



## Sam J. Ciaccio

April 6, 1922 - April 3, 2011

Sam J. Ciaccio, 88, of Kankakee, died Sunday (April 3, 2011) at Prairieview Lutheran Home in Danforth. Private family services will be held. Memorials may be made to the family wishes. Arrangements are by the Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home, west Kankakee.

Mr. Ciaccio was an elected city alderman for the 5th Ward for 17 years. He was also a precinct committeeman for at least 40 years. He was born April 6, 1922, in Chicago Heights, the son of Joseph and Rose Peri Ciaccio. He attended Monmouth College in Wisconsin. He served in the Naval Air Corps during World War II and, as a result, loved flying. He was a union carpenter at Manteno State Hospital, retiring in 1985. His passion was politics. He loved to garden, loved fig trees and loved his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He also loved his annual fishing trips to Canada, where one year he caught "the Big One." He was a passionate environmentalist and a wonderful husband and dad.

Surviving are his wife, the former Ann Delores Conning, of Kankakee, whom he married June 21, 1988, in Kankakee; three daughters and sons-in-law, Joy and Josh Nelson, and Susan and Ray Palmateer, all of Bourbonnais, and Amy and Jeff Jarvis, of Kankakee; two stepsons and one stepdaughter-in-law, James O'Connor, of Lakeland, Fla., and Brad and Deb Smestad, of Evansville, Ind.; five grandchildren, Adam Olson (Sam nicknamed him

"Sunny" because on the day he was born the yard was filled with newly bloomed sunflowers), Samantha Lee Nelson, Jason Palmateer, Aaron Palmateer and Andy Castro; two great-grandchildren; four brothers; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by one grandson, Luke Palmateer; one stepdaughter, Veronica Duncan; his parents, one sister and two brothers.

# Tribute Wall

MZ

“ *Deepest sympathy Ann and Family, You are in my thoughts and prayers !  
If you need anything Ann let me know !! Love, Madonna Mazzuchi-Zasada and family !!*

MaDonna Mazzuchi- Zasada - April 09, 2011 at 10:47 PM

SB

“ *Deepest Sympathy to you Amy and your family. Thinking of you.  
Dave & Sally Blasingim*

Sally Blasingim - April 06, 2011 at 08:02 PM

BB

“ *To the entire family, please accept my deepest sympathies. I lost my Father last week and it is not easy to say goodbye. Sam was quite a guy - please know that you are all in my thoughts and prayers!*

Bruce Barber - April 06, 2011 at 05:42 PM

AW

“ *A good man that will always be loved, and forever remembered. Deepest sympathy to the entire ciaccio family.*

*Adam and Amber Winquest*

adam winquest - April 06, 2011 at 03:43 PM



FA

“ Sending our prayers for you and your family during this difficult time. So sorry for you loss.

Cousins Frances Argento and Sr. Mary Ventura



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frances argento - April 05, 2011 at 09:52 PM

HS

“ how do you say goodbye to your best freind without shedding a tear? Since 1982 Sam was always there to share a laugh, a smile, and listen to anything or everything that I wanted or needed to talk about. He always listened without interupting and was never judgemental . My children grew up knowing him as uncle Sam, to them and myself he was a big part of our family. Sam loved to bring his daughter Joy out to the country and in later years his grandson "Sonny" Adam, the apple of his eye to play. He enjoyed sitting in the swing and watching them while we talked. So how do you say goodbye without a tear ? You just dont, you let them fall and say until we meet on the other side Sam, I will miss you and your freindship . luv u buddy Uncle Harold

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Harold L. Searle - April 05, 2011 at 08:37 PM

MM

I remember many mornings going to breakfast with you (Harold) and Sam and watching you two talk and talk! About Nothing most of the time! I saw how good of friends you two where and hoped one day I would have a friendship like you two had! I know your gonna miss him and its sad..... its Ok to be upset.. and cry. we will all miss Sam Ciaccio..... A Good Friend is hard to come by these days so its hard to let one go! Good Bye Sam And We Will Definitely Meet again in Heaven with Arms Wide open!

-Marc Machroli

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Marc Machroli - April 06, 2011 at 05:01 PM

EA

“ *Our sympathy is with you in this your time of grieving*

*Ed Ashmore*

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**Ed Asmore** - April 05, 2011 at 08:30 PM

TL

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



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**Tricia Ciaccio Langevin** - April 05, 2011 at 06:45 PM

FG

“ *The Ciaccio Family has always been a part of my family. Our sympathies to all of his family members and may God Bless you all.*  
*Chick and Carolyn*

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**Francis J. Gianotti** - April 05, 2011 at 06:15 PM

DA

“ *Dear Amy and Sue,*  
*I offer you my deepest sympathy on the loss of your father. Your father was a great man. I remember being with Sam on many occasions. He was always thinking about helping others. He will be in my prayers and I will also be remembering all of you.*  
*All my love and sympathy,*  
*Uncle Doug Altmyer*

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**Douglas Altmyer** - April 05, 2011 at 06:03 PM

JD

*Dear Sue, Amy and Family,  
I am so sorry to hear of your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you. God Bless.  
Joyce Driver and family*

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**Joyce Driver** - April 06, 2011 at 07:11 AM

JN

*“Sammy, I promised you I would take you home on your birthday and I kept my word just as I always have. Tomorrow will be our last birthday together but I will treasure all the ones we shared through our years together. Thank you for being my husband, my one true love, my best friend and the father of our beautiful daughter Joy. Whenever I get to missing you too much I will look at Sunny Adam and Samantha Lee and I will see you in their faces What a wonderful legacy you left me in our children. You were the black sheep and I was the maverick which made us the perfect soulmates. I will always be waiting for you at Lara's place until we meet again. I love you now and eternally,*

*Your Wife Ann*

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**Joy E. Nelson** - April 05, 2011 at 12:53 PM

JN

“ Where do I begin Daddy (I used to call you Dally when I was little) to share how much you impacted our family's lives... First of all you taught me what wisdom truly is. You had me later in life which made our relationship that much more special to us. One of my favorite things about you was how you stood up for what your believed whether you were serving your country or your community. It was not uncommon for neighbors to count on you and mom when they were in need. You and mom grew up in the fifth ward and I loved your passion of helping others which followed in the tradition of my grandfather, your best friend Jim Conning. You were always there for your family as well. I remember all the special hoidays with mom, Deb, Veronica Jim and Andy. You drove Andy and I to kindergarten and took us to horsey swing park and the dairy queen. You taught Veronica to drive in your big green campaign van. I remember one of the most special days of your life was when Sunny Adam was born and all the sunflowers bloomed in your garden. I know you treasured all the special times you spent with him and all your grandchildren. Thank you for dancing with me to Beach Boys "Kokomo" at my wedding and for making me laugh when you said your favorite song was "All my Ex"s live in Texas" by Randy Travis. You lived your life "your way" and oh what a run you had! Say hi to all our loved ones in heaven. You always told mom "grow old with me, the best is yet to be." We will take care of mom until you meet again in heaven.... We love you! :) Joy

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Joy E. Nelson - April 05, 2011 at 12:23 PM

KJ

“ We met and got to know Sam as a result of our in-law relationship with his daughter, Amy Ciaccio Jarvis. He certainly lived a life of service to the community and continued to do so until his health wouldn't allow. We liked his way of sharing life to the best of his ability. He cared so much about the environment and the well being of those in need.



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**Kay Jerry Jarvis** - April 05, 2011 at 08:12 AM