



George Napuda

September 23, 1929 - January 8, 2024

George Napuda, 94, of Pennsville, NJ, passed away on January 8th 2024.

George was born on September 23rd, 1929, in Minersville, PA. He spent his childhood and teenage years discovering and indulging in his passion and talent for music: specifically, the French Horn. While in High School, George balanced academics, sports, and successful audition/victories in various state band competitions.

George was drafted by the Army in 1951, where he was ordered to Knoxville, KY, to train to become a tank commander. Prior to completing his training, George auditioned and was selected for the 3rd Armored band and was stationed in Europe for his tour of duty. George always said “music saved my life”, for his original unit was deployed to Korea and quickly decimated.

George arrived back from Europe and became an iron ore miner in Northern New Jersey. He liked to say that he did not start at the bottom of the ladder, but rather one mile underground. George also studied at night to earn a Bachelor’s and Master’s degree while balancing two jobs, freelancing as a musician in numerous pit orchestras for New York City’s Broadway shows, and spending time with his family, which he cherished the most. Following the completion of his degrees, George worked for the DOD in the Navy Nuclear Propulsion Quality Engineering Program.

George retired from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission as a Senior Team leader in 1989 and established his own consulting company. George was contracted with the United Nations IAEA to provide technical assistance to friendly Foreign Governments for their civilian nuclear programs.

George was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Charlene. He is survived by his son Jim (Lori); grandchildren, Michael (Tomi) and Kendall; and great-grandchildren, Remi and Axel.

Throughout his vibrant life, George always had time for his two passions; playing music, and creating beautifully timeless memories with his family, who were the core of his world.

He will be missed dearly and as his family always says, “there will ever only be one ‘GPGN’”.

Services will be private.

Tribute Wall

JK

“ As someone who lives in the same neighborhood, I met George about a year ago when I saw him out in his yard and saw he was hanging an old 3rd Armored Division Flag. I stopped by, said hello and we spoke for a bit. When I went home, I immediately searched for a new 3rd Armored Division flag for my Veteran Brother and dropped off to him as soon as I got it. What a really nice man to have met. May George rest in peace. John Kelly, Pennsville, NJ.

John Kelly - February 19, 2024 at 03:05 PM

“ Our deepest condolences to Jim, Lori, Michael, Tomi, Kendall, Remi and Axel.

We came to know the Napuda family in 1981 and kept up that contact since then. Common interests, such as Orthodox Christianity roots, Pennsylvania coal miner heritage, Classical music, culinary tastes, close family ties, kept our friendship strong. George was hired into the Commercial Nuclear Power industry to address the mounting lack of quality assurance in all segments of the industry and cancellation of numerous nuclear projects. With his expertise in tool and die making, and DOD QA engineering coupled with management skills received from his MBA degree program, George was identifying performance issues in the industry. He pioneered the assessment program for Management readiness for a new nuclear plant or restart of a nuclear plant after serious lapses in safety.

During my training and qualification process George took me on his inspection teams in 1981. He trained me to implement engineering inspections previously left undone due to a lack of technical expertise. He worked with me to finalize my exit notes until midnight for next day's presentation. This assisted me in moving up in the career ladder at a time of salary freeze.

George was a man ahead of his time. He would see the pitfalls of management programs and report them. The engineering and authoritarian military superiors won't understand the issue and discourage the report. George used to recall a kiddingly “ Where is the broken pipe, George” utterance by one of his early supervisors, especially after a glass of his favorite merlot. George continued his tireless effort to improve quality and received a Special Achievement Award for his contributions to the NRC's safety inspection effort.

George always gave a lending hand to help someone going through tough times.

It included taking his team members home when no accommodation was available and providing transportation, as needed.

We will never forget our culinary outings with George. He knew the culinary delights in each plant area. He always looked forward to

*our next "India food" outing.
George you ran a good race and made a big difference for the
better for those near you. Now may your soul rest in eternal peace
with Charlene and all your dearly departed!
You will always be in our memories!*

PK & Karen Eapen

P K Eapen - January 12, 2024 at 02:32 PM

JN

“ *Jim..My deepest condolences to you and your family. May he Rest
in Peace*

Joseph Nazar - January 10, 2024 at 09:36 PM

BG

*Jim, Lori and family, so sorry for your loss. You're in our thoughts. Dave
and Bonnie Graham*

Bonnie Graham - January 12, 2024 at 09:10 AM