



## Francis J. Lann

June 20, 1936 - October 2, 2022

Francis J. Lann, age 86, died October 2, 2022, peacefully at home surrounded by his family. Born June 20, 1936, he was the son of the late Francis B. and Mary Novosat Lann. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his brother Richard and sisters Elizabeth Lauffer and Dolores Mullen. He is survived by his devoted wife of 56 years Charlotte Lenhart Lann; his daughter Amy Shorkey (Russ) and son Michael Lann (Nicole); his six beloved grandchildren who affectionately knew him as “Pop” Chloe, Ella, Jacob Francis, Sam, Josephine Shorkey, and Jack Lann; brothers and sisters Claude (Ruthann) Lann, Ron (Carol) Novosat, Joyce Ann Parr, and Mary Jane Huchko; nieces and nephews who knew him as Uncle Doodle; several cousins; and dear friends.

To know Francis was to know how proud he was of his hometown Norvelt, how important the Norwin community was to him and how unconditionally he loved his family and friends.

Francis graduated from Hurst High School in 1955. After serving four years in the Air Force, he graduated from California University of Pennsylvania and went on to earn his Master’s degree in Education from West Virginia University. Francis spent the next 31 years in education serving the Norwin School District first as a biology teacher and then as assistant principal for 22 years. After retirement, he was inducted into the Norwin Athletic Hall of Fame.

Francis unequivocally was a proud grandfather, loving husband, admirer and student of nature, lifelong gardener and loyal Pirates fan. He did his pushups every morning and said his prayers every night.

Francis fought Parkinson's disease for 19 years demonstrating the character, strength and determination that he possessed throughout his entire life. His family would like to thank his caregiving team. The list is long but specifically Katie, Marissa, Kara and Patty.

Friends and family will be received from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, October 5, at the William Snyder Funeral Home, 521 Main Street, Irwin. A funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. Thursday, October 6, at Harrold Zion Lutheran Church, 671 Baltzer Meyer Pike, Greensburg, PA 15601.

In lieu of flowers and in honor of his service to education, please thank your favorite teacher. For online condolences please visit [www.snyderfuneralservices.com](http://www.snyderfuneralservices.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Harold Zion Lutheran Cemetery

671 Baltzer Meyer Pike  
Greensburg, PA 15601

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 5. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

William Snyder Funeral Home, Inc.  
521 Main Street  
Irwin, PA 15642  
(724) 863-1200  
<https://williamsnyderfuneralhome.com/>

## Visitation

OCT 5. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

William Snyder Funeral Home, Inc.  
521 Main Street  
Irwin, PA 15642  
(724) 863-1200  
<https://williamsnyderfuneralhome.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ Francis J. Lann

October 07, 2023 at 10:37 AM



“ I am sorry to hear about the passing of Mr. Lann. He was one of a kind. He was smart, kind, and a great communicator. He was my home room teacher and we had many conversations about life and pursuing goals in life. He was a great teacher and a man of character. I always have a smile on my face when I think about his thoughts and actions. Doug Plank

Doug Plank - June 10, 2023 at 11:47 AM



“ Another great teacher/coach from Norwin!  
I certainly remember him in Norwin's track program.  
He will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

May he Rest In Peace. My sincere condolences to his family.

Jeff Findle - October 19, 2022 at 10:38 AM



“ Charlotte, Amy, Mike, and Family: We were so sorry to see that Fran passed away. We send our sincere condolences and prayers to you all. You all were always the best of neighbors and sincerely missed when you moved. Love and best wishes, Dean and Juanita Zimmerman

Juanita Zimmerman - October 09, 2022 at 05:15 PM

BR

“ To the father of the best quarterback and holder in Hempfield high history. Fran... to a man who wasn't afraid to tell his son he loved him in front of his buddies, and to the only man I've ever known to make granola! Thank you for leading by example.

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**Brandon** - October 07, 2022 at 12:30 AM

KB

“ Mr. Lann was one of a kind!! He defined what it meant to be an educator. He not only educated me in biology and football but how to care for others, maintain lifelong relationships, and get through difficult times without complaint. I think I speak for everyone who knew him (especially from the Norwin class of 1974 since we were his favorite class!) that he made you feel special and you knew he really, truly cared about you. He went out of his way for my wife Maryann and me and he and Charlotte corresponded with us often. When my first daughter was born (she is 43 now), he showed up at the hospital with an ornament "Baby's First Christmas". He would often check in with my kids, pull them out of class and ask them how we/they were doing. Nobody, other than family, cared more about us than he did. His passing is a great loss and we will miss him terribly but I know he has a place in heaven for all of the positive influences he had on so many peoples' lives. Our thoughts and prayers are with Charlotte, Amy, Mike, and family during this difficult time. Rest In peace, Mr. Lann.

*With Deepest Sympathy,*

*Kerry Beardsley*

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**Kerry Beardsley** - October 05, 2022 at 04:51 PM

ME

“ So sorry to hear about Fran the man. Eternal rest grant unto him oh lord and let the perpetual light shine upon him. May he Rest In Peace. May his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed Rest In Peace.

*Fondest memory of Mr. Lane was graduation day 1994. I picked him up over my shoulder and ran across the football field set him down and he gave me the biggest hug.*

*Thoughts and prayers with you all.*

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**Mesz** - October 05, 2022 at 02:58 PM

RS

“ *Fran The Man! My Leader, my Teammate, my Friend. We did so many things together that I will always cherish. Basketball games with Eiasman, Fedor and Cal! We were both involved in the greatest athletic feat in Westmoreland softball history playing for Wendel Club-The Triple Play!! We always had fun competing! I'll miss you, my Friend!*

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**Robert Shrader** - October 05, 2022 at 08:38 AM

MA

“ *Thank you, Fran, YOU were my favorite teacher! You made learning fun and knowing you was a pleasure. I will always remember your poster of Dean Martin hung in the classroom. I will also fondly remember meeting you, Charlotte and the Fontanesi's for Sunday brunch in Annapolis in 2001, the weekend after 9-11. May your soul rest in peace, basking in the Glory of God, Marcia Marciniak Auth*

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**Marcia Auth** - October 04, 2022 at 11:08 PM

LC

“ *Fondly remember Mr. Lann; he helped me dissect a frog in biology class , which I was afraid to touch, circa 1969?*

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**Lynne Harvath Clemente** - October 04, 2022 at 09:46 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Francis J. Lann.*



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October 04, 2022 at 08:00 PM



“ *Charlotte, Mike and Amy: we're sending our sympathy. Fran was a great guy a real gentleman. I know he will be missed so much. You will be in our thoughts and prayers.*  
*Doris and Wayne Kebe*

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**Doris Kebe** - October 04, 2022 at 04:52 PM



“ *Charlotte, please accept my deepest sympathy. Fran was a special teacher & administrator. It was my privilege to work with him starting in 1969. May the Lord be with you and your family.*

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**Donald Minyon** - October 04, 2022 at 04:35 PM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Francis J. Lann.*



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October 04, 2022 at 03:18 PM

JP

“ Mr. Lann was an amazing man. Future generations will not have the pleasure of meeting him and that is too bad. 💔 Have a drink with my Dad.



Jenn Pietronigro - October 04, 2022 at 03:15 PM



“ Mr Lann was one of my favorite people who worked at Norwin. He was such a nice guy to everyone. My condolences to his family and I will pray for him and everyone who knew him. Thanks Mr. Lann for being who you were. Thanks for your service to our country.

Craig Woodward - October 04, 2022 at 02:21 PM

LS

“ My husband and I worked with Fran in two different buildings and always considered it an honor and a privilege to do do. He was a kind and caring man, not only to his family, but also to students and faculty. I send Charlotte, Amy, Russ, Michael, Nicole, and all of his grandchildren the deepest sympathy. I know he was loved deeply and will be missed.

Linda and Tom Sipe - October 04, 2022 at 12:42 PM

RS

“ My thoughts and prayers to the family at this most difficult and sad time. I was a classmate of Doodle and he was very conscientious and a real gentleman in high school. My sincere sympathy to the family. He will be missed.

Roberta (Krempasky) Shoaf  
Inverness, Florida

Roberta (Krempasky) Shoaf - October 04, 2022 at 10:13 AM

MR

“ Fran was my science teacher, my principal, my colleague, and friend. I taught Amy and Michael, and Charlotte was my friend. My condolences to all of you. Take care of yourselves and each other. Love, Margie (Rosso). Lynn Kemerer says she is praying for you all, too.

Margie Rosso - October 04, 2022 at 09:05 AM

DT

“ Dee Anthony Thomas lit a candle in memory of Francis J. Lann



Dee Anthony Thomas - October 03, 2022 at 10:38 PM

DT

You were a one in a million kind of educator, Mr. Lann !!! A true comedian with love for all those you taught and coached. Science class.....graduate of '74 Blessings and prayers to Family and Friends, Always and Forever XO

Dee Anthony Thomas - October 03, 2022 at 10:42 PM

D'

Throughout history, great leaders surrounded themselves with great people who were reliable, dependable, and consistent in their loyalty to all. Our wonderful Principal, the late Mr. Ron Peduzzi did just that. Mr. Fran Lann was, as Mr. Peduzzi would often say, "First Class All the Way"! A special man who was firm yet a friend to the students. May our Lord grant Mr. Lann eternal rest and bless all the family with His peace!!

Daniel Priatko Norwin HS '80 - October 04, 2022 at 11:48 PM

D'

\*\*\*Please add to the message from "Daniel" my last name "Priatko". Thank you!

Daniel Priatko Norwin HS '80 - October 04, 2022 at 11:52 PM

TB

“ *Mr. Lann was one of my favorites. Sympathy to his family. RIP Mr. Lann. Tony B '86*

**Tony Benevento** - October 03, 2022 at 10:09 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Francis J. Lann.*



October 03, 2022 at 08:19 PM

SG

“ *Mr. Lann was the best. He cared about you as a student, an athlete, but more importantly a person. He helped so much when my dad passed away while I was in high school. I am an educator and have been for the last 28 years, partly because of the efforts of Mr. Lann. Steve Good, Norwin class of 89.*

**Steve Good** - October 03, 2022 at 08:01 PM

JM

“ *Judy Magill lit a candle in memory of Francis J. Lann*



**Judy Magill** - October 03, 2022 at 07:31 PM

JM

“ I pray for Charlotte, Amy and Russ, Michael and Nicole, and all of their children. Fran loved all of you dearly. My daughters, Tamy and Teya, knew him and Charlotte from a very young age, and he always had their best interests at heart when they were students at Norwin. I always knew that I could talk to him if I had any concerns. It was a blessed privilege to be in the company of Charlotte and Fran. I will never forget him and his bright smile. Love and prayers, Judy Magill, Tamy and Teya

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**Judy Magill** - October 03, 2022 at 07:30 PM

AR

“ Always with a bright smile and twinkling eyes, ready to help student and teacher alike, Fran, along with Ron Peduzzi, were the best team to work for and with for most of my career at Norwin. I pray for Fran's family who are missing a gentle man who loved all of you. He was a gentleman and a scholar in every sense, who left a positive mark on all whom he met in this world. Rest in Peace, with love, Alona H. Redden

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**Alona Hope Redden** - October 03, 2022 at 07:18 PM

LP

“ Virtually all of my Norwin memories include Mr. Lann and the Lann family. I remember how his warm smile and easy laugh always made me feel welcome. The world just lost a little bit of sunshine. We will miss you Mr. Lann. - Lauren Peduzzi

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**Lauren Peduzzi** - October 03, 2022 at 09:28 AM