



## Richard Thomas Savare

October 23, 1940 - February 24, 2021

Richard “Rich” Thomas Savare, 80, of Ocean Township, passed away at home with his family on February 24, 2021 after a brief, but brave, battle with pancreatic cancer.

Rich was born on October 23, 1940 to Romeo “Jack” and Margaret Savare in Orange, New Jersey. He and his two sisters, Paula Savare Berg and Susan Savare Suozzo grew up in Neptune City, NJ. He was a graduate of St. Rose Catholic High School in Belmar where he played on the school basketball and baseball teams. After high school, Rich attended Monmouth University before enlisting in the US Army where he was in the Signal Corps. Rich married his high school sweetheart Anne Savare (Malanga) prior to being stationed in Germany. Following his honorable service to the military, he and his father worked at Bendix Corporation. Rich then went on to work for Bell Labs and AT&T in Holmdel for over 30 years before retiring in 1998.

Anyone who knew Rich knew that he was the most loving, devoted, and selfless husband, father, and grandfather a family could ask for. Rich and Anne raised five children in their Ocean Township home. His family meant more to him than anything else in the world. Perhaps so much so that all his love and worry for their well-being caused his infamous thick, white head of hair at an early age. He is survived by his loving wife of sixty years, Anne Savare, their five children and their spouses: Rich and Kathy Savare of Oakhurst, NJ, Lauren and David Walsh of Howell, NJ, Matthew and Jodi

Savare of Scotch Plains, NJ, Marc and Kristen Savare of Ocean, NJ, and Nicole and Joe Sellitto of Tinton Falls, NJ. He is also survived by nine grandchildren who adored him: Jack Savare, Nicholas Savare, Alexandra Savare, Mia Savare, Michael Savare, Caitlyn Savare, Riley Savare, Charlotte Sellitto, and Isabella Sellitto. Also surviving are his sister, Susan Suozzo and husband Bill Suozzo of Wall Township, NJ, brother-in-law Lawrence Malanga and wife Irene Malanga of West Palm Beach, FL, and brother-in-law Michael Malanga of FL. He also has many nieces and nephews, most of whom live in the Monmouth County area. Rich was predeceased by his parents and his sister, Paula Berg.

Rich loved gardening and yard work. Friends and neighbors would see Rich in his yard every day wearing his signature white undershirt and ripped blue jeans with a pack of Marlboro cigarettes rolled in his sleeve. His backyard was a majestic and colorful menagerie of many different plants, and when in bloom, it was his favorite place to be. Every spring, he beamed with pride at all the work and love that went into such a bright display. Rich coached his children in club soccer, and he was a founding member of the Ocean Township United Soccer Association (OTUSA) when it was established in 1975. His legacy continued with Rich and Matt, who previously coached in the same club, and Marc who still coaches his own girls in OTUSA today. When he wasn't coaching, he was usually on the sidelines – no matter where the game or practice was being held – cheering on his children and grandchildren and often offering his unique perspectives to the referees. Rich was also an avid New York Giants fan and loved to spend time at Monmouth Park Racetrack and Atlantic City, where he was always trying to hit that elusive jackpot on video poker. Prior to COVID, Anne and Rich were devoted parishioners of St. Michael's Church in West End, NJ, and attended weekly mass there for decades.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests any donations be made to the Valerie Fund for pediatric cancer research (visit <https://www.thevaleriefund.org/Walk2>

021/team.php?team=335), St Jude Hospital, or Shriners Hospital for Children.  
The family will hold a private funeral service due to COVID.

# Cemetery Details

## **Monmouth Memorial Park**

4201 Hwy 33  
Tinton Falls, NJ

# Tribute Wall

FC

“ Anne and Family: I worked with Rich at Bell Labs in Holmdel from 1980 - 1988 before moving to New Hampshire. I have many fond memories of my time working with Rich. He was someone who I respected a lot! He was a down to earth person who loved his family very, very much! As many have said he was a straight shooter and I went to him for advice many times. I had the pleasure of also meeting Rich's entire family as we went out to dinner more than a few times. I think the last time we went out to dinner after moving to NH was at Red Lobster. My sincere condolences to Anne and the "kids" he loved you all very much!

---

**Frank Clemente** - March 02, 2023 at 02:35 PM

RK

“ To the family if Rich Savare,

*I worked with Rich in the Bell Labs Holmdel Computer Center almost 48 years ago! And when a friend shared this information this morning it was as if he and I were working together last night! For the 3 to 4 years we worked together he was always the guy to go to for solutions to our computer problems.*

*It's been a long time since we talked last but I just had to add a memory here for such a really nice friend. I am sure he will be missed greatly.*

*Bob Koechlin*

---

**Robert Koechlin** - April 30, 2021 at 11:40 AM

PB

“ I had the pleasure of knowing and working with Rich for 5 years at Bell Labs. I remember his smile, laugh, and sense of humor. Rest In Peace Rich.

---

**Paul Boucher** - April 28, 2021 at 01:13 PM

MV

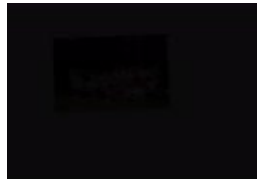
“ My deepest sympathy to Annie and the family. I worked with Rich at AT&T. He was my supervisor and I was a shift lead. His heart was so big I never met anyone like him. He saw the best in everyone. I could talk to him about anything. As a single mom he always had the best advice. And I will never ever forget that smile. Sincerely  
Melinda Vollmer

---

**Melinda Vollmer** - March 07, 2021 at 11:38 PM

LW

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



---

**Lauren Savare Walsh** - March 06, 2021 at 12:53 PM

JM

“ Fond memories working with Rich in Holmdel..lots of laughs..discussing latest Giants debacle...great guy. Rest in peace Rich

---

**Jack marmur** - March 05, 2021 at 10:01 AM

JD

“ *My condolences to the Savare family. Rich was instrumental in my career as he believed in me and hired me at AT&T. He was always willing to take time to chat and share his knowledge. RIP Rich*

---

**Joe Doherty** - March 04, 2021 at 07:45 PM

JM

“ *Dear Savare Family, We are so very sorry for your loss. We have many memories of spending many weekends on the soccer field with Rich. He was a special guy, always positive, always with a smile on his face, and always ready and willing to give the players the pat on the back they needed. I loved coaching with him. He was a wonderful family man, and thankful my family got to know him and his family, and our boys got to play together, and our children got to know each other in school. Our deepest condolences.*

*The McEvoy Family*

*PS Great picture.*



---

**Jim & Sally McEvoy** - March 01, 2021 at 03:49 PM



“ *Our father kept a garden.  
A garden of the heart;  
He planted all the good things,  
That gave our lives a start.  
He turned us to the sunshine,  
And encouraged us to dream:  
Fostering and nurturing  
The seeds of self-esteem.  
And when the winds and rain came,  
He protected us enough;  
But not too much because he knew  
We would stand up strong and tough.  
His constant good example,  
Always taught us right from wrong;  
Markers for our pathway that will last  
A lifetime long.  
We are our father's garden,  
We are his legacy.  
Thank you Dad we love you.  
Lauren, Richie, Matt, Marc & Nicole Savare*

---

**Lauren Savare Walsh** - March 01, 2021 at 10:09 AM

MS

“ *Love you all so much will always have great memories growing up  
nextdoor cherished in my heart and ducking flying ashtrays when  
the Giants fumbled God bless you all love Mike and Kim Scagnelli*

---

**mike scagnelli** - March 01, 2021 at 09:51 AM

SH

“ Anne and Family: We were so very sorry to read of Rich's passing. It was so nice to have run into you both over the last couple years and exchange updates on our lives and families. We are sadly shocked at his passing.....Steve has good memories of working with Rich...may those memories you and the family have help you through this difficult time. From Steve and Joan Huminski

---

**Steve and Joan Huminski** - February 28, 2021 at 08:24 PM

FB

“ Dear Anne and his greatest treasure, kids.  
Dad was always there and would put all of you on a pedestal.  
So proud of you and never ending love for Anne.  
He was my best friend and mentor during my time at AT&T and beyond, after we left that company,  
We would always have conversation about life and politics which I loved and learned.  
He will always be kept in my heart with the greatest respect and sorrow for our loss.  
God Bless you all. Be safe for him.  
Frank B.

---

**Frank Bond** - February 28, 2021 at 08:06 PM

KV

“ Kay Vilardi lit a candle in memory of Richard Thomas Savare



---

**kay vilardi** - February 27, 2021 at 01:50 PM

KE

“ We shared many good times together as our two families bonded. He was one of a kind and I will sorely miss him. The gardens in heaven will be twice as beautiful with him tending to them.

---

**Kathy Elfner** - February 27, 2021 at 08:33 AM

BH

“ Bongarzone Funeral Home lit a candle in memory of Richard Thomas Savare



---

**Bongarzone Funeral Home** - February 26, 2021 at 11:34 PM

JG

“ To Anne and family, Andy & I are deeply saddened to hear of Rich's passing. We all spent so much time on the soccer fields thru our children's school years, leaving us feeling that we have lost a dear family member. Please accept our heartfelt sympathies and know he is fondly remembered. Judi & Andy Grimes

---

**Judi Grimes** - February 26, 2021 at 07:39 PM

KV

“ To all of the family: I am so very sad for your loss and ours. Rich was a good long time friend to both me and my husband , John. You could count on Rich for an honest and direct answer all the time. You knew exactly where he was coming from and why. This honestly served him so well. It served us as well. We had so many good time and laughs. When he started at Bell Labs , he worked in my husband's group. When he retired he was in my group. We had all come full circle. We cherished our friendships and would continue to get together after retirement. We were fortunate to retire in 1998 and had a good time enjoying each other's company for years.  
I will truly miss his company and will keep him and your family in my prayers always.

---

**Kay Vilardi** - February 26, 2021 at 09:15 AM

AT

“ To the Savare family: It was sad news to hear that Rich had passed. He was a good friend. A person that always gave it to you straight and sought your opinion. All topics were open for lively "discussions". Rich was a great team member at Bell Labs and working with him made work experiences more enjoyable. Thanks to Kay, our BL lunches kept us in touch. I will miss him a lot. Al Terry

---

**Al Terry** - February 25, 2021 at 06:36 PM