

Frank Jiosi Sr.

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September 23rd, 2019

<https://www.lyndhurstamericanlegion.com/sara-s-spotlight>



Our September spotlight is a bittersweet one. During Labor Day weekend, Frank J. Jiosi Sr. was chosen as our spotlight candidate but unfortunately, Frank passed away on September 7th, 2019 before the spotlight could be completed. After taking some time, it was a no-brainer that I would continue the spotlight on Frank for September and would just need to enlist some help from friends and family if needed.

Frank J. Jiosi Sr was born on September 16, 1941. He's a fellow Virgo! Well that explains why we got along so well! Born in Newark, Frank was raised here in Lyndhurst and had been a lifelong resident. Frank comes from a big family like I do so I'm surprised to hear he only has 2 children, Frank Jr, who is married to Michelle, and Vincent. Frank

was a part of our American Legion family here at Post 139 as a Legionnaire. Frank has held several positions within the American Legion organization and at the time of his passing was a Bergen County American Legion Trustee and Central Relief and Centennial Committee member.

Frank, a Vietnam era Veteran, began his service in our armed forces in 1961 in the U.S. Marine Corps where he completed his basic training at Parris Island in South Carolina. Frank would spend the next 26 years with the Marines and the Marine Reserves, holding the rank of gunnery sergeant. In 1990, during Operation Desert Storm, Frank's Marine Reserves unit was shipped out to Iraq. He was with the Sixth Motor Transport Battalion out of Red Bank, NJ and for six months ran supplies 24-hours a day to his fellow Marines on the front lines.

It comes as no surprise to me to hear how hardworking and dedicated Frank along with the other members of the Sixth Motor Transport Battalion were. These characteristics have clearly been evident throughout the work Frank has done over the years within the American Legion organization. Frank had been a commander of both Lyndhurst Post 139 as well a County Commander for Bergen County, Vice Commander for the Department of NJ, and as mentioned previously, was a current BCAL Trustee and Central Relief and Centennial Committee member. It's clear to see that Frank's sound judgment could always be counted on for the good of the Legion.

For me, Frank has always been one of my favorite legionnaires. And no, I'm not biased because he's a Virgo. A man of few words, Frank quickly became one of my favorites because he was as bluntly honest as he was caring. He didn't mince words but he was never cold or callous. My favorite interaction with Frank, well I should say interactions because this quickly seemed to become our thing, will always be as soon as Frank saw me he'd ask, "Are you behaving?" I'd tell him, "No, of course not!" He'd say "Well someone has too!" I'd ask "Well how about you??" He'd laugh and reply, "I've done my time behaving. It's your turn!" I'd laugh and sigh and tell him "Ok, Frank I'll try but I make no promises!" He'd smile and say "That's all we can ask for." I didn't know Frank for a long time but I will cherish the time spent with him & will always think of him at the annual Wildwood Convention.

Thank you for your service Frank. Your dedication and devotion to both the American Legion and your fellow servicemen will never be forgotten.

