



Nasri G. Sawaya

June 4, 1934 - September 27, 2025

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Nasri Sawaya, who left us peacefully on 9/27/25 at the age of 91. He was one-half of a dynamic duo! At home or as a business man he was a beloved husband, loving father, a doting grandfather and loyal friend.

Born on June 4, 1934 in Beirut, Lebanon, Nasri Sawaya (affectionately known as Nick) lived a life dedicated to his family. He met his beautiful wife, Najat (second-half of the duo) in 1964 and spent all their time together from that day on. They moved to Africa to run a family business in the Ivory coast and welcomed their first born, Gisele. After returning to Lebanon, they had their second child, George, soon after his life was disrupted with war and turmoil in his beloved country. He immigrated with his wife and two small children to the United States from Lebanon, leaving everything behind. Leaving his home country required numerous sacrifices to provide a new life for his family, essentially starting life over to learn a new language, culture, and business. Working tirelessly to provide for his family, he always emphasized the importance of education to his children and grandchild, recognizing that it is something no one can ever take away from you.

Nick and Najat ran a successful restaurant, Maryland Fried Chicken, for 40 years on Edgewater Dr. They had the best fried chicken and hot sauce and still to this day we meet people who drove long distances to eat at their

restaurant. He was known for his unwavering kindness, generosity, thoughtfulness and gentle spirit that touched countless lives.

Nasri Sawaya is survived by his beloved wife of 62 years, Najat Sawaya; his daughter, Gisele Bennett; and his son-in-law, Jay Bennett and his son, George Sawaya his daughter-in-law, Carolyn Sawaya and his cherished granddaughter, Nicolette Sawaya. He also leaves behind nephews and nieces living abroad in various countries.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at DeGusipe Funeral Home located at 9001 N Orlando Ave Maitland , FL 32751 on 10/10/25 at 2:00 pm. Nick lived 91 amazing years and would have lived many more if it hadn't been for Cancer. So please consider, in lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Cancer Research Institute (Donate to Cancer Immunotherapy Research - Cancer Research Institute) or the American Cancer Society (Donate Today | The American Cancer Society) in his memory and to help others.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT **10**. 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM (ET)

DeGusipe Funeral Home & Crematory
9001 N. Orlando Avenue
Maitland, FL 32751
<https://www.facebook.com/DeGusipeFH/>

Celebration of Life with Reception

OCT **10**. 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

DeGusipe Funeral Home & Crematory
9001 N. Orlando Avenue
Maitland, FL 32751
<https://www.facebook.com/DeGusipeFH/>

Tribute Wall



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Nasri G. Sawaya.

October 06, 2025 at 08:54 AM



“ Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Nasri G. Sawaya.



October 06, 2025 at 08:54 AM



“ It is with deep sympathy that I share these words. Over the years, the evidence of Nasri's kindness, generosity, fortitude and deep love for his family was evident in all he did. These honorable qualities do and will live on in those left behind. Along with Najat, they made a tremendous team that impacted many in the communities they served. After being a friend to them both it seems like time never stopped between our friendship. I am honored to have known him.

Celeste Gregoire - October 04, 2025 at 02:57 PM



“ Sharon Rodgers lit a candle in memory of Nasri Sawaya



Sharon Rodgers - October 03, 2025 at 09:08 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Nasri G. Sawaya.

October 01, 2025 at 09:39 PM



“ Affectionately known as ‘Uncle Nick’ to share memories, events and more would take an eternity. And uncle Nick gave us just that. Great life lessons and even better memories. I knew he and auntie Najat since I was born. Although not blood related they treated myself my mom and dad and siblings truly like family. Whether it was the endless visits to the ever so famous and ever so missed Maryland Fried Chicken’ or the infamous family dinners that taunt Najat welcomed us to at any moment, great gentleman like uncle Nick are few and far between and becoming ever so rare. The greatest gift that uncle Nick and auntie Najat ever did for me and to me is that they each wear a small silver Catholic Christian charm that I gave them gifted to them nearly twenty years ago. They don’t know how much that means to me.

Thank you uncle Nick for the life lessons and genuine kindness and friendship you bestowed upon all of my family. You will forever be remembered and greatly missed, in Christ always, Douglas

Douglas George Hamatie - September 30, 2025 at 04:07 PM



Nasri and Najat were truly family to George, myself and kids - he was brother in law to George and I... I know George, Maurice and all the loved ones were welcoming Nasri as he got his wings. 🙏💖🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏

Delores (Dee) NeJame - October 04, 2025 at 07:24 PM

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Nick Sawaya was one of the most wonderful men that I have had the honor of knowing. His joy for life and love for his family were amazing! Thankfully, I had the honor to be part of his extended "family by choice" and will forever be grateful. It was only a short time ago that I received my last "I love you" from him and I shall treasure that memory forever. Sending extra love to Najat, Gisele, George, Carolyn, Nicolette, Jay, and all of the others that loved him. May the twinkle in your eyes sparkle for eternity.

Christina - October 09, 2025 at 07:26 AM