



## Mr. Leonard J. Maniscalco of Oak Brook

June 24, 1937 - September 24, 2023

With a full, heavy heart, Leonard Maniscalco, of Oak Brook, Illinois, passed away on Sunday, September 24, 2023. Son of the late William and the late Josephine (nee Immordino) Maniscalco.

Len was born and raised in Chicago where he met his wife, Paula Ann. They were married in 1959 until Paula passed 26 years later. Young and ambitious, combined with their strong faith, together they embarked on their journey with their vast hopes and dreams. They had 3 daughters, Paula Kelli (Jeff) Whisler, Jacqueline Jo (Paul) Adank and Suzanne Louise (Dan) Dwyer. Six grandchildren, Paula (Terence) Coppola, Emily (Thomas) Haubenreich, Austin (Madison) Adank, Samuel Adank, Nicholas Dwyer and Joseph Dwyer. Two great grandchildren, Luca and Leo.

Len and Paula built their dream home and set roots in Oak Brook. He was a self-made man. Started multiple businesses from the ground up. Had a strong work ethic from a young age and at times worked two jobs. His perseverance and determination to succeed was the only option. He worked until the very end, 86 years old.

Paula Ann passed at a young age (47). Len was an exemplary father to his daughters as he took on the mother and father role for many years.

Len married Geri in 1991 until she passed in 2017. They enjoyed life together between Oak Brook and Florida. Golfing at Medinah Country Club where he was a member since 1982 and the Island Country Club in Marco Island, FL. He prioritized family, was energized by friends, philanthropic by nature, embodied a sense of humor that drew others in, happy to be surrounded by people, planning a party, always having a new idea, watching the Bears, White Sox, Bulls, Blackhawks and of course, working. He found great happiness in attending the grandchildren's sporting and dance events. Christmas Eve was his ultimate favorite as that was his one requested day his family came together celebrating at his home. His heart melted as he looked around the large table of the family that grew out of the love that began when he wed in 1959.

Len was forever telling stories. Many of the traditions he grew up with from his Italian-American heritage. He was proud to be American. Proud to be Italian. Proud of his family. Proud of the life he dreamed of that became his truth.

Len was a devout Catholic. Participated in many retreats. Was involved from the beginning of the building of Ascension Parish in Oak Brook Terrace, Illinois. Went to weekly mass religiously. A parishioner for 53 years.

He led a very active life. In his early years, he was in the National Guard. Although he studied at Northern Illinois University, his heart was with St. Mary's University, MN. Held many positions on a variety of boards. A member of the Columbian Club of Chicago since 1973. Was Chairman of the Board of Harris Bank branch. A guest on Fox News. Local Representative for the East-West Tollway Extension, the Advisory Board of St. Mary's University.

During his last years he had a loving companionship with Marie Merola until her passing in 2022.

It is with profound sadness to have him leave this earth where he has made such a mark on so many. He is greeted in heaven by countless loved ones that have been awaiting his arrival for years. Until we are together again, dear Len. A beautiful life remembered.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, September 27, 2023 from 3:00 to 9:00 P.M. at Morizzo Funeral Home, 2550 West Hassell Rd., (Northeast corner of Barrington Rd.), Hoffman Estates, IL. 60169. Family and Friends will meet Thursday, September 28, 2023 for a visitation from 8:30 A.M. till time of Mass of Christian Burial at 9:30 A.M. at Ascension of Our Lord Catholic Church, 1S314 Summit Ave, Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181. Entombment to follow at Queen of Heaven Cemetery in Hillside.

In lieu of flowers donations made in to St Jude Children's Research Hospital ([https://www.stjude.org/donate/donate-to-st-jude.html?sc\\_icid=header-btn-donate-now](https://www.stjude.org/donate/donate-to-st-jude.html?sc_icid=header-btn-donate-now)) would be greatly appreciated.

The family has created this Life Tributes page to make it easy to share your memories, photos, and videos. For those of you that would have attended services and would like to express your condolences please click on the "Share A Memory" link above and you can leave a message. If you wish to send a Sympathy Card, please feel free to send it to Morizzo Funeral Home, 2550 Hassell Road, Hoffman Estates, Illinois, 60169 c/o the Family; we will gladly forward it on to the family.

For further information please contact the Morizzo Funeral Directors at 847.752.6444. Arrangements entrusted to Morizzo Funeral Home and Cremation Services, at 2550 West Hassell Road, (Northeast corner at Barrington Road), Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60169.

# Cemetery Details

## Queen of Heaven Catholic Cemetery and Mausoleum in Hillside

1400 South Wolf Road  
Wolf and Roosevelt Road  
Hillside, IL 60162  
(708) 449-8300  
<http://www.catholiccemeterieschicago.org/locations.php?cem=14>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **27**. 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM (CT)

Morizzo Family Funeral Home, Cremation Services, and Cemetery Memorials  
2550 Hassell Road  
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169  
(847) 752-6444  
[ross@morizzofuneralhome.com](mailto:ross@morizzofuneralhome.com)  
<https://www.morizzofuneralhome.com>

## Visitation

SEP **28**. 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM (CT)

Ascension of Our Lord Catholic Church in Oak Brook  
1S314 Summit Avenue  
Oak Brook, IL 60181  
<http://www.ascensionofourlord.net/>

## Mass of Christian Burial

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SEP **28**. 9:30 AM (CT)

Ascension of Our Lord Catholic Church in Oak Brook

1S314 Summit Avenue

Oak Brook, IL 60181

<http://www.ascensionofourlord.net/>

# Tribute Wall

GE

“ So sorry to hear Lenny has died. wish I had known I no longer drive and would have loved to come and say a prayer for him. He was a great friend to Aldo and me. Deepest condolences to all of you.  
Gerry Marchetti

*g*

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**Gerry** - September 28, 2023 at 02:47 PM

CS

“ Carol & Jamie Solt planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Leonard J. Maniscalco.

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**Carol & Jamie Solt** - September 27, 2023 at 02:55 PM



“ 409 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



**Morizzo Funeral Home & Cremation Services** - September 27, 2023 at 11:05 AM

GK

*What a beautiful man Leonard was always with a positive attitude went to work every day and enjoyed it you will be missed Leonard and to all of his family my deepest sympathy*

**Gregory Kwityn** - September 27, 2023 at 11:16 AM

PF

“ *Paul & Peggy Killian & family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mr. Leonard J. Maniscalco of Oak Brook.*



**Paul & Peggy Killian & family** - September 27, 2023 at 10:48 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Leonard J. Maniscalco of Oak Brook.*



September 27, 2023 at 10:01 AM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Leonard J. Maniscalco of Oak Brook.*



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September 26, 2023 at 04:36 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Leonard J. Maniscalco.

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September 26, 2023 at 02:18 PM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Leonard J. Maniscalco of Oak Brook.*



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September 26, 2023 at 02:18 PM



“ *Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Mr. Leonard J. Maniscalco of Oak Brook.*



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September 26, 2023 at 12:46 PM

DD

“ It was with great sorrow that I read of Len's passing. I was immediately flooded with memories!. I remember my cousin Paula dating him, their engagement, and their beautiful wedding. I got to watch how a young loving couple prospered, and remember the births of all their children. I loved watching them get dressed to go out, as I babysat a lot. They were so glamorous! He was an exemplary man, a model for all of us.

*After enduring many sorrows, losing two wives, I was thrilled that he reconnected with Marie Merollo, who was my neighbor. They were so compatible and they were blessed to find each other.*

*How wonderful that he has such a beautiful legacy with his wonderful grandchildren and now great grandchildren. His daughters are some of the finest you will find. My love and sympathy to Kelli, Jackie and Suzanne. Sorry I am out of the country, and my thoughts are with you all.*

*Love,*

*Denise Devitt*

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**Denise Devitt** - September 26, 2023 at 12:06 PM

PG

“ I find it hard to believe that Len is gone. He was the light of my sister Marie's life the last 5 years. I met your daughters at Marie's memorial, and found them a wonderful attribute to your family, kind generous, and loving. You have my deepest sympathy. Bless you all, Maniscalco family. Pat and Ken Gundersen

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**pat gundersen** - September 26, 2023 at 11:14 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Leonard J. Maniscalco of Oak Brook.*



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September 26, 2023 at 10:51 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Leonard J. Maniscalco of Oak Brook.*



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September 26, 2023 at 08:57 AM



“ *Len was a great man always on the up beat a great asset to the Columbian Club of Chicago...he will be greatly missed by all !!!!*

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**Gabe Caporale** - September 25, 2023 at 09:46 PM



“ *Len was a wonderful man and he always talked about his family and how much he enjoyed all of them and Christmas was his favorite holiday because the whole family got together. We love u Len, say hello to marie for us*



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**Bill and Donna Corso** - September 25, 2023 at 09:01 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of  
*Mr. Leonard J. Maniscalco of Oak Brook.*



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September 25, 2023 at 07:36 PM