



Francis R. Dubois

September 19, 1962 - March 31, 2023

Francis Ralph Dubois, age 60 of Mentor, passed away on March 31, 2023 at Firwood House – his group home in Mentor. Fran was the fourth of five sons of Raymond and Elaine Dubois. He was born on September 19, 1962 in Elgin, Illinois. Named after St. Francis of Assisi for his easy-going nature, Fran was happy, loving, gentle and sincere with all.

Raised during a time when children with Down Syndrome were beginning to be understood, Fran's participation in all family activities led many people to know him and to learn that God's gift of a child with Down's was a blessing.

Fran had a wonderful sense of humor and could be super silly at times! Despite his limited vocabulary, Fran used sign language to make sure we got his jokes. For more serious times, he communicated with just a smile or gentle touch. He was well-known as a greeter at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Mentor.

Fran loved having fun and anything to do with people! He enjoyed parties, dancing and music – especially the polka and Christmas music that he played year-round. Mealtimes were appreciated for the joyfulness of gathering plus the food itself. His favorites were soup, doughnuts and coffee.

He loved the outdoors: playing basketball, swimming, riding his three-wheeled

bike, pulling his wagon, or just enjoying a simple task like raking leaves or watching trees move in the breeze. Fran also enjoyed watching football games on TV.

The Dubois family is grateful to the wonderful and caring staff and caregivers at Brittany Residential and especially grateful to Bonnie Maehler who was Fran's primary caregiver for the past several years and whom Francis looked to as a second mom.

Fran is survived by his father, Raymond Dubois, and his brothers Deacon Thomas and his wife Deborah, Matthew, Craig and his wife Claudia, Clifford and his wife Amy, along with many cousins, nieces, nephews, and grand-nieces and grand-nephews. He is also survived by his family of friends: Joe, Rick, Jamie and Larry.

Fran was preceded in death by his mother, Elaine Dubois, along with grandparents, aunts and uncles.

The family will receive friends at Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home and Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave., Mentor, Ohio 44060 on Tuesday, April 11 from 5 to 8 pm. All are invited to participate in a prayer service at 7:15 pm that same evening. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Wednesday, April 12 at 10 am at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church, 8560 Mentor Avenue, Mentor, OH 44060. Committal will follow at Mentor Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Deepwood Foundation, 8121 Deepwood Blvd., Mentor, OH 44060.

Offer condolences at www.brunners.com

Cemetery Details

Mentor Cemetery

6881 Hopkins Rd.
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 974-5733

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 11. 5:00 PM - 7:15 PM (ET)

Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center
8466 Mentor Avenue
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 255-3401
ajs@brunners.com
<https://www.brunners.com/>

Prayer Service

APR 11. 7:15 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center
8466 Mentor Avenue
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 255-3401
ajs@brunners.com
<https://www.brunners.com/>

Mass of Christian Burial

APR **12**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary Of The Assumption Church
8560 Mentor Avenue
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 255-3404
<https://stmarysmentor.org/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Francis R. Dubois.*



April 11, 2023 at 10:22 AM

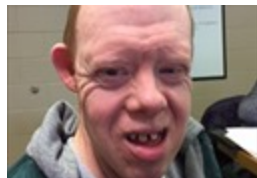


“ *Dear friends,
It was an honor bringing the Sacraments to Francis, when he was ill. I will remember you, his family, always bring there at his bedside to encourage him to get better. He knew you were there too. He and your family are all being remembered in my Easter Masses and be in my daily prayers. May he rest in our Lord's risen and divine presence forever.*

Father Greg Schaut - April 08, 2023 at 07:26 AM



“ *I did not known Fran for very long (about six months). However, Fran was an absolute joy and it was truly a pleasure getting to know him. You are certainly missed Fran. Rest in peace.*



Steve Foglio - April 04, 2023 at 03:12 PM

BM

“ Oh Francis, Where to start. I absolutely loved working with you. You were so funny so sweet. I don't like the fact that I come in and can't see you anymore. Your smile! , You always held my hand in the van. You would rub my face, your mom said that meant you liked me. I love you and miss you like crazy anyway. My job is not going to be the same without you. 🥹. Your family is so amazing. I've met all your brothers and your parents and I see where your loving personality came from. I know your having plenty of donuts with your mom and that makes me so happy. I love you Fran and will always remember and miss you!!



Bonnie Maehler - April 03, 2023 at 06:12 PM

BS

“ I called him Fran The Man. I worked with Fran and he was silly, loved to swim and his music. I was so glad Julie let me know so I saw him before he passed away. He loved his mom and loved his adopted mom Bonnie.

Barbara Soden - April 03, 2023 at 05:49 PM



“ *Fairest of All* was purchased for the family of Francis R. Dubois.



April 03, 2023 at 04:37 PM

HH

“ *It was an absolute honor for Brittany Residential to work with Fran for all these years. Working with his parents and a little later his brothers was a joy! We will miss Fran very much. Our thoughts and prayers are with Fran's family and his many friends at Brittany and at Deepwood. Also many thanks to our staff that cared for Fran so lovingly.*

Holly Howle - April 03, 2023 at 02:41 PM