



## Ralph A. Zappola Jr.

September 10, 1955 - May 15, 2008

Ralph A. Zappola Jr., 52, died 5/15/2008 in Myrtle Beach, SC. Born 09/10/1955 in Garfield Hts. Resident of city of Willoughby for 10 years; former resident of Mentor. Memorial Service at 7 PM Wednesday at the Monreal Funeral Home, 35400 Curtis Blvd., Eastlake. Member of HB Motorcycle Club, and enjoyed traveling and spending time with his grandchildren. Retired Mentor police officer after 16 years of service. Employed at MetLife Insurance Company as a SIU Investigator. Father of Ralph A. Melissa Zappola III, Mark Courtney Zappola; grandfather of Abigale and Ella Zappola; brother of Daniel Susan Zappola Fiancee of Cathy Wood; uncle of Danielle and Jennifer Zappola; Many cousins and friends; former husband of Janice Zappola; son of the late Ralph A. Zappola Sr. and Rose Zappola  
Visitation will be 3-7 PM Wednesday at the Monreal Funeral Home 35400 Curtis Blvd., Eastlake.

# Tribute Wall

VY

“ I will never forget Ralph and the great times we shared during his time working in Michigan. He was a great friend to me and I will always cherish the good times and countless laughs we shared. He will be missed.

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**Vinnie Anne Yike** - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SZ

“ Good-bye to an old friend. My condolences to his family and friends.

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**Stan Zaucha** - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ I worked with Ralph when he was with Nationwide SIOU in Michigan. He was a pleasure both at work and during off work, enjoyed his company, he thought so much of his family he will be missed by all, Jim

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**Jim McNellis** - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ Dear Cathy and The Zappola Family,

*I am deeply sorry for your tragic loss. Ralph is proud of the beautiful women you've become! My prayers and thoughts are with you Cathy and The Zappola Family.*

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**Kara Sylvia** - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ *Ralph was my friend and fellow retired police officer. Ralph was my police field training officer and supervisor. He watched my back in police work and in life. You could not ask for a better friend. I will miss you greatly and so will my family. Say hello to my Dad up there for me. Take care buddy!*

*To Ralph III and Mark: remember the guidance he shared with you to be a great person, father, and grandfather. You will be beacons going forward and continue his legacy. It deserves preservation. Ensure the Zappola name and traditions are not forgotten. The torch has been passed to you both.*

*To Cathy: he directed you to life's path of goodness and love; continue on your journey in his memory. You will find strength each day and remember the positive impact he made on your life.*

*God bless you all!*

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**Steven & Heather Graham** - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ *I worked with Ralph when he was with the Nationwide SIU. We had many good times. Ralph and his smile will be missed by all that knew him.*

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**Bob Harrison** - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CT

“ Ralph & Mark:

*I cannot express how incredibly sorry I am for your loss. Your father was an amazing, caring and special person that has touched so many lives. He often spoke of how proud he was of you both and your families and oh how he bragged about those beautiful grandchildren. I had the pleasure of knowing your dad for 25 years and I cannot ever remember a time that he was not there for me, through thick and thin. I was fortunate to be able to spend many special times with him and Rosie too.*

*I will miss him terribly as I know you all will as well.*

*You and your families are in my thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. He was an amazing man and a very very special friend.*

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**Chris Quinn Throckmorton** - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LN

“ *My deepest condolences to Ralph's family and friends. He was a pleasure to work with.*

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**Lyn Nolte** - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ *RIP my brother in blue. We are going to miss your visits to Florida, but your presence will always be with us.*

*He won't be far away, for life goes on. So if you need him, call and he will come. Though you can't see or touch him, he will be near.*

*Our deepest sympathy to his family that he was so very proud of.*

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**George & Beth Ferguson** - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ *Mark, Ralph & Cathy:*

*I am so terribly sorry for your tragic loss. Ralph was so very proud of all of you, Courtney, Melissa and his grand children. Everyone that knew Ralph knew his family and how much everyone meant to him. Ralph was a great everything; father, friend, grand father, son and the favorite in law.*

*Just like you, I will truly miss Ralph as he cared so much about everyone around him. If Ralph was your friend, then you had a friend for life. Whenever and wherever you needed Ralph, he was always there. In the middle of the night or the middle of the storm, Ralph was there. Ralph always had a way of putting things in proper perspective and you knew he always had the well being of his family and friends before any other concerns. Ralph will be missed but his great memories will live on with me for the rest of my life.*

*Ralph truly was all about the journey and not the destination. May you all be comforted by the many good friends of Ralph and the loving memories of him.*

*Rest in Peace my Brother, your fight is over and from here we will carry great memories your life. You are missed*

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**Bill & Lora Heckler** - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LE

“ *RIP, Ralph my friend... My best friend next to my wife for 27 years. My Patrol partner, co-supervisor, subordinate - and, most importantly, SWAT Team "buddy mate" for roughly 14 years.*

*And my continued extremely close friend through hard work AND hard play; through good times, very good times... bad times - and some very bad times.*

*And throughout you were always there for me as I for you. I will miss you - and the support that you provided just by your presence and your words of advice - tremendously.*

*To "Little Ralph" not so little anymore and Mark, you know that there are no words that can come close to expressing the relation that we had nor the degree of sympathy and condolences that I have for you and your growing families.*

*Ralph, my friend, RIP for now - as there are new adventures and challenges to look forward to and someday we will reunite again.*

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**Leroy** - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ *My condolences to Ralph's family, friends and co-workers. You will be missed here in Indianapolis as well.*

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**Kathryn Smith** - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ I am deeply saddened and grieve with everyone who knew Ralph. He was a kind and giving person with a loving heart, great logic and intelligence. Protector, friend and father. I will miss a dear friend and coffee shop pal. Blessings to each of his friends and family during this mourning time.

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**Bob doc Herp** - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SA

“ I extend my deepest sympathy to Ralph's family. Ralph was a great friend and terrific co-worker. So long, buddy....

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**Shawn Ainsworth** - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BA

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Ralph was one of very best friends and he will be missed.

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**Bill & Sherry Arnott** - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM