



Peter Opolka

November 21, 1933 - November 16, 2019

OPOLKA – Peter Opolka, age 85 of Lawrenceville, died peacefully at home on Friday, November 15, 2019 of complications from leukemia. Peter served his country honorably in the United States Army from 1954 to 1956, and the United States Marine Reserves from 1956 to 1964. He received his education at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and also attended Buffalo University. He played professional football for the Buffalo Bills prior to their merging with the AFL in 1960. Peter was the first fullback for Ralph Wilson (first owner of the Buffalo Bills) in 1960. He then retired from the Bills to start a family and further his career at Western Electric in Buffalo. Peter had a 40 year career with the Bell Labs (Western Electric, AT&T, and Lucent), working at the Jimmy Carter Plant after being transferred from Buffalo in the mid 1970's. He also led the Pioneers of AT&T as President in the 1980's. Peter enjoyed a long retirement filled with golf, travel and family. He was a man of faith and an active member of St. John Neumann Catholic Church of Lilburn, GA. He lived a full life that we can all be envious of and was always everything for everyone. Peter was born to immigrant parents, Mary (Rak) Opolka from Poland and Peter Opolka from Russia, who came thru Ellis Island March 13, 1913. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Marie (Opolka) Dixon; son, Gary Opolka; parents, brothers, Joe, John and Steve (all were World War II Veterans); and sisters, Jane and Helen. He is survived by his loving wife of 59 years, Diane Opolka; sons and daughter in law, Peter and Judy Opolka, Jr. and Christopher and Alicia Opolka; grandchildren, Pete, III,

Patrick, Rachel, Jessica, Elishia, Cydney, Sophia, Saydee, Andrew, Sam, Rebecca and Jackie; great grandchildren, Adley, Karlee Grace, Ellie Mae and Oliver; several nieces and nephews; numerous family and friends. A Funeral Mass will be held at 11:00 AM on Thursday, November 21, 2019 at St. John Neumann Catholic Church. Interment will follow at Eternal Hills Memory Gardens. The family will receive friends 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM on Tuesday, November 19, 2019 and 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM on Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at Tim Stewart Funeral Home, 2246 Wisteria Drive, Snellville, GA 30078. 770-979-5010. Please sign the online guest registry at www.stewartfh.com.

Cemetery Details

Eternal Hills Memory Gardens

3200 Stone Mountain Highway
Snellville, GA 30039

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **19**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Tim Stewart Funeral Home Snellville
2246 Wisteria Drive
Snellville, GA 30078

Visitation

NOV **20**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Tim Stewart Funeral Home Snellville
2246 Wisteria Drive
Snellville, GA 30078

Funeral Mass

NOV **21**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. John Neumann Catholic Church
801 Tom Smith Road, SW
Lilburn, GA

Tribute Wall



“ *Tim Stewart Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Peter Opolka*



Tim Stewart Funeral Home - November 19, 2019 at 12:30 PM



“ *Peter Opolka*

October 08, 2022 at 11:31 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Peter Opolka.*



November 20, 2019 at 07:44 AM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you Diane and your family.*

*Blessings,
Dick & Carol Jakubiak
The Villages, Fl.*

CAROL JAKUBIAK - November 19, 2019 at 06:12 PM

RR

“ *Ron and Joan Roga of Fort Erie Ontario, we would like to express our condolences to Pete’s Family! We were so saddened to hear of the news of Pete’s demise! Please accept our prayers and thoughts.*



Ron Rogala - November 19, 2019 at 03:43 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Peter Opolka.*



November 19, 2019 at 02:29 PM

TG

“ *my name is ted guzowski, pete (nunu) was one of my first friends as a boy we lived on greely st from 1935 to1946 also attend st. florian school and McKinley high school in buffalo n y seeing his pictre he looks almost as he did, the my sincerest condolences may god bless*

ted guzowski - November 19, 2019 at 01:22 PM

PS

“ *Our deepest sympathy - it was an honor to know Mr. Opolka.*

Paul Schmidt - November 19, 2019 at 12:44 PM



“ 10 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Tim Stewart Funeral Home - November 19, 2019 at 12:28 PM



“ 58 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Tim Stewart Funeral Home - November 19, 2019 at 11:14 AM

TD

“ I remember as a kid visiting the Opolka's in Tonawanda, as Mr. Opolka and my dad were good friends. I also remember when you moved away, and that was sad for my dad. I know the two shared lots of good memories and always had lots of stories to share. On behalf of my dad, Sal Oddo, I send my love and condolences to all of you.

God Bless, Tracy (Oddo) Diretto

Tracy Oddo Diretto - November 19, 2019 at 10:14 AM



“ *Serene Reflections Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Peter Opolka.



November 19, 2019 at 09:11 AM



“ *Dawn of Remembrance Basket* was purchased for the family of Peter Opolka.



November 18, 2019 at 06:47 PM

DF

“ So very sorry to hear that Pete has passed away. I worked for him for several years in the maintenance department at the cable plant. He was a fine man and an awesome boss. His son, Chris, and my son, Kirk, were friends in high school. Prayers for peace and comfort for the entire family 🙏🙏

Dianne Fleeman - November 18, 2019 at 04:18 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Peter Opolka.



November 18, 2019 at 04:16 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Peter Opolka.



November 18, 2019 at 04:10 PM