



Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr.

September 18, 1955 - November 21, 2025

Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr., beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother and cherished St. Clair Shores Lebanese deli owner, passed away peacefully Friday, November 21, at Henry Ford St. John Hospital. He was 70.

Affectionately known as "Big Sam" or "Papa Sam," he was a man whose generosity and larger-than-life presence touched anyone who crossed his path. Everyone knew him as the owner of Emily's Delicatessen "Home of the Meat Pie," and his influence stretched far beyond Michigan's state lines. No matter where he traveled, someone passing by would proudly recognize him as "Sam from Emily's." The encounters always brought a smile to his face and a story he couldn't wait to share when he returned home.

Through the store, which he ran alongside his mother, Emily, Sam became a community pillar and local legend. He dedicated his life to serving others with hospitality and the signature smile that friends and customers came to love. And to many, he was far more than the owner of Emily's—he was a mentor, a father figure, and a friend, and his impact on the lives of others was truly profound and enduring.

Most enduring was his devotion to his family. He absolutely adored his late wife, Mary Jane, and cherished her beyond words. And through great sacrifice and an unmatched work ethic, he ensured all five sons received strong educations at Catholic schools and later in college. Nothing made him prouder than his sons' achievements or when Sam Jr. started working at the store with him. Sam's commitment to his family remains one of his greatest legacies.

Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr. will forever be remembered for his generosity, his laughter, his smile, his unshakeable work ethic, and his love for family.

Sam was predeceased by his loving wife, Mary Jane; his parents Joseph and Emily Hakim, his brother Maroun (Lidwina), and his sister Emma (Paul) Bochenek. He is survived by his brother Roy (Tammy) and by his sisters, Mary "Tootsie" (Allan) Brazier and Joann (Michael) Carpenter; his sons Joseph, Matthew, Anthony "A.J." (Courtney), Sam Jr.

(Michelle) and Christopher (Teresa); nine grandchildren and 18 nieces and nephews.

Visitation is Sunday, November 30, 1-8pm, with a rosary at 2pm, at Wasik Funeral Home, 49150 Schoenherr Rd., Shelby Township. Funeral Mass will be Monday, December 1, at 11am (instate at 10am) at St. Sharbel Maronite Church, 43888 Hayes Rd., Clinton Township. Interment at Resurrection Cemetery, Clinton Township.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to St. Sharbel Maronite Church.

During the road construction on Schoenherr Rd. the north Schoenherr driveway for the funeral home will remain open and for your convenience there is access to the funeral home parking lot through the parking lot of Macomb Christian Church 13845 22 Mile Road (e. of Schoenherr Rd.), Shelby Twp.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 30. 1:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home, Shelby Township
49150 Schoenherr Rd.
Shelby Township, MI 48315
(586) 532-8600
shelby@wasikfuneralhome.com

Scripture Service

NOV 30. 2:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home, Shelby Township
49150 Schoenherr Rd.
Shelby Township, MI 48315
(586) 532-8600
shelby@wasikfuneralhome.com

Instate in church

DEC 1. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Sharbel Church
43888 Hayes Road
Clinton Township, MI 48038-3516

Funeral Mass

DEC 1. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Sharbel Church
43888 Hayes Road
Clinton Township, MI 48038-3516

Tribute Wall

AZ

“ I've known Sam for quite a while. My mother knew his mother Emily from the old days, prior to opening the store, and Sam told me she would go in the kitchen to talk to Emily when she came in the store. Whenever I stopped in the store, there was always a friend or two of Sam's, just talking and joking with Sam. One time one of the guys said, "Gee, Sam, I've been here for an hour and I haven't bought anything." Sam said, "You don't have to buy anything. You just have to come in." Those were good words, a good way to live.

Alex Zakem

Alex Zakem - December 02, 2025 at 01:46 AM

CT

“ Cristina Tanzini sent a virtual gift in memory of Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr.



Cristina Tanzini - December 01, 2025 at 02:39 PM

CT

My heartfelt condolences to you and your family. Thinking of you during this difficult time. May the memories of your loved one bring you comfort.

Cristina Tanzini - December 01, 2025 at 02:42 PM



“ My heartaches for the Hakim family. Sammy was one of kind. RIP my friend. You will be missed but always in our hearts.

Marsha Tear - December 01, 2025 at 09:12 AM

TS

“ Rest in eternal peace Sam. Our deepest Condolences to you all

Thomas Semaan - December 01, 2025 at 07:21 AM

PC

“ Going to miss Sam!! Many years fellow business owners in st clair shores Emily's and StarlitTv such a great man , love you Sam ❤️🙏 Pete and George Collias

Peter Collias - November 30, 2025 at 09:05 PM

BA

“ Barbara A. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr..

Barbara A. - November 30, 2025 at 03:27 PM

PF

“ No words can describe the heartfelt pain with the passing of Siman. He was a father, friend and the big brother I never had. Please forgive my lack of presence but my health issues keep me away. He will always be in my heart and fond memories help to keep me smiling. My thoughts and prayers are with you guys.

flippus.

Philip Aziz. flippus - November 30, 2025 at 02:47 PM

PK

“ So sad to have heard of Sammy's passing. Our families were once close as Emily & Joe were good friends of our parents, Paul & Mary. Emily was a beautiful and kind woman, her smile & natural kindnesses were evident in Sammy. Always a kind word, a sweet guy, hard working, loving. My heart goes out to his family and friends who will surely feel his absence.

Paulette (Fayad) Koory

"Out of suffering have emerged the strongest souls; the most massive characters are seared with scars."

~Khalil Gibran

Paulette Koory - November 30, 2025 at 11:44 AM

TF

“ The DiCiuccio Family purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr..



The DiCiuccio Family - November 29, 2025 at 10:46 PM

JO

“ So sorry to hear Sams passing our family has known him for years, The Namee's

joe - November 29, 2025 at 06:27 PM

MJ

“ Marlene J. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr..

Marlene J. - November 29, 2025 at 05:28 PM

HV

“ Heather, Laila, Max, and Violet purchased the Forever Our Angel Bouquet for the family of Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr..



Heather, Laila, Max, and Violet - November 29, 2025 at 04:03 PM

BM

“ Brad, Stephanie, Drew, Jack, Cam Michaels purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr..



Brad, Stephanie, Drew, Jack, Cam Michaels - November 29, 2025 at 03:43 PM



“ 154 files added to the album Life Tributes



Wasik Funeral Home, Inc. - November 29, 2025 at 02:02 PM

KB

“ It was a privilege getting to know the Hakim family, even for a few months. It was a blessing getting to see the absolute love and devoted friendships that surrounded Sam. He will surely be missed. May the kindness and generosity that he bestowed upon so many during his life be remembered and passed on by each and everyone who was lucky enough to receive it. God bless your heavenly soul Sam. Fly in peace with the angels my friend.
Kathy Brady



kathy Brady - November 28, 2025 at 11:27 PM

PG

“ Paul, Chris, Peter Gogo purchased the Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray for the family of Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr..



Paul, Chris, Peter Gogo - November 28, 2025 at 09:21 PM

FF

“ From Shaunte and family purchased the Forever Our Angel Bouquet for the family of Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr..



From Shaunte and family - November 28, 2025 at 09:08 PM

FF

“ From Shaunte and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr..

From Shaunte and family - November 28, 2025 at 09:08 PM

KD

“ Kim & Dita planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr..

Kim & Dita - November 27, 2025 at 04:12 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr..*



November 27, 2025 at 04:12 PM

SK

“ *Shawn Bible, Matt Gonzales and Kierie purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr..*



Shawn Bible, Matt Gonzales and Kierie - November 27, 2025 at 11:24 AM

SK

“ *Shawn Bible, Matt Gonzales and Kierie planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr..*

Shawn Bible, Matt Gonzales and Kierie - November 27, 2025 at 11:24 AM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr..*



November 27, 2025 at 09:59 AM

LO

“ *Love Sandra and Ocean planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr..*

Love Sandra and Ocean - November 26, 2025 at 10:41 AM

LO

“ *Love Sandra and Ocean purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr..*



Love Sandra and Ocean - November 26, 2025 at 10:41 AM

TR

“ Troy and Roland purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr..



Troy and Roland - November 26, 2025 at 10:15 AM

BC

“ A smiling face and warm greeting that I will miss.

bill Crouchman. - November 26, 2025 at 06:55 AM

AP

“ Loved Sam, friends for 45 years. You will be missed. My family and I all share the families grief. God bless you all. Know he is in a better place and with his beloved wife.

Anthony Peters - November 25, 2025 at 08:44 PM

TF

“ The Germack Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr..



The Germack Family - November 25, 2025 at 03:32 PM

TF

“ The Germack Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr..

The Germack Family - November 25, 2025 at 03:32 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr..



November 25, 2025 at 11:17 AM

CR

“ To the entire Hashim family, my sincerest condolences during this most difficult time. Sam's family and my family went back decades and I am so sorry he went through so much suffering. To know he is reunited with his beautiful wife, MaryJane, and others who have passed is comforting to know. God bless everyone of you. Sammy and his outstanding personality will never be forgotten.

Carol Reno - November 25, 2025 at 08:44 AM

AP

Sam and my late husband, James Packett, grew up together and were best friends. He would always take me to visit the Hakim house and then swing by to Emily's for his favorite meat pies!!
You will be missed Sam We had many years of good friendship and fun times. 🙏❤️

Anne Packett - November 25, 2025 at 04:57 PM

KB

It was a privilege getting to know the Hakim family, even for a few months. It was a blessing getting to see the absolute love and devoted friendships that surrounded Sam. He will surely be missed. May the kindness and generosity that he bestowed upon so many during his life be remembered and passed on by each and everyone who was lucky enough to receive it. God bless your heavenly soul Sam. Fly in peace with the angels my friend.
Kathy Brady

kathy Brady - November 28, 2025 at 10:54 PM

CR

We will miss Sam behind the counter, always with a smile. Generations of the Jabour family will miss you. You leave the deli in good hands. Rest now.
The Jabour Family

Cindy Jabour Rogers - December 05, 2025 at 10:12 PM

GA

“ Sammy and Family:

I've known Sam for the past 40 years. He was a good friend and I could always count on him to start picking on the State Police every time I visited the store. Sam always had an interesting story to tell and was very proud of all his children and their successes. He especially was proud that you planned to take over the store and keep the "Emily's" tradition going. One of my favorite memories is stopping by the store one cold winter day, and Sam sending us home with meat pies just out of the oven. Sam's personality was bigger than life and we will miss his contagious smile.

Gene & Lynne Adamczyk
Saugatuck, MI

Gene Adamczyk - November 25, 2025 at 07:48 AM

CR

“ Saint Clair Shores has lost a wonderful resident, businessman, husband and father, I will always remember that smile of his when you enter his store on Mack in SCS. Sam was one of those guys, who would do anything for you. You could always tell he loved his customers and would remember their names. Again, humanity has lost one of its most precious gifts, Sam Hakim. Sammy may you rest in peace.

Charles Raffoul - November 24, 2025 at 07:14 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr..



November 24, 2025 at 02:26 PM

LS

“ Love, Selcen planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sam Joseph Hakim, Sr..

Love, Selcen - November 24, 2025 at 02:26 PM