



Richard Joseph Wrazin

January 2, 1942 - April 27, 2026

Richard Joseph Wrazin, born January 2, 1942, passed away peacefully on April 27, 2026, surrounded by the love of his family and friends. He was the beloved husband of 62 years to Gilda (Roberto) Wrazin, his high school sweetheart; devoted father of Dinene (David) Zaleski, Kathleen (James) Kuryak, and Rick (Lisa Crossley) Wrazin; and a loving and proud grandfather to Jake (fiancé Julie Wojciechowski) and Lauren Zaleski, and Noah and Madison Wrazin. He was the cherished son of the late Joseph and Jean M. Wrazin, and brother of the late Robert Wrazin. He was the dear brother-in-law of Eugene (Jean) Roberto, the late Angeline (John) Bowman, and the late Frank Roberto. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and dear friends.

Richard proudly served his country in the United States Army, where he was stationed in Korea, and went on to dedicate over 30 years to Travelers Insurance Company. He was known throughout his life for his strong work ethic, loyalty, and unwavering commitment to his family, his profession, and his community.

A lifelong sports fan and athlete, Richard was an avid supporter of the Buffalo Bills, Buffalo Sabres, and Los Angeles Dodgers. He had a competitive spirit and a passion for sports, playing football, softball, basketball, and golf, and later participating in Parkinson's boxing. He was honored to be inducted into

the Western New York Softball Hall of Fame and was also a member of the Insurance Softball Hall of Fame and the Third Warders Hall of Fame. He was a member of the Eldredge Bicycle Club, the Third Warders Social Club, and the Renaissance Club. He previously served on the Board of Directors of the Insurance Club of Buffalo and was active in both the Insurance Agents Association of Western New York and the Western New York Insurance Club. He also generously volunteered his time with the Boys & Girls Club of the Tonawandas, Special Olympics, Buffalo News Kids Day, and Roswell Park.

Above all, Richard lived life to the fullest. He worked hard and played hard, showed up for everything, and most of all, loved deeply. To his family, he seemed almost invincible—someone who would do anything for the people he loved. He faced a long journey with Lewy body dementia with remarkable strength, determination, and grace, never losing his spirit or his connection to those around him. He cherished time spent with family and friends, especially during annual family vacations to Hilton Head, where countless memories were made. He will be remembered for his warmth, generosity, competitive spirit, and the joy he brought to those around him. He leaves behind a lasting legacy of love, friendship, and community.

Relatives and friends may visit the Wattengel Funeral Home 533 Meadow Dr., North Tonawanda on Friday, May 1st from 3:00 - 7:00 PM . A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday, May 2nd at 10:30 AM at The UB North Newman Center 495 Skinnersville Rd. Amherst.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Parkinson's Boxing - 1770 Colvin Blvd. Town of Tonawanda, NY 14223 and Lewy Body Dementia Association <https://lbda.org/donate>

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 1. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Wattengel Funeral Home (Meadow Drive)
533 Meadow Drive
North Tonawanda, NY 14120
(716) 693-0440
wattengelfh@gmail.com
<https://www.wattengel.com>

Mass of Christian Burial

MAY 2. 10:30 AM (ET)

UB North Newman Center
495 Skinnerville Road
Amherst, NY 14228

Tribute Wall

TS

“ I will always remember the basketball games at the clubs and the trip we took to Notre Dame . He will be missed , sincerely Tom Stone

Thomas Stone - May 07 at 05:50 PM

MI

“ Michelene Insalaco lit a candle in memory of Richard Joseph Wrazin



Michelene Insalaco - May 01 at 11:42 AM

MT

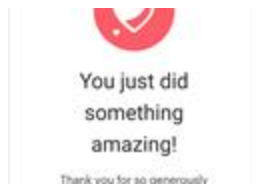
“ I am so sorry to hear of Mr Wrazin's passing. Both my father and I worked with him at Travelers and thought highly of him . He was a wonderful man with a great sense of humor. He will be missed. My condolences to his family.

Marlene Then - May 01 at 10:20 AM

MD

“ Dear friend, Kathy,
What a heartwarming obituary and loving tribute to your father who made the world a better place during his 84 years here. We pray for you & your family's grief journey as you mourn the loss of a much beloved invincible man.

Sincerely
The Morey-Deer Family
<3



Morey Deer - April 30 at 09:58 PM

Jl

“ Jordan & Jeremy Ingrassio purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Richard Joseph Wrazin.



Jordan & Jeremy Ingrassio - April 30 at 09:48 PM



“ 276 files added to the album LifeTributes



Wattengel Funeral Home - April 30 at 07:18 PM



“ The Zugelders purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Richard Joseph Wrazin.



The Zugelders - April 30 at 05:38 PM



“ Dick and I were in the first graduating class at NCCC in 1965. We became friends and he was an usher in my/Paulettes wedding on 8/21/1965. Unfortunately, we lost track of each other but occasionally saw each other in downtown Buffalo during our working days. Our condolences to Dicks family. We know he will not be forgotten..
Bob and Paulette Wright

robert wright - April 30 at 10:26 AM



“ so sorry for your loss - prayers for healing

martha barry - April 30 at 07:26 AM

TS

“ Dick was a true friend and part of the original N. Tonawanda " Rat Pak", headquarters, Louie's on Oliver Street. So many great memories, and Dick was part of most of them. Always there for his friends and loved by All of us. He will be missed. My thoughts and prayers to him and his family. Until we meet again my friend. God bless 🙏

Tony Schebell - April 29 at 08:34 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Richard Joseph Wrazin.



April 29 at 04:10 PM



“ Remembering the visits so many years ago.
Thinking of you all
Brenda Maruca ❤️

Brenda Maruca - April 29 at 01:55 PM

PP

“ Gilda. Bonnie and I send our deepest condolences to you and your family. I have been so fortunate to be Dick's friend for such a long time. He meant a great deal to me and will be deeply missed. So happy we got see him this past summer and for him to meet my grandchildren. I often speak to them of my time growing up with Dick and in North Tonawanda. Give everyone our love. Rest in peace old friend. Love. Phil and Bonnie

Phil Presicci - April 29 at 01:48 PM

JH

Dear Gilda, sending my sincere condolences to you and your beautiful family. 62 years in a loving marriage is such a blessing. Dick must have been a wonderful husband and father.

Joyce Hagen - April 29 at 09:45 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Richard Joseph Wrazin.*



April 29 at 11:14 AM

RM

“ *Good-bye, my Italian brother. Richie Montesanti*

Richie Montesanti - April 28 at 10:33 PM

JM

“ *I have many great memories working with Dick for many years at the Travelers Insurance Company. My condolences to Gilda and the family. Rest in peace my friend.*
Jan

Jan Wolgast Mitchell - April 28 at 09:33 PM

SS

“ *Sharon Malon SilverCare Solutions. purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Richard Joseph Wrazin.*



Sharon Malon SilverCare Solutions. - April 28 at 07:21 PM

FG

“ I played basketball with and against Dick Wrasin. He was a warrior. He didn't back down to anybody big or tall. But we all got along. He helped me with my taxes. I also rented from him when he owned some property on Niagara Street in berkholtz. I got a laugh out of him because he always said he knew where I was since I had an ankle bracelet for a while. He will be missed. Believe me!

Frank A. Gillotti - April 28 at 05:57 PM

JO

“ Dick, thank you for so many wonderful memories. Sleep well dear friend.

Rosalie & Jim oliverio

James Oliverio - April 28 at 04:44 PM

DC

“ Our condolences to the Wrazin family. Dick was a great friend who lived life to the fullest. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Dave and Gail Carroll - April 28 at 03:09 PM