



## Leo E. Francini

August 12, 1919 - January 6, 2019

Leo E. Francini, 99, of New Britain, husband of Laia (Balducci) Francini passed away Sunday, (January 6, 2019) in the comfort of his home, four days shy of celebrating a 75th wedding anniversary with his beloved wife. A New Britain native and longtime resident, he was a graduate of New Britain High School, class of 1937, and served with the US Army during World War II. Following the war, he was in business with his father Ernest and brother Albert, building homes throughout the Hartford region. In 1956, he joined the Veteran's Administration as a construction analyst in the loan guaranty division. He was appointed construction specialist in 1958, chief appraiser in 1962, and chief of valuation and property management in 1968. In his final appointment, he was named Loan Guaranty Officer, responsible for the operations of the Veterans Administration Loan Guaranty Division of Connecticut. He was a member of St. Francis of Assisi Church in New Britain; the Society of Real Estate Appraisers, with a senior residential appraiser designation; and a former member of the Marchegian Society and Italian Fraternal Society.

Besides his wife Laia, Leo leaves two sons, Robert Francini and his wife Diane of New Britain, and Mark Francini and his wife Pamela of Kensington; a daughter, Donna Miles and her husband Robert of Kensington; six grandchildren, Ryan Francini and his wife Amy, Sara Francini and her husband Alistair Paxton, Josh Miles and his wife Sarah, Brandon Miles and his wife Brittney, Justin Francini and his wife Danielle, and Amanda Quatrocelli

and her husband Daniel; seven great grandchildren, Olivia, Emma, Parker, Leo, Sloane, Asa and Ada. Leo was predeceased by a brother, Albert Francini and a sister, Alice DeVecchio. The family wishes to thank the devoted caregivers, who displayed such love and care for him in his final years, especially Janet Gordon.

Calling hours are on Thursday, January 10, 9:30 to 10:30 AM at Carlson Funeral Home, 45 Franklin Square, New Britain followed by a Mass of Christian Burial, 11 AM at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 1755 Stanley Street, New Britain. Burial with military honors will follow in St. Mary Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Aquatic Department at Hospital For Special Care, 2150 Corbin Avenue, New Britain, CT 06053. Please share a memory or note of sympathy at [www.carlsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.carlsonfuneralhome.com).

# Cemetery Details

## St. Mary Cemetery

1141 Stanley Street  
New Britain, CT 06053

# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

JAN 10. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Carlson Funeral Home  
45 Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051  
(860) 225-6361  
carlsonfh@aol.com  
<https://www.carlsonfuneralhome.com/>

## Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 10. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Francis of Assisi  
1755 Stanley Street  
New Britain, CT 06053

# Tribute Wall

CL

“ We have the fondest memories of Leo & Laia from our time as their backyard neighbors from 1982 as a new young married couple until we moved in 1987. Leo would come to the rescue and fix the head that had popped off of one of our son's, Christopher's, favorite Thundercat figurine. We loved him as our neighbor! He and Laia would bring us homemade pasta. When we left New Britain, leaving them was the hardest part. Such a kind, loving family. We are so sorry for your loss.

*Charlene & Kevin Larsen  
Farmington, CT*

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**Charlene Larsen** - January 12, 2019 at 04:09 PM

LO

“ Dear Mark and Family,  
Please now I am thinking of you at this difficult time and hope you find peace and joy in the memories of you Father's incredible life journey.

*Linda Olbrys*

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**Linda Olbrys** - January 11, 2019 at 03:56 PM

DS

“ I was fortunate to know Leo at the start of my career in the Hartford VA Regional Office back in 1972. He was a member of the so-called "Class of '46" World War II veterans who mentored recently discharged Viet Nam Era vets like myself who joined the VA workforce. We bonded over daily interactions, finding we hailed from the same city of New Britain and shared a passion for golf. We participated in the VARO golf league and at the Stanley Golf course. Over the decades, as my career advanced, we worked together as peers. I considered Leo a good friend who treated everyone with respect and honesty. He was a man of integrity. I will miss him.

*Don Schnur*

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**Donald Schnur** - January 10, 2019 at 09:18 AM

FJ

“ *Laia & Family, our deepest sympathy. Frank & Nancy Carifa and Family*

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**Frank Carifa JR** - January 09, 2019 at 04:19 PM

LS

“ *Mark & Pam, thinking of you and your family. Sending sincere sympathy. Lynette & Mark*

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**Lynette Scapellati** - January 08, 2019 at 09:50 PM

BP

“ *Laia, Bob, Donna & Mark So sorry to learn of Leo's passing. Our condolences and prayers to you and your immediate families. We also fell the loss and grieve with you at this time Love to all Barbara & Nick Paventi*

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**Barbara & Nick Paventi** - January 08, 2019 at 03:03 PM

NL

“ We were sad to hear about the loss of Leo. He was a long time friend of my husband's father and consequently I had the privilege of knowing him and Laia over the last 52 years. There were lots of family stories about the visits back and forth between CT. and Michigan. I know he will be missed terribly by his large family and lots of friends but I hope the memories of him will offer everyone solace and comfort to all. I sincerely hope my husband continues to stay in touch with Leo's son, Bob, so the friendship between the Ludwas and the Francinis will last a whole lot longer.

*Lots of love,  
Nancy and Raymie Ludwa*

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**Nancy Ludwa** - January 08, 2019 at 01:27 PM

BK

“ *To the family of Leo Francini*

*Please accept our sincere condolences on the loss of your father. Anne and I both worked for Leo at the VA. As I look back over my career I owe so much to Leo. The advice and values that he helped me realize had a profound effect on a career of government service and the private sector. Anne and I lost touch with Leo and Laia over the years moving around the country, but often thought of Leo and Laia. May you all find comfort in the memories of your father. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.*

*Anne and Bruce Keller  
Milford, NH*

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**BRUCE KELLER** - January 08, 2019 at 01:10 PM

DN

“ To the family of Leo Francini,

*So sorry to hear of Leo's passing. I remember Leo and Laia going for their daily walks together on Mohawk St. I always thought of them as a great couple. Unfortunately I'm unable to attend the service, your family is in my thoughts. Thank you Bobby for paying your respects to my family over the years.*

*Darlene Rio Napoletano*

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**Darlene Napoletano** - January 08, 2019 at 08:12 AM

TK

“ Donna & Family So Sorry for Your Loss Your Dad had a wonderful life. Lots of Grandchildren ❤️🇵🇸 Tom Kowalski

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**tom kowalski** - January 08, 2019 at 07:09 AM