



## Louis Leo Rondini, D.O.

August 23, 1943 - March 15, 2026

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Louis Rondini, a loving husband, cherished father to six children, and proud grandfather of fourteen, passed away peacefully on Sunday, March 15, 2026. A dedicated cardiovascular thoracic surgeon, Louis leaves behind a legacy defined by healing, humor, and a deep, unwavering love for his family and friends. He was 82 years old.

### Early Life and Education

Born in Havertown, Pennsylvania, on August 23, 1943, Louis was the son of the late Louis and Josephine Rondini. He graduated from Bonner High School in 1960 alongside his best friend since kindergarten, William (Bill) O'Brien. The two remained the closest of friends for over 75 years, a bond of loyalty that lasted to the very end. Louis went on to graduate from St. Joseph's College and earned his medical degree from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

In 1968, he moved to Michigan for internships at Detroit Osteopathic Hospital and Bi-County Hospital. It was during his residency at Bi-County that he encountered a "ruckus" in a patient room; he found Joyce Kierschke energetically flipping mattresses, an introduction that caught him entirely off-

guard and began a love that never once wavered over the next 56 years.

### A Distinguished Career

Louis's career as a cardiovascular thoracic surgeon began in 1973. Over nearly four decades of practice, he worked tirelessly to save and extend the lives of countless patients, often devoting long days, late nights, and weekends to the operating room and to the care of those entrusted to him. Through his work at Bi County, Mt. Clemens General, Oakland General, and Riverside Hospitals, he touched innumerable families with his skill, steadiness, and compassion. Following his retirement in 2010, he lent his medical expertise to a sacred cause, serving on the committee of surgeons who reviewed the medical charts of Father Solanus Casey for his beatification—a monumental effort that was ultimately celebrated by thousands at Ford Field in Detroit.

### A Life of Adventure and Spirit

While his professional achievements were many, Louis's true heart belonged to his family. Together, they explored the country in their Jayco pop-up camper. These road trips were often defined by Louis playing John Denver at full volume, singing "Country Roads" and "Thank God I'm a Country Boy" at the top of his lungs.

He found his greatest peace in Ocean City, New Jersey, riding the waves and soaking in the scent of salt and sand. He was a man of specific tastes and never turned down a good Apple Martini (affectionally calling it an "Apple-tini"). Louis was never one to be swayed by wine snobs, and at every family gathering he proudly championed Lambrusco as the pinnacle of high end viticulture—winkingly reminding any doubters that it was, after all, Pavarotti's favorite.

### Legacy and Loved Ones

To his family, Louis was the "313 Master" and the "mighty" center of every family gathering. During the Christmas season, he "assisted" his wife, her friend Karen Carnright, and his grandchildren in the kitchen as the official cookie connoisseur, with a particular expertise in Pizzelle cookies. He also famously looked forward to Aunt Pat's homemade pierogies every year at Christmas Eve dinner—though he made sure to teach the entire family his own "non-Polish" tradition: eating them with grape jelly.

To his grandchildren, he was a mentor and a marvel of quiet intelligence. He was known to be sound asleep during an intense game of Trivial Pursuit, only to wake up suddenly and correctly answer an obscure question—like the capital of Uzbekistan—before drifting back off.

He is survived by his wife, Joyce; his children Christine (Buchanan), Kathrine (Niphoratos), Elizabeth Rondini, John Rondini, and Nicole (Korbecki); his brother Robert and wife Virginia Rondini; his sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Patricia (Kierschke) and Kenneth Jozefczyk; his three sons-in-law Christopher Buchanan, Pete Niphoratos, and Eric Korbecki; and his only daughter-in-law Kathleen (Krause) Rondini.

His legacy lives on through his fourteen grandchildren: Catrina, Carter, Collin, and Courtney Buchanan; Isabella, Joseph, Nicholas, and Gianna Rondini; Zachary, Andrew, and Alex Niphoratos; and Bradley, Noah, and Julia Korbecki. He was preceded in death by his beloved son, Louis "Skipper" Rondini, and his sister, JoAnn Rondini.

#### Service Information

Visitation will be on Thursday, March 19, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at the Wasik Funeral Home, Inc., 11470 13 Mile Rd. (west of Hoover) Warren, MI 48093. He will lie in state of Friday, March 20, 2026 beginning at 10 a.m. until the time of his Funeral Mass 11:00 a.m. at St. Ambrose Parish, 15020

Hampton St, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230.

### Memorial Contributions

IN LIEU OF FLOWERS, the family prefers that memorial contributions be made in Louis's name to:

- Pope Francis Center [popefranciscenter.harnessgiving.org/donate](http://popefranciscenter.harnessgiving.org/donate)
- The Capuchin Franciscan Province of St. Joseph [thecapuchins.org/donate](http://thecapuchins.org/donate)
- Jesuit Ministries (Midwest Jesuits) [jesuitsmidwest.org/support-us](http://jesuitsmidwest.org/support-us)

# Cemetery Details

## Mt. Olivet Cemetery

17100 Van Dyke @ 6 Mile Rd.  
Detroit, MI 48234

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 19. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home - Warren  
11470 Thirteen Mile Road  
Warren, MI 48093  
(586) 751-3131  
warren@wasikfuneralhome.com

## Instate in church

MAR 20. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St Ambrose Church  
15020 Hampton Street  
Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230-1302

## Funeral Mass

MAR 20. 11:00 AM (ET)

St Ambrose Church  
15020 Hampton Street  
Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230-1302



# Tribute Wall

GS

“ Dear Joyce and Family,  
The Office of Alumni Relations at Saint Joseph’s University sends prayers and condolences on this very sad occasion of Louis’s death. The University is honored to have its name associated with such an accomplished man, a true man for and with others. We at the University are proud to know that the University played a small part in preparing him for a life dedicated to family and to a mission in health care.

May Louis rest in the hands of God. His name will be entered in our Chapel Memorial Book listing the names of deceased alumni, relatives and friends. All those listed share in prayers during all the Masses said in our University Chapel.

We thank Louis and the Family for remembering the Jesuits among the groups suggested for gifts in Louis’s honor. (And we regret the delay in this posting.)

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George Bur, S.J. - March 25 at 07:41 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Louis Leo Rondini, D.O..



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March 19 at 04:49 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Louis Leo Rondini, D.O..

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March 19 at 04:49 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Louis Leo Rondini, D.O..*



March 19 at 01:33 PM



“ *Sending Love and Prayers to Chris, Nicole, and the Rondini family*

**Olivia McKinstry** - March 19 at 11:44 AM



“ *Hope Shovein & Kevin Graziani purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Louis Leo Rondini, D.O..*



**Hope Shovein & Kevin Graziani** - March 18 at 11:50 PM



“ *Hope Shovein & Kevin Graziani planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Louis Leo Rondini, D.O..*

**Hope Shovein & Kevin Graziani** - March 18 at 11:50 PM



“ We were blessed to know Lou and to share many fun times with him, Joyce and all the family. We treasure these wonderful memories. Regretfully we will not be able to attend the Mass celebrating Lou's life. Our love and prayers go out to all his family and friends who will dearly miss him.  
*Bob & Judy Martin*

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**Bob Martin** - March 18 at 04:13 PM



“ *Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of Louis Leo Rondini, D.O..*



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March 18 at 11:34 AM



“ *My prayers go out to the family of Dr. Rondini. He was a dedicated and professional doctor. He performed a quadruple bypass on my mother. Deacon Marion Jurewicz. May He wln Peace*



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**Dcn. Marion Jurewicz** - March 18 at 10:38 AM



“ *On behalf of the Capuchin friars, I offer condolences to the family and friends of Louis Rondini.*



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**Br. Brenton Ertel OFM, Capuchin** - March 18 at 09:13 AM



“ *Lauren Donatelli, Everett, & Lucie purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Louis Leo Rondini, D.O..*



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**Lauren Donatelli, Everett, & Lucie** - March 17 at 07:30 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Louis Leo Rondini, D.O..*



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March 17 at 07:26 PM

BD

“ I had the privilege to meet Dr. Rondini in 1987 when I joined the then, Oakland General Hospital, becoming St. John Oakland, now Henry Ford Macomb-Oakland. Joyce, Marcia and I want to express our sincerest condolences to you and the kids. I soon learned that Lou was a man, a physician, of deep faith, very disciplined and very well-respected by his colleagues, patients, and friends. I felt privileged to sit with him at breakfast in the doctors' lounge waiting for the arrival of the students, interns, residents and fellows who were assigned to his service. After a bit of small talk, and after he finished his breakfast, he stood up and said, “Ok boys, it's time to go to work”. After we both retired, Lou and I shared several breakfasts cajoling about the past, often with our mutual friend B.J. Khalifa. We frequently met at the annual De La Salle Christian Brothers Dinner, with another mutual friend, Russ Agosta.

*Lou was a gift to me, a friend, a man to be admired and never forgotten, rest in peace Lou. Eternal rest grant unto you Lou, and may perpetual light shine upon you. Thank for your friendship, and yes, I am a Jozefczyk.*

*Bob and Marcia Deputat*

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**Bob Deputat** - March 17 at 05:13 PM

CK

“ Cousin Kate purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Louis Leo Rondini, D.O..



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**Cousin Kate** - March 17 at 04:36 PM

CK

“ Cousin Kate planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Louis Leo Rondini, D.O..

Cousin Kate - March 17 at 04:36 PM

TK

“ Tom and Dianne Korbecki purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Louis Leo Rondini, D.O..



Tom and Dianne Korbecki - March 17 at 01:38 PM

TK

“ Tom and Dianne Korbecki planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Louis Leo Rondini, D.O..

Tom and Dianne Korbecki - March 17 at 01:38 PM

RM

“ In immeasurable gratitude for your surgical skills and compassion in extending the life of my father Jozef, a Holocaust survivor., for several years.....I cannot be greatful enough. God Bless..

Richard J. Magolan

Richard J. Magolan - March 17 at 12:42 PM

KD

*I owe Lou a lot!!! After my father, Lou was one of the most influential people in my medical career and my personal life. I truly cannot think of a negative thing to say about Lou and that's saying a lot. The man was always a gentleman. I have so many wonderful funny stories of us back in surgery, "war stories", and some really deep inspirational and spiritual talks at all hours of the night while taking care of patients. Thank you Lou 🙏. My prayers are with you Joyce and your family. GOD BLESS.*

*Kent J. Blanke D.O.*

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**Kent Blanke D.O.** - March 17 at 05:29 PM

CY

*“ Dr. Lou was a wonderful man. I remember endless stories, holidays, birthdays with the Rondini clan. My most cherished memory was in the cafeteria at Bi-County when I saw Dr. Rondini. I walked up to him and said "Good Morning, Dr. Lou", forgetting we were at work and not a family function, he turned and smiled at me, kissed my cheek and said "good morning". Everyone stared at him...little did they all know, the Rondini's were family to the Jozefczyk's. I recall telling my mom that evening, who called Mrs. Joyce -- funny enough, she already knew the story. They laughed so hard.*

*Dr. Lou, may you be at peace and watch over your family. Love,  
Colleen (Jozefczyk) Young*

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**Colleen Young** - March 17 at 09:49 AM

DD

*“ A true friend, colleague, and father figure to many of us. I will miss his stories, his humor, his guidance. I know countless others will. I am grateful he was a teacher, mentor and friend who exemplified that medicine, family, service to others, and devotion to God still can find time for each other.*

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**DANIEL L JENSEN DO** - March 17 at 06:18 AM

ST

“ I remember when Lou and my husband Ron made the cross for Good Friday that Fr Kreig asked them to build. Those two worked endlessly.

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**Stephanie Thomas** - March 17 at 03:53 AM