



## Mr. Francis Joseph LeMire

December 4, 1931 - July 16, 2020

### Francis Le Mire Obituary

On Thursday, July 16, 2020, Francis Joseph Le Mire of Towson, Maryland, passed away leaving behind a legacy of love for his family and a full appreciation of his life's experiences.

Francis – lovingly known as Fran (or "Frannie the Big Kid" to his grandkids) – was born on December 4, 1931 in Newaygo, Michigan as one of six children to Romeo Le Mire and Elizabeth Peacock Le Mire. Fran and his siblings Mary Hiaeshutter, Denise Brannick, Harold Le Mire, George Le Mire and Auverne Le Mire enjoyed sports and games growing up. This sparked a playfully competitive spirit that he took with him throughout his life and inevitably passed down to his children and grandkids.

Fran radiated positivity, always smiling and perpetually cracking jokes. He smiled widest when he was with his wife of 63 years, Connie Le Mire; their children Michael Le Mire, Laura Le Mire and Andrea O'Connor; and their seven grandkids Katherine Rees, William Rees III, Brendan O'Connor, Keegan O'Connor, Kaeli O'Connor, Connor Le Mire and Max Le Mire. They were frequently spotted together at the dining room table with a deck of cards or in the backyard with croquet mallets in hand. And Fran would win every game. He would always win.

He taught his family just how good a bad joke could be, how important education is, how beautiful it is to travel around the world and most importantly, how to not take anything in life for granted. During a two-year stint in the army, Fran was based in Germany and used his time on leave to travel Europe extensively as he explored and appreciated every country he stepped foot in. He enjoyed meeting new people, and as an educator, certainly left an impact. As he shifted from a teacher to later become a dean at Towson State College (what is now Towson University), Fran's goal was to supersede the norm of limited interaction with students and made it his goal to meet as many students as possible. He succeeded. Almost every day for 30 years Fran spent lunch hour playing pickup

basketball in the gym with students and handball at Towson Center with his diehard handball crew. He was even seen acting as quarterback for one of the student teams during Towson State College's Santa Claus Anonymous Marathon flag football games. His devotion to the students was amplified as the Director of the Career Placement Center where he helped students on their pathways to success during school and after graduation.

He made friends seamlessly, immersing himself in the local community wherever he went. He was well known in Towson through umping and refereeing youth, high school and adult leagues year-round. After retirement, Fran used his time for myriad volunteer work. His largest stint was with Our Daily Bread, volunteering for more than 25 years with a ready smile and an ear for conversation.

Fran leaves us with a picture of happiness that reflects the positivity and love he experienced and exuded to others.

He is survived by his loving wife, Connie; his sister Mary; his children Andi and Mike; and his grandchildren. He is predeceased by his daughter Laura and his siblings Harold, George, Auverne and Denise.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Laura E. LeMire STEM Scholarship Fund online or by check.

Website: [www.ccbcmd.edu/Support-CCBC/Giving-to-CCBC/Ways-to-Give/Donor-Recognition/Laura-Legacy.aspx](http://www.ccbcmd.edu/Support-CCBC/Giving-to-CCBC/Ways-to-Give/Donor-Recognition/Laura-Legacy.aspx)

If by check, you can mail your donation to:

Alumni Relations Office

College Community Center, Suite 242

7200 Sollers Point Road

Baltimore, MD 21222

Make checks payable to CCBC Foundation and state the scholarship fund

# Comments

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“ Fran was a wonderful friend and mentor while he was at Towson University and I pursued a career in human resources in the private sector over a thirty year plus period. I especially remember the times we spent together on the College Job Fair Steering Committee and at many Mid Atlantic Placement Association retreats in Pennsylvania and in Virginia. He was a very good soul with a kind heart. May he rest in peace. Phil Ostrander, Jr.

**Phil Ostrander** - August 08, 2020 at 04:42 PM

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“ Fran was a wonderful person, always smiling! I met him and Connie on a trip many years ago. We played many games of “Oh Hell” and have continued the friendship. He will be missed. Nilda Janelle, New Hampshire

**Nilda Janelle** - July 31, 2020 at 04:31 PM

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“ What a wonderful person Mr LeMire was. I always enjoyed our interactions and I always left them feeling better than I did before. I remember Mr LeMire frequently giving me a ride to TU during my undergraduate years and I found the beginning of my career in his Career Placement department. Our sympathies and prayers for Mrs LeMire and family.

**Craig and Elizabeth Bugg** - July 29, 2020 at 08:01 PM

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“ Fran was married to my cousin Connie and such a fun-loving, generous host and person whenever I would come from Florida to spend time with the family. They generously opened their home and arms and were a joy to be with. Obituary by his granddaughter truly does describe him so very well. Such a loss to our family and to the world he created around him. His personality was alive and will remain that way for my lifetime. Truly he did enjoy life and was enjoyed by all who knew and loved him. RIP Felice Schonberg

**Felice Schonberg** - July 27, 2020 at 01:17 PM

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“ Beautiful tribute to a wonderful man! He was always smiling, joking & laughing.

**Tina Brown** - July 26, 2020 at 01:46 PM