



John Poliseno

July 12, 1924 - April 6, 2013

John R. Poliseno 88 year old resident of Little Falls, MN passed away Saturday, April 6, 2013 at St. Gabriel's Hospital in Little Falls, MN. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:30 A.M. on Thursday, April 11, 2013 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Little Falls, MN with Father Nicholas Landsberger officiating. Burial will take place in Calvary Cemetery in Little Falls, MN. Friends may call from 4-8 P.M. on Wednesday and from 10-11 A.M. on Thursday at the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Little Falls, MN. Parish prayers will be held at 5:00 P.M. on Wednesday at the Shelley Funeral Chapel. Funeral arrangements are with the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Little Falls, MN.

John Robert Poliseno was born in Ishpeming, Michigan on July 12, 1924 to the late Leonard and Carmella (DiBrito) Poliseno. At the age of 4, the family moved to Dilworth, MN where he attended elementary school and graduated from high school. He graduated from Moorhead State with a BA and BS in music and a minor in French, Spanish and English. At Moorhead State he was active in Who's Who, Student Commission, Music and Owls Fraternity. John also did graduate school work at Northwestern University in Evanston, IL and the University of Minnesota and also took part in the National Defense Act in Spanish at Coe College in Cedar Rapids, IA. His first teaching position was at Custer County High School in Miles City, Montana where he spent 11 years teaching vocal music. In 1956, he married Louise Oberlander in Sioux Falls, South Dakota and moved to Little Falls in 1957. In 1957, he started teaching

vocal music, French and Spanish, and retired after 29 years. He was active in the Teacher's Association. John was a member of the Knights of Columbus and St. Mary's Catholic Church in Little Falls, MN. As a member of St. Mary's Parish, John directed the St. Mary's Men's Choir for 13 years. John is survived by his wife Louise; children, David (Beth) Poliseno of Mendota Heights, MN, Tom (Tammy) Poliseno of Princeton Junction, NJ, Mark Poliseno of Roseville, MN and Maryanne Poliseno of Minneapolis, MN; 4 grandchildren, Heather, Jenni, Samantha and Lauren; sister, Mary Narum of Fargo, ND. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother Anthony Poliseno.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

Little Falls, MN

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 10. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

LeMieur Funeral Home of Little Falls
214 2nd Street SE
Little Falls, MN

Visitation

APR 11. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

LeMieur Funeral Home of Little Falls
214 2nd Street SE
Little Falls, MN

Service

APR 11. 11:30 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church - Little Falls
305 4th Street SE
Little Falls, MN

Tribute Wall



“ *Lemieur Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of John Poliseno*



Lemieur Funeral Homes - April 06, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *John Poliseno*

January 21, 2023 at 11:59 AM



“ *Louise and Family*
Mr. P was one of my favorite people (and teachers). Each time I visited home since high school graduation in 1979 and had opportunity to see Mr. Poliseno, he always welcomed me and demonstrated genuine interest in me. Several of us pranksters in choir (you know who you are...) thought we could get away with mischief in class. It was only in later years that I figured out that Mr. P was on top of it the whole time!! A truly enjoyable person who could bring joy to all. I am grateful for having had opportunity to know Mr. Poliseno.

Tom Thompson - April 25, 2013 at 03:49 PM

GA

“ My sympathy to the family. Mr P was a great guy - chior was a "social event" thanks to John. He will be missed.
Gordy Anderson - '81

gordy anderson - April 15, 2013 at 02:41 PM

KR

“ Mr. Poliseno was a very favorite teacher of mine. I was privileged to be in choir, Jubileers and also one of his accompanists. Because of Mr. Poliseno, music played a big part in my education.

Kathy Christenson Rivard '59

Kathleen Rivard - April 15, 2013 at 11:45 AM

GM

“ One of my favorite teachers. He will be missed.

Gwen Maurer

Gwen Maurer - April 12, 2013 at 05:26 PM

S6

“ Sue Doucette, Class Of 66 lit a candle in memory of John Poliseno



Sue Doucette, class of 66 - April 12, 2013 at 08:27 AM

S6

Sue Seelen Doucette class of 1966

Sue Doucette, class of 66 - April 12, 2013 at 08:28 AM

CS

“ *My condolences to the Polisenos family. I was member of his first LFHS choir and the Jubileers. Being in his choir and musicals was one of the highlights of my high school days. He was such a great teacher and friend. We all cared a great deal for him.*

Carole Kidder Solie

Carole Kidder Solie - April 11, 2013 at 04:28 PM

JB

“ *Jeri (Michalek) Betts lit a candle in memory of John Polisenos*



Jeri (Michalek) Betts - April 11, 2013 at 02:02 PM

JB

RIP Mr. Polisenos!! The Class of 1965

Jeri (Michalek) Betts - April 11, 2013 at 02:06 PM

SB

“ *Mr. Polisenos was not only my music teacher, but also my inspiration to become a music teacher. I had the privilege to be in the choir, Triple Trio, the Jubileers and to also be one of his accompanists. I just retired after teaching music for 33 years with the Minneapolis Public Schools. Thank you, Mr. Polisenos! You will be missed.*
Susan Shelley Brown Class of '67

Susan Shelley Brown - April 10, 2013 at 09:28 PM

LW

“ Dear Louise,
I wish to thank John for pulling all those guys out of sixth-hour study hall to join fifth-hour chorus. We protested, of course, but John told us that anyone could leave after two weeks. No one did. Check the '57 and '58 Flyer to see the proof!

I also want thank John for introducing me to sacred music. It's sad to think that those beautiful Christmas concerts do not exist anymore. When I do listen, I think of him.

Under John, the school musical happened. I never had so much fun as being a pirate in *THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE* and Arden, Judy, Charlotte, Don, Ron, Bernie, Al, Dan, Kathy and Karin were magnificent -- all coached by John. It is hard to think of any other future classes that would have had the diversity and talent to have done a better job.

I shall try to stop by in mid-July to express my condolences. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers!

louie welna '59

Louis Welna - April 10, 2013 at 05:01 PM

TF

“ The MacGillvrays family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of John Polisenno.



The MacGillvrays family - April 10, 2013 at 12:54 PM

NK

“ Mr. P. was my choir teacher for all four of my years at the Little Falls Community High School. I can still see him directing us and reminding us that choir is for singers, not talkers. He spent years teaching Spanish, directing the school's choirs, Jubileers, and a number of school musicals. After his retirement, I continued to see him from the altar of St. Mary's where I would often cantor. I could see him smiling from those front pews. I know he was proud to see music become a part of so many of his students' lives. John was a gentle spirit, a kind soul, and a friend to many. He will now be tending the Lord's gardens and directing his angels. Peace to Louise and all the Poliseno kids.

Sincerely,

Nancy Kapsner

Nancy Kapsner - April 10, 2013 at 12:52 PM

DE

“ My deepest sympathies to the Poliseno family. "Mr. P" as we called him, was such a fixture in the musical world during his time at LFCHS - some of my fondest memories of high school include choir and musicals. I know he will be missed by family and friends but I am confident he is now singing in the best choir of all!

Debbie [Zastrow] Zwiefelhofer - Class of '76

Debbie - April 10, 2013 at 12:36 PM

YK

“ Having Mr Poliseno attend our 50th Class Reunion last year was special. He will be remembered as a teacher who truly loved what he taught. The angels will have a new choir director.....Blessings to your family. Yvonne Pantzke Kalahar

Yvonne Pantzke Kalahar - April 10, 2013 at 08:50 AM



“ *Heavenly and Harmony was purchased for the family of John Polisen.*



April 09, 2013 at 01:06 PM



“ *Love's Journey was purchased for the family of John Polisen.*



April 09, 2013 at 10:00 AM



“ *Heart's Companion Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Polisen.*



April 08, 2013 at 08:12 PM



Rhonda Schmidt

“ *John taught next door to my for my first three years in Little Falls and was generous in sharing teaching tips & advice. Bless you John - you will be missed! My deepest sympathies to Louise and the rest of the family. May God bless you and keep you in his loving care in the days to come.*

Rhonda Schmidt - April 08, 2013 at 06:42 PM

BE

“ From all the members of CAAD, Mark's golfing friends, please our sincerest sympathy's on the passing of John.

Big E, past president of CAAD

Big E - April 08, 2013 at 02:46 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of John Polisen.



April 08, 2013 at 01:19 PM

DE

“ A very loving and caring man. I would say patience was his best quality in my memory. His students tested him but he always prevailed!

Dan Engel - April 08, 2013 at 12:19 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John Polisen.



April 08, 2013 at 10:46 AM



“ *Love's Journey was purchased for the family of John Polisen.*



April 08, 2013 at 09:08 AM



“ *Love's Journey was purchased for the family of John Polisen.*



April 08, 2013 at 08:17 AM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of John Polisen.*



April 07, 2013 at 07:13 PM



“ *Prayers and condolences go out to the Polisen family! He will definitely be missed! The highest compliment that a student can receive from their teacher, is to let them know that they are one of the most dedicated students in the class. It was an honor to be a dedicated student in choir with John Polisen. May he rest in the peace of Christ, and may God hold his family in the palm of his hand.*



Claudette Moran - April 07, 2013 at 06:06 PM



“ *Mr. Poliseno was my Spanish teacher while in high school. The last few years, I visited the Polisenos on many holidays. I missed this Easter because I'm in Florida. He was such a kind and caring person. He will be greatly missed!*

Eric Nikolai, Class of '79

Eric Nikolai - April 07, 2013 at 04:52 PM

JN

“ *"Mr. Poliseno" was a giant part of every school day, every school year, every special musical program... to his many students of music/choir, during my high school days.*

Jim Norr, Class of '66

Jim Norr - April 07, 2013 at 01:37 PM

LD

“ *My condolences, thoughts and prayers to the Poliseno family. Mr. Poliseno was a very kind and thoughtful man, not to mention one of my favorite teachers-my music teacher-back in the '60s. When he took his last breath on earth, he took his first breath in heaven! Blessings on Louise and family.*

Lee Ann Doucette, Little Falls, Class of 1965

Lee Ann Doucette - April 07, 2013 at 06:41 AM

BS

John was a colleague and a friend. He touched the lives of many students and colleagues during his many years of teaching. He will be missed by many. My condolences to Louise, his children and their families.

Becky Strahl - April 07, 2013 at 01:02 PM

SM

John's son, Mark is a very dear friend of ours. Our condolences to the whole Polisen family. You are in our thoughts.

Joe and Sarah Monnens

Sarah Monnens - April 07, 2013 at 06:51 PM



I remember him quite well during my grade school years; he was quite an good influence on me.

Bill Loscheider

William Loscheider - March 22, 2016 at 12:54 AM