



## Mr. Mario Cortina

July 22, 1931 - April 7, 2023

Mario J. (Sonny) Cortina, age 91, passed away peacefully on April 7, 2023. Cherished husband of the late Diana (nee Blancato). Loving father of James, Maria, Julie, and Joseph. Adored grandfather of Grace, Nicole, and Catherine. Son of the late James and Rosa (Maiuri). Brother of the late Frances (the late Thomas) Mangos, the late Lucy (the late Richard) Russell, and the late Antoinette Cortina. Beloved uncle, cousin, and friend. Mario was a proud 1949 graduate of St. Ignatius College Prep. He served in the United States Air Force from 1951 to 1954. Afterwards he worked and ran his tavern, The Night Owl Lounge, until he met and married Diana. Mario earned an undergraduate degree from the Illinois Institute of Technology and an MBA from Rosary College. Mario had a long, successful career in purchasing. When networking, he volunteered for whatever activities Diana, his children, or grandchildren were involved in – coaching pee-wee football; providing endless rides to and support at scout meetings, school groups, and sporting events; serving on his parish council; and helping operate a (semi-legal) weekly bingo night to raise money for his children’s school. Mario spent the last few years living at the Concord Place Retirement Community where he made great friends, participated in many activities, and was very well looked after by the entire staff. Visitation Monday, April 24 from 4-7pm at Carbonara Funeral Home, 1515 N 25th Ave Melrose Park IL. Burial Tuesday, April 25 at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood IL – meet at the cemetery at 12:30 PM. In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations to the Resident’s Club –

checks or money orders payable to Resident's Club can be sent to Concord Place Retirement Community c/o Cheryl Seiling, 401 W Lake St Apt 1038 Northlake IL 60164. Mario will be greatly missed and remembered fondly for his always present smile, never-ending good humor, boundless generosity, bottomless supply of tales about his life's adventures, and love of all good things in life.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR **24**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Carbonara Funeral Home  
1515 N 25th Ave  
Melrose Park, IL 60160  
(708) 343-6161  
<https://carbonarafuneraldirectors.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Mario Cortina*

October 05, 2023 at 03:04 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Mario Cortina.*



April 23, 2023 at 06:08 PM



“ *Love you and will miss you forever, Dad!*



**Maria Cortina** - April 23, 2023 at 01:46 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Mario Cortina.*



April 21, 2023 at 03:07 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of *Mr. Mario Cortina*.



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April 20, 2023 at 01:51 PM



“ *Dad you are our hero* ❤️



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**Julie Cortina** - April 18, 2023 at 04:34 PM