25 years before retiring and moving to Florida in 1992. He was a talented singer, musician and actor who performed in community theaters such as Chagrin Valley Little Theater and Richmond Heights Little Theater in the Cleveland area and The Civic Theater, Mark II Dinner Theater, the Mount Dora Ice House Theater and Wekiva River Players in the Orlando area. He also appeared in several commercials and advertising prints.

In addition to acting, Frank sang, directed and arranged music for a contemporary singing group called The Common Bond which performed

throughout the Cleveland area and beyond. After moving to Florida he sang for many years with the Dickens Carolers as well as in The Ensemble at Annunciation Church in Longwood. Also while a member of Annunciation Church he became a Knight of the Fourth Degree with the Knights of Columbus.

Frank was also a talented artist, creating water color paintings and designing and building model railroad train layouts. He also loved to play golf and spend time with family, especially on Christmas day which was also his birthday!

Frank is survived by Nancy, his loving wife of 60 years who cared for him in their home for many months during his illness. He is also survived by children Greg (Monica) Zeleznik, Terri (Mark) Maurer and Chris Zeleznik; grandchildren Kristen (Brian) Arko, Michael (fiancée Tabitha) Maurer, Amanda Maurer, Melissa Zeleznik, Trevor Zeleznik and Alexis Zeleznik.

A Greeting of Family and Friends will take place from 6pm to 8pm on Friday, August 6, 2021 at DeGusipe Funeral Home, 9001 N. Orlando Ave., Maitland, FL.

A Funeral Mass will be held at 10:00am on Saturday, August 7, 2021, at Annunciation Catholic Church, 1020 Montgomery Rd, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714.

Link to Livestream funeral mass at Annunciation Catholic Church:  
<https://youtu.be/AQEYSL4hpBc>

A Funeral Mass will be held at 11:00am on Saturday, Aug. 28th, 2021 at St. John Vianney Catholic Church, 7575 Bellflower Rd., Mentor, OH 44060

The family of Dr. Frank J. Zeleznik invites you to leave a message of

condolence on the Tribute Wall created in his loving memory.

# Previous Events

## Gathering of Family and Friends

AUG 6. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

DeGusipe Funeral Home & Crematory Maitland Chapel  
9001 N. Orlando Ave  
Maitland, FL 32751  
(407) 695-2273  
todd@degusipe.com  
<https://www.degusipefuneralhome.com>

## Funeral Mass

AUG 28. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. John Vianney Catholic Church  
7575 Bellflower Rd  
Mentor, OH 44060

# Tribute Wall

JG

“ Just want to leave a note, even though it is a year late. Frank and I were buddies in the youth group at St Therese Church in Garfield Hts. and used to double date now and then. When I went to college, Western Reserve ., I initially had no interest in joining a fraternity, but I met Frank on campus one day and the result was he talked me into joining Beta Theta Pi fraternity. We participated in many fraternity activities, double dated, and became fine friends. Today Oct., 2021 I came across his phone number and decided to call him. I guess I didn't use a long distance line ,as I spoke to Nancy and found out Frank passed away a year ago. God bless you Nancy. It was a real pleasure to speak with you.

*Jim Gulick, 10/4/21*

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**Jim Gulick** - October 04, 2021 at 01:06 PM

DG

*I just saw where had gone to visit heaven. I thought he was still with us. He was great to know. My name is John grace and I joined Frank in my fair lady and man of la Mancha. Frank was a joy to work with. My mom passed away some time ago and she will get with Frank and they will do all sorts of great things for your family and friends.*

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**Dr. John Grace** - December 26, 2021 at 02:19 AM

CR

“ Our deepest sympathy to Aunt Nancy and Cousins. Uncle Frank was an amazing person always remember golf outings and going to some of his plays. Sending Prayers to all.

*Colleen & Brady Renner and family*

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**Colleen J Renner** - August 28, 2021 at 09:59 AM





“ Frank was one of my favorite actors to work with as well as a joy to carol with. Funny and kind, as well as talented, his spoonerisms are legendary, and remain part of *The Dickens Carolers* lore. My Christmas birthday twin used to love to quietly whisper alternate lyrics and then gleefully watch his acting/singing partners try to keep a straight face. My deepest condolences to his sweet wife, Nancy, and family. He was a treasure and will be missed and remembered with much fondness.

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**Natalie Doliner** - August 06, 2021 at 05:11 PM

DB

“ Darlin Barry and Sharlee & Britton purchased the *Country Basket Blooms* for the family of Dr. Frank J. Zeleznik.



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**Darlin Barry and Sharlee & Britton** - August 04, 2021 at 10:39 PM

RM

“Hi, my name is Richard Miniere. I'm a local Dental Technician who worked with Frank (Dr. Zeleznik) to make his teeth. I've been a Dental Tech in and around Orlando for the last 40 years. I first met Frank about 25 years ago when he first moved to Orlando. I cast his metal teeth foundations that he made his teeth on. Some Dentists and Dental Techs don't get along that well, but we did, because at the time we were both working as Dental Techs. He would bring his teeth to my house for me to work on, and then I would bring the castings back to his house for him to build his teeth on. We did this for years so we got to know each other pretty well, and we became good friends over the years. The thing I liked most about Frank was that he seemed to be interested in just about everything. He was a good singer, actor, musician, cook, and golfer. He loved steam locomotives and model railroads. He told me about once playing golf with some friends near a railroad track. He was concentrating on a shot when the un-mistakeable sound of a steam locomotive started comin' round the bend! All thoughts of golf vanished until the locomotive disappeared in the distance! I wasn't there, but I can see it in my minds eye.

I asked Frank once, "Hey frank, you're interested in just about everything, what are you not interested in ? He thought a minute and said "fireworks, I just don't care about fireworks". I was really surprised! I thought everybody liked fireworks! But not Frank Zeleznik! I saw about six plays that Frank was in over the years. He was Daddy Warbucks in " Annie", he played Santa in "Miracle on 34th Street" where he had to grow his own beard for about eight months. One thing that Frank did dozens of times over the years was to sing in a quartet of Carolers during the Christmas season. I only saw him do this once, and I'll never forget it. It was mid December near Longwood and the outside temp was about 89 degrees. There was a McDonald's Grand Opening going on in early afternoon and they wanted some Carolers since it was close to Christmas. The building was basically a glass box and the sky was a deep blue with a few puffy white clouds. It was absolutely gorgeous weather. Frank and the other carolers began to sing "Oh the weather outside is frightful, but the fire is so delightful, and since

*we've no place to go, Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow." The obvious absurdity of the situation was hilarious! But Frank and the other carolers did a fine job anyway and the audience clapped and cheered them on at the end. Frank really knew how to enjoy life. Someday when Frank and I are on the same side of the great divide again, I will certainly look him up.  
Godspeed Frank, your Friend, Richard Miniere.*

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**Richard Miniere** - August 03, 2021 at 11:50 PM

MC

“*Not only was Frank a wonderful guy to sing with in the Dickens Carolers, but he was a great actor with a flair for comedy. It was such a pleasure to work with him in 2 productions for the Orlando Fringe Festival that my husband, Bob Dutton, wrote - “Out of the Woods...and Into the Fire” (where he played The Big Bad Wolf as a retired butcher) and “The Weekly Actor of the Year Competition” where he totally sold the comical song “Married to a Klutz.” Frank was a peach of a guy who gave his all to every show in the spirit of fun. How blessed were we who got to “work” (play!) with him. I will miss him.*

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**Molly Conole** - August 01, 2021 at 04:12 PM

CB

“ So many funny and touching memories of Frank, but the one he himself shared most often was when he mixed up the caroling lyrics to "Jolly Old Saint Nicholas", "...down the chimney broad and black with your crap you'll peek". He would tell that story and laugh harder than anyone, every time. Frank was a founding member of The Dickens Carolers and sang with us for 23 years. His famous family recipe for Wassail will be carried on as a tradition for many years to come. We'll miss you so much, Frank. Godspeed, dear friend.



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**Carol Becker** - July 31, 2021 at 10:28 PM

MC

What pure pleasure it was to sing with Frank, every time. His memory will always be treasured in my heart. ❤️

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**Molly Conole** - August 01, 2021 at 03:53 PM

TC

“ The Dickens Carolers purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Dr. Frank J. Zeleznik.



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**The Dickens Carolers** - July 31, 2021 at 10:13 PM

FL

“ A dear friend, theatre colleague and my dentist for many years. I was so happy to have been a part of his life. We shared a lot of laughs together. But I'll remember him most as a veteran actor who believed in a young director directing his first major musical. My heart goes out to you Nancy and the entire family. Let all your memories keep you comforted and strong. Laugh as he would have wanted you to!!



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**Frank Lucas** - July 31, 2021 at 12:59 PM

SL

“ Our deepest sympathy to Nancy and all the family on the passing of Frank! He certainly was a man of great talent! We enjoyed attending all his shows in the local theaters! He was always smiling and so kind to everyone. I especially remember the cute costumes he made for a few of us in the Annunciation Council of Catholic Women talent show! We were a big hit! (Wish I had a photo to post). I am sure Frank has already joined the choir of angels in Heaven! May God Bless you all during this time of sorrow! And may Frank Rest In Peace!!

*Sharon and Paul*

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**Sharon M Lane** - July 29, 2021 at 07:13 PM

BF

“ Our deepest sympathy to Aunt Nancy and our cousins and families. We are so honored to have had Uncle Frank in our lives. He brought so much joy to our families: Shea golf outings for many years, His wonderful plays, Our family dentist, and one of our favorite Uncles. His smile would light up a room with his kind heart. Prayers to the family.

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**Barb & Rusty Elam & Shea Family** - July 29, 2021 at 03:41 PM

JF

“ *Jeanne McFarland and Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Dr. Frank J. Zeleznik.*



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**Jeanne McFarland and Family** - July 29, 2021 at 02:33 PM



“ *Frank was a true gentleman from his toes to his head. He will be missed by all of us.  
May God give him eternal peace.*

*H Keith Martin*

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**Houston Martin** - July 29, 2021 at 01:20 PM

DF

“ *Our sincere sympathy & condolences to Nancy & Frank's family. We are so happy that we had a chance to visit with Frank and share some fond memories before his passing. May Our Lord grant him Everlasting Peace & Happiness  
Dennis, Lynda, Lisa & Connor, and  
KofC Annunciation Council 12761*

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**Dennis Franko** - July 29, 2021 at 11:06 AM

MB

“ My heartfelt condolences to Nancy, Greg, Terri, Chris and families. I first met Frank through fellow actors and vocalists at Chagrin Valley Little Theater. I/we were in awe of his talent, engaging personality and warm, caring friendship. Years later the privilege returned to be together again when Frank joined our vocal group, The Common Bond. The beautiful tones of Frank's solo voice and his stage presence were audience, and fellow "Bonder", favorites. His talents extended to director and arranger of music for us as well. We shared wonderful memories and friendship on and off stage. "Somewhere down the road, our roads are gonna cross again", Frank.  
The Angel Choir is embracing you and your golden voice.  
Marsha Bird

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**Marsha Bird** - July 27, 2021 at 09:31 AM

DB

“ I had the great privilege to work with Frank in two roles that exemplified his acting range. He played our Kris Kringle in Miracle on 34th St with a twinkle in his eye and his love and kind heart in every line. A while later, he played Norman in On Golden Pond. His dry wit and deadpan delivery was perfect; every line was a laugh, yet he was utterly real and believable throughout. A consummate performer, and a breeze to work with from beginning to end. I will miss his chuckle and his humble and charming ways.

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**Darlin Barry** - July 26, 2021 at 10:49 PM

DF

“ 1 file added to the album *Common Bond*



**Dick Fraser** - July 26, 2021 at 12:45 PM

DB

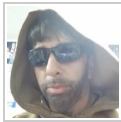
*So wonderful to hear Frank sing this lovely ballad. Such a terrific guy and the ultimate, kind gentleman.*

**Darlin Barry** - July 26, 2021 at 10:42 PM

DJ

*What a Fantastic Voice*

**diane jender** - July 27, 2021 at 01:15 PM



*I didn't know Frank sang...at least not like that. Fantastic actor and person. Glad I had the honor to share the stage with him.*

**David Santiago** - July 27, 2021 at 04:41 PM

MB

*Frank was a beautiful person professionally and personally. So blest to be a friend. Condolences to Nancy and family.*

**Mary Lou Balchak** - July 28, 2021 at 05:36 PM

BR

*While I was Faithful Navigator of the St. Patrick's Assembly (4th Degree of the Knights of Columbus), I got to know Frank as a trustee in the Assembly. I found him to be an absolute gentleman and a true Knight. I did not know about his musical talent or artistic talent. But it does not surprise me as he was a talented individual who will be missed by all who ever associated with him, including me. God bless Frank and his entire family.*

**Bob Rasch** - July 29, 2021 at 10:04 AM

SL

*Well done! Great song so beautifully sung! Thank you for sharing!!*

*Sharon Lane Crouch*

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**Sharon M Lane** - July 29, 2021 at 06:59 PM

SH

“ *My sincere condolences to Nancy and family. I was his home health Occupational Therapist a few years ago. I was lucky to have the opportunity to work with such a wonderful man, and Nancy too. My prayers are with you.*  
*Susan Hrycyk*

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**Susan Hrycyk** - July 25, 2021 at 05:21 PM

DJ

“ *Diane Jender lit a candle in memory of Dr. Frank J. Zeleznik*



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**Diane Jender** - July 25, 2021 at 02:54 PM

DJ

“ *What a wonderful, Talented Uncle we all had, He will be missed dearly.*  
*Love Diane and Steve Jender God Bless*

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**Diane Jender** - July 25, 2021 at 02:54 PM

DS

“ *Uncle Frank was My inspiration for being a Dental Assistant now 40 yrs later I still am. God Bless Him for his kindness and many talents.*  
*Debra Shea*



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**Debra Shea** - July 25, 2021 at 11:26 AM

GN

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the entire Zeleznik family.*  
*Gudrun Michalla-Neubaecker*

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**Gudrun neubaecker** - July 24, 2021 at 04:03 PM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Frank J. Zeleznik.*



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July 24, 2021 at 03:04 PM