



Dr. Kirk Contento

July 13, 1953 - October 2, 2017

Dr. Kirk Contento.

Beloved husband of Mary C. Contento, nee Nugent; loving father of Alyssa Contento; devoted brother of Mark (Anne) Contento, Jann (Rebecca) Contento and Duane (Lori Volheim) Contento; fond uncle of many nieces and nephews.

Family and Friends will meet Friday, October 6, 2017 at Saint Linus Catholic Church, 10300 Lawler Avenue, Oak Lawn, IL 60453; for a Mass of Christian burial at 12:00 Noon.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the American Diabetes Association (https://donations.diabetes.org/site/Donation2;jsessionid=00000000.app244b?df_id=20044&mfc_pref=T&20044.donation=form1&loc=dorg_header-in-memory&s_src=dorg&s_subsrc=header-in-memory&NONCE_TOKEN=9452C7B2EC337DA371BE7A1701997B7D) are appreciated.

This Life Tributes page has been created to make it easy for Family and Friends to share memories, photos and videos.

For further information about this funeral; please contact the Morizzo Funeral Directors at 847.752.6444. Arrangements entrusted to Morizzo Funeral Home

and Cremation Services, 2550 West Hassell Road, (Northeast corner at Barrington Road), Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60169.

Previous Events

Mass of Christian Burial

OCT 6. 12:00 PM (CT)

St. Linus Catholic Church in Oak Lawn
10300 Lawler Avenue
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
(708) 422-2400
<http://www.stlinusoaklawn.org/>

Tribute Wall



“ I went to grade school with Kirk (St. Joseph, Addison IL). He was a fun young man, if you will - a class clown. My heart aches at his loss. I just know he's making people laugh from his heavenly perch. Rest peacefully, my old friend.

Adrienne Holek - May 01, 2024 at 06:22 AM



“ *Dr. Kirk Contento*

November 04, 2022 at 06:54 PM



“ *I'm 5 years too late! Kirk Contento was a good friend, my personal DPM, and I'm saddened to only find out today that he's no longer with us! My thoughts and prayers are with his family! Darren Brumfield*

Darren Brumfield - October 10, 2022 at 05:49 PM

“ On many occasions, Alyssa was in tow learning from her father what it meant to volunteer, the importance of giving to others and to the community.

In the middle of a hot summer weekend, you could find Dr. Kirk in the medical tent at a Chicago fundraising foot race. He volunteered to treat and care for the participants sweaty, aching, & blistering feet from the race. Knowing Kirk like I did, I'm sure he would throw in a bit of advice like "buying quality shoes" along the way. This was all on his own time in the summer!

Kirk introduced me to his podiatry brothers when we went to the Chicago Big Smoke, a Cigar show. I would meet him and his buddies for an evening of friendship, cigars, and of course some laughs. Our kinship grew with this cigar connection as we would meet at Cigar Shop open houses, or I would take the last appointment on a Saturday so afterwards we could spend a couple hours together having a cigar, chewing the fat, and watching a few innings of the afternoon Cubs game.

Kirk enjoyed all kinds of food, wine, and cooking was one of his hobbies. So we eventually had to invite the girls in the club, as the five of us (Kirk, Mary, Alyssa, Olga, myself) started to meet for dinner every few weeks. We would go to all sorts of different places, trying new foods. And, as you can imagine, laughter was always on the menu. Especially when the restaurant loses electricity during a thunderstorm and your pizza is still cooking in the oven!

For many years, Kirk would go to his mother's apartment every Sunday and do her grocery shopping at 3 to 4 different stores and bring them back to her. Arlette was experiencing blurry vision from Cataracts and Kirk was there to make sure his mom had the food she wanted for the upcoming week.

Kirk always had the best interest of others first in his mind.

I could go on with story after story, but I wanted to conclude by saying Thank You Kirk for Living Life. Thank you for Sharing, and Thank You for Teaching me one of life's simplest and most rewarding lessons: "it is much better to give, than to receive". Rest peacefully mi amigo.

K Nugent - October 22, 2017 at 08:46 PM

KN

“ *One Life's Enough*

Good Afternoon

I am Kevin Nugent, Mary Nugent-Contento's brother & Alyssa's uncle UK.

First of all I want to start by saying, on behalf of Mary & Alyssa, and the entire Contento Family, thank you. Thank you for your love and support, your thoughts and prayers, and being here today to Celebrate a fine mans beautiful life. Please do not leave here today without knowing how much we appreciate everything.

Some say the eulogy is a sum of a person's life and you tell funny stories and recollections. But I accepted the honor because it allowed me to share how Kirk's life had an impact on others, why they did certain things, and how those acts of love impacted your own life and the life of others.

Kirk Michael was born in Addison, IL in July of 1953 to two proud parents, Arlette and Michael Contento. He was the first of four boys, soon to be followed by brothers Marc, Jann, and Duane.

Being the oldest boy in the family, Kirk blazed a trail for his brothers to follow: being an altar boy, paper boy, football player, went on to college, and finished graduate school. During these years, Kirk participated in various sports, student council, school plays, joined the tennis and science clubs, did volunteer work, and enjoyed running events. Over the years, Kirk still kept in contact with many of his high school and college buddies, previous work and Podiatry associates.

Kirk became a loving husband and father, was a son, brother and uncle. His chosen profession, following in the footsteps of both parents, was Doctor of Podiatry. Most of all, Kirk loved his family, extended family, and even the "As the World Turns" Nugent's.

You know, everyone has a history similar to this. It is what he did and how Kirk lived his everyday life, that provides a significant lesson; so simple it smacks you upside the head.

I first met Kirk when he came over to our house for dinner. He came off as loud, brash and insensitive, but you could see he had a sense of humor. I didn't really like him at first. AND, he called my parents by their first name! Who does that anyway? Especially meeting

them for the first and in their house? I always thought you addressed the parents as Mr. & Mrs. But that was Kirk. As time passed with his marriage to Mary Nugent in the Spring of 1993, they brought into this world a beautiful girl named Alyssa Rose, which was one of the happiest days of his life, thus creating the "Contento Trio". They proceeded to do everything together as a family.

When you first meet Kirk, you see his big smile, familiar beard and hear his laughter, but what you don't initially see is the size of his heart. That comes with time.

Kirk had been generous to me over the years; he gave me Chicago Bears tickets, to preseason games of course. He invited me to assist him in moving into his downtown doctors office, complete with treatment chairs, lights, cabinets, the works! EVERYTHING you see in a doctor's office, and that stuff is not light! That is when I met Kirk's dad for the first time. Nice handsome man, but what I couldn't get over was how the two were a splitting image of one another. Kirk had two doctors offices; one in downtown Chicago and another in the south suburbs. He would take appointments at both for 35 years. He was involved in the American Podiatry Medical Association serving as officer and President, and was active in the AFL CIO podiatrist's union. But it's not about the number offices, or organizations you belong to, or the number of certificates hung on the wall. It is how Kirk utilized his professional skills in ways that should not go unnoticed.

Dr. Contento made "house calls" regularly to accommodate patients who couldn't make it to his office, literally. What doctor does that anymore? Especially when we have so much free time.

Kirk would also go to homeless shelters to provide foot care for those that normally couldn't afford it. This was on his own time, in the evening after a long work day, and at no expense. On many

K Nugent - October 22, 2017 at 08:44 PM

KN

“ 2 files added to the album *New Album Name*



K Nugent - October 22, 2017 at 07:35 PM

SE

“ *Stefanie Ennis lit a candle in memory of Dr. Kirk Contento*



Stefanie Ennis - October 08, 2017 at 11:36 AM

BA

“ My name is Barbara Miller, PMAC and I have known Kirk for over 35 years. I feel honored and privileged to share my thoughts and memories of him. One of the many things about Kirk that impressed me was his passion about everything in life he did. He was an icon of the podiatric profession and was loved and respected by podiatrists nationally. In fact, last night I was on face book and saw adulations from prominent podiatrists across the country singing his praises.

Another admirable trait I share about Kirk was his jolly smile. He played Santa at many venues. The office, Dr. Jenkins parties, nursing homes and my family parties. He had the best Ho, Ho, Ho. He was always smiling whenever I saw him. He was a giver. If he thought you weren't enjoying yourself he would approach you and go out of his way to make you comfortable.

Kirk was always willing to lend a helping hand and was very proactive. He participated in many walk a thons, health fairs and the Avon walk. I have the unique distinction of knowing him in four different venues. He was my mentor and treated me as such. I was his assistant for 32 years. We both started working the same week at two different offices in 1982, he at the Brookfield office under Dr. Ron Parrish and me at the Chicago (Bogan) office under Dr. Michael Leonetti. I remember we were assisting Dr. Parrish in a bunion surgery and he was sweating profusely. I thought to myself at least I don't look nervous. It wasn't until 2 years later when he bought Dr. Leonetti's practice that I realized he perspired ALL the time. His patients loved him and the way he decorated for all the holidays, his raffles (Christmas and Football). As a mentor he distinguished himself when you asked him for assistance to make sure you used the tools available to you to solve the problem. There was never a stupid question. Kirk was the one to encourage me to take the PMAC certification exam for our National organization. I was confident on the admin part but nervous on clinical, so he bought a radiology book and that well known red Podiatric assistant book. I remember staying at a different hotel and studying most of the evening when he called and said he had something to help me study. Most of you remember Crispy crème donuts but this was

Cherry Cheese cake. He left me and said he was sure I would do fine on the exam, well two weeks later a letter came in the mail with PMAC after my name and it was then I knew I passed. I was his friend. We were in the office when the call came in that his father had a heart attack in his downtown office. Years later he had hernia surgery and asked me to drive him downtown so he could pick up his mail. I was a wreck, I hated downtown, but I was his friend. He bartended for all the assistants' cocktail parties for over 25 years. He had been lecturing for Sandra Lorentz, PMAC (now deceased) in the assistants programs and on programs with her for as long as I can remember. Lastly, he was my doctor, my family's doctor and an excellent one at that. He has been sorely missed the past few years.

In case any of you think that anything will be the same for you after this, I just want to tell you.....it won't! And to quote him, which we all knew he liked to do. "He leaves behind a chasm and a pair of extremely large shoes to fill. For those of you who don't know what a chasm is, it is a hole the proportions of the Grand Canyon, just to give you a perspective"

I feel confident that Kirk is above in heaven, along with Sandra in her red motorized cart, drink in hand, looking down upon us all with their never ending smiles and that's what I will be thinking about for a many days to come.



Barbara - October 05, 2017 at 02:16 PM

MK

“ *He was so kind. He took such great care of me and my mother, and then my husband. He, will truly be missed*



May J Kosmos - October 04, 2017 at 07:56 PM



“ *Patti Lekas lit a candle in memory of Dr. Kirk Contento*



Patti Lekas - October 04, 2017 at 06:09 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. Kirk Contento.*



October 04, 2017 at 02:47 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Kirk Contento.*



October 04, 2017 at 02:38 PM



“ *Julie Ann lit a candle in memory of Dr. Kirk Contento*



Julie Ann - October 04, 2017 at 12:45 PM



“ *Dr Jenkins and Dr Pickard purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Dr. Kirk Contento.*



Dr Jenkins and Dr Pickard - October 04, 2017 at 11:02 AM

JD

“ My good friend and colleague over the last 30 years has passed away. Kirk M. Contento DPM, one the biggest influences in my life not only as a podiatry student while attending Scholl college in Chicago, but as true colleague...a big man, not only in size, but with his heart.

He dedicated his life to this profession...following in the foot steps of his father, Michael Contento, DPM, who was a downtown Chicago loop podiatrist for many years. He passed away in 1985 due to heart attack at 57 years old. Kirk took over his practice and never stopped trying to fill his father's shoes and bring podiatry to the respected profession it is today.

I did not have the opportunity to met Kirk's father, but did hear many stories about him from Kirk and all that he did for podiatry and his many patients.

I met Kirk as a podiatry student in 1987 living just one floor above him. We developed a relationship and a brotherhood that has lasted all these many years. I am so glad that he was in my life to have the honor of knowing him.

He certainly influenced my career as a podiatric physician not only as a doctor, but to follow his example to be a leader of this profession on a state and national level. He was the biggest man and "voice" in the room making sure that where ever he went he made sure that podiatry was at the forefront.

Whether as president of our state association, union leader to the profession, podiatry licensing board chair, or delegate to the house on a national level when Kirk spoke people listened. He never stopped being that the "man" we could count on. He was a great doctor, leader, and influential person for podiatry so many years until his health did not allow him to do so.

And, it was because him that I became involved in our profession's

state board and eventually became the Illinois Podiatric Medical Association President in 2009-10, then a delegate to House of Delegates to the American Podiatric Medical Association, then an OPEIU local 45 Delegate, and now the Chair of the Illinois Podiatry Licensing Board.

He will be sorely missed.

Condolences to his family, friends, former patients, and fellow podiatrists...RIP my friend. A special prayer goes out to his long time assistant Barbara Miller who is and has continued to be a major influence leader for the Illinois podiatric assistant association.



Through of all us in the podiatric profession Dr. Kirk Contento's legacy will live on because that is the best way we can honor him now and forever.

Dr. Joseph Borreggine, Charleston, Illinois



Joseph Borreggine DPM - October 04, 2017 at 10:00 AM

TH

“ *Offering our deepest condolences during this difficult time.* ”



Those of us at Morizzo Funeral Home - October 03, 2017 at 05:27 PM

SA

*RIP Kirk , you were one of the most genuine men , I have ever met!
You were always there for me and my family , no matter what the
problem was !
I'm sure you are on the fast train right to heaven , you will be missed !*

Sam Aprile - October 06, 2017 at 09:33 AM

KD

*My condolences to Kirk's family on his death. I knew Kirk for quite a
few years and he was a good guy. You always knew when Kirk was in
the room. I had an opportunity to run into him about a year ago and we
had a nice conversation. His family will miss him and his podiatry family
will miss him. RIP KC*

Kathleen Daly - October 06, 2017 at 10:36 PM