



## Robert L. Cornali

April 3, 1942 - March 10, 2026

Robert L. Cornali, 83, of North Huntingdon, died March 10, 2026. He was born April 3, 1942, the son of the late Arthur and Lucille (Vucelich) Cornali, of White Valley. He graduated from Clarion University in 1964, having been a proud member of the Alpha Gamma Phi fraternity and establishing lifelong friends in the Clarion area. He was affectionately known by these friends as “Jumbo.” He continued his fraternity with his Gamma brothers and friends throughout his life meeting yearly to hunt, play golf, attend Clarion homecoming, and perform philanthropy work for the university.

He met his beloved wife, Pam, while working his way through college, as a starter at Westmoreland Country Club. Pam was a waitress at the club, and he often told the story of working to win her heart. His lifetime love of golf was also fostered along with wonderful lifelong friendships with many of the club members and their families.

He spent 35 years teaching U.S. History and Contemporary Affairs at Norwin Senior High School, retiring in 2000. His interest in international affairs spurred his involvement with the World Affairs Council, leading discussions at the World Affairs Institute and, as the President of Norwin’s AFS student exchange chapter, welcoming students from across the world to the U.S. Later in life he and Pam had much joy traveling to visit with his former AFS students across Europe.

Perhaps one of his favorite activities, besides succeeding in scoring his age in golf, was to be outdoors working in his garden and with the soil. He loved to

share the work of his labors providing vegetables or cooking them for his friends and family.

Robert is survived by his wife, Pamela A. (Kubjalko) Cornali; his children Brian Cornali and wife Amy (Kovach), of Hickory, Benjamin Cornali of Cranberry, and David Cornali and wife Cyndi (Lappe), of North Huntingdon; four grandchildren, Shane, Brooke, Morgan and Luke; his brother Bernard and wife Beth Cornali, of White Valley; his sister Roberta Fix, of Murrysville; and his sister-in-law Barbara (Supancic) Cornali of Greensburg; and many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents as well as his beloved brother Bart C. Cornali of Greensburg.

His family would like to extend their sincere thanks for the wonderful care provided by the staff of Mountain View Memory Care in Youngwood.

Friends and family are invited to attend a Mass of Christian Burial which will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Friday, March 13, in Immaculate Conception Church, Second St., Irwin. The family will greet friends one hour prior to the funeral mass. Interment will follow in Grandview Cemetery, Export. As a lover of gardening and things that continue to grow, in lieu of sending flowers, memorial donations may be made to: Clarion University Foundation, 840 Wood Street, Clarion, PA 16214 c/o the Alpha Gamma Phi Scholarship Fund in memory of Robert Cornali. For online condolences please visit [www.snyderfuneralservices.com](http://www.snyderfuneralservices.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Grandview Cemetery

Cemetery Lane  
Murrysville, PA 15632

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 13. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Church of the Immaculate Conception  
308 2nd street  
Irwin, PA 15642

## Mass of Christian Burial

MAR 13. 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM (ET)

Church of the Immaculate Conception  
308 2nd street  
Irwin, PA 15642

# Tribute Wall

MA

“ *Sending our sincere condolences to Bob’s family. He was a wonderful teacher and a gentleman. Your parents were lovely people. Take care. Mary and Frank Aiello and family* ”

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**Mary Aiello** - March 13 at 05:43 AM



“ *Mr. Cornali was one of my favorite teachers. He always had a smile and a kind word for students. May he rest in peace.* ”

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**Mary CG** - March 12 at 03:47 PM

BS

“ *Jumbo was our Alpha Gamma Phi Leader. Loved and respected by all* ”

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**Bill Sacco** - March 12 at 12:42 PM



“ I would like to honor the memory of Mr. Cornali, who meant so much to me during one of the most formative years of my life when I was a foreign exchange student in Pittsburgh all the way from Sweden.

*To his students, including me, he was far more than a teacher. He was a mentor, a guide, and someone who truly cared about the people sitting in his classroom. His passion for history and the world around us inspired generations of students to think critically and to care about the future.*

*I had the privilege of knowing Mr. Cornali during the 1987–1988 school year when I was an exchange student in the United States. He was my AFS contact at the school, and from the very beginning he welcomed me with warmth, kindness, and genuine curiosity about where I came from. What began as a teacher-student relationship soon became something much deeper. We became very close, and he made me feel like part of his extended family.*

*Through him, I got to know his family, who were always just as welcoming and generous. Even long after my exchange year ended, Mr. Cornali continued to open his home to me whenever I returned to visit. His hospitality never changed, and neither did his interest in how my life was unfolding back in Sweden.*

*One of the things I cherish most is that he had the chance to meet my parents when they visited from Sweden. I always hoped he would one day visit me there as well, and I deeply regret that it never happened. Still, our friendship crossed the ocean in spirit.*

*I remember one time when I returned to the United States with my then boyfriend, Mr. Cornali spent time with us and even played golf with him—just one more example of the easy warmth and generosity that defined him. He had a way of making people feel welcome and valued, no matter where they came from.*

*Even though it has been some years since I last saw him, his influence and kindness have never faded. I will miss him deeply. The world truly feels different without him in it.*

*The sign he had in his classroom that read: "You can't hug a child with nuclear arms." captured something essential about him—his belief in humanity, compassion, and the power of understanding over conflict.*

*Mr. Cornali was a remarkable teacher, a generous host, and a kind soul who left a lasting mark on the lives of so many. I will always be grateful to have known him.*

*Rest in peace, dear Mr. Cornali. You will never be forgotten.*

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**Charlotta Beigren (Eriksson)** - March 12 at 10:00 AM

LK

“*Deepest condolences from the Kattic Family. Mr. Cornali was a dear friend and teaching buddy to our Father. He loved him like the brother he never had. Sometimes, THEY would get in trouble by the principal. He made sure the sauerkraut was made just right along with the teacher gang. He was proud of his family and his home. Im sure he's in heaven joking with our Dad.*”

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**Lisa Kovalcin** - March 12 at 09:26 AM



“ *Jumbo called me “Little Big Man” so fortunate to have met my GAMMA brother and fellow Clarion Golden Eagle. May he always stay Golden!*  
*Jack Irwin*



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**Jack Irwin** - March 11 at 03:22 PM



*Jumbo used to call me “ little big man”. So glad I got to know in love my Gamma brother and fellow Clarion Golden Eagle.  
Stay Golden Jumbo always*

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**Jack Irwin** - March 11 at 03:26 PM

CM

*Deepest sympathies from Loretta, Charlie, Chris and Nichol Matsko. Nichol and Chris really liked him! He would always asked about them every time Loretta and I talked to him. He was truly a good man! Rest In Peace Bob and May the Perpetual Light Shine Upon Your Soul in Heaven. †❤*

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**Charlie & Loretta Matsko** - March 11 at 08:18 PM

BK

“ *I’m so sorry to hear about Mr. Cornali. I remember helping him build his house and playing Santa for his kids. I’m so sorry Pam.*  
*Bill Kohler*

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**bill kohler** - March 11 at 01:23 PM

MS

“ Condolences from the Staso Family your neighbors. Your Dad was a very special man and our children just loved him as a teacher. Deepest Sympathy. God Bless

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**Michele Staso** - March 11 at 10:55 AM

CP

“ Deepest sympathies to all of you. Your Dad was a real favorite of both Ron and I. My memories of him go way back to days before any of us got married! He was always kind and a lot of fun! I'm certain that Ron and he are enjoying great memories in heaven. Fondly, Carolyn Peduzzi

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**Carolyn Peduzzi** - March 11 at 07:41 AM

TS

“ Bob and I were friends for many years at Norwin. We taught in two adjacent rooms for a year or two. We both served as officers for our local teachers union. Bob was the Union Grievance Chairman for several years and his last year as Vice-President. We also shared many laughs over the years in our Euchre Club. Bob was also a very good baseball player, and I believe gun he was a catcher for Bob Moose during his younger days. It would not be a complete story if I didn't mention our yearly making Sauerkraut. It was usually my Job to deliver the cabbage heads to Bob to cut, then my final chore was to sweep the garage floor. He was an outstanding teacher and friend. He will truly be missed but his stories will live on!!!!!!

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**Tom Shirley** - March 10 at 09:48 PM



*I first met Jumbo at one of our Gamma outings. He sat down next to me and said how sorry he was with the passing of my young daughter. His conversation gave me the will I needed to "stay on the positive" a True Gamma Brother Munzee Sesack '69*

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**Barry Sesack** - March 12 at 09:55 PM