



## George Vretakos

July 27, 1956 - June 15, 2022

George Vretakos, 65 of Old Bridge, New Jersey passed away on Wednesday, June 15, 2022, at home, surrounded by his loving family.

Born Friday, July 27, 1956 in the Washington Heights section of Manhattan, George was the son of the late Charles and Mary Vretakos.

At the age of 8, the Vretakos family would move to Jackson Heights, Queens. George would graduate from Bryant High School, before obtaining a degree from C.C.N.Y. Through a best friend, George would meet the love of his life, Marina Buckley. The couple would begin dating, before they would wed, spending the next 40 years together.

George and Marina would start a family of their own in that same Queens community, before moving to Parlin in 1989. George worked for 22 years on Wall Street with Prudential Securities, and after the tragic events of September 11, he would begin a new career with Home Depot.

A loyal family man first, George loved being surrounded by those he loved the most, especially his four girls. He enjoyed sports and was a longtime fan of the NY Jets, Mets, and Rangers. George's hobbies in recent years consisted of bingo, movies, tv shows, and comics. He was an avid collector of toys, and sports memorabilia. He would call visits to the comic shop "Like being a kid in

a candy store". Nevertheless, he was most in his glory when surrounded by his family.

George was predeceased by his beloved parents, Mary and Charles Vretakos, as well as his beloved in-laws Clelia and Bill Buckley, who he also held so dear to his heart.

George is survived by his beloved wife, Marina, by his loving children, Tanya Vretakos, Lydia LaFontaine and her husband Mike, and Erica Barrella and her husband John, whom he would refer to as the son he never had. He is also survived by his sister Evelyn Ivaliotis and husband John, and loving brothers and sisters in law, Billy Buckley, Cheryl Buckley, Lorena Buckley, and Linda Castillo. Finally, he is survived by his caring nieces and nephews, Phillip, Jillian, John, Phil, Mallory, Christa, Danielle, Rachel, Antonio, Ayden, AJ, Liam, Logan, Landon, and his entire extended family.

The family will receive friends from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM on Sunday, June 19, 2022, at Michael Hegarty & John Vincent Scalia Home For Funerals and Cremation Service, 3377 US Highway 9, Old Bridge, New Jersey.

A Funeral Mass will be at 10:30 AM on Monday at Our Lady of Victories Church located at 42 Main Street Sayreville, New Jersey 08872. Interment will be in Holy Cross Burial Park, East Brunswick, NJ.

Online condolences may be made to the family at [www.HegartyScaliaFuneralHome.com](http://www.HegartyScaliaFuneralHome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Holy Cross Burial Park

840 Cranbury South River Rd  
East Brunswick, NJ 08816

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN **19**. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Michael Hegarty & John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals and Cremation Service  
3377 US Highway 9  
Old Bridge, NJ 08857  
(732) 679-4422  
hegartyfh@scaliahome.com  
<https://www.hegartyscaliafuneralhome.com>

## Service

JUN **20**. 10:30 AM (ET)

Our Lady of Victories Church  
42 Main Street  
Sayreville, NJ 08872

## Service

---

JUN **20** (ET)

Holy Cross Burial Park  
840 Cranbury South River Rd  
East Brunswick, NJ 08816

# Tribute Wall



“ George Vretakos

October 05, 2023 at 11:16 AM



“ *My most sincere and heartfelt condolences to all.*

*George, I never acknowledged the term best friend. Friends come and go.*

*To me you're my brother. I've had a hard time accepting your illness.*

*Here comes the hard part. Your passing is one of the most difficult tragedies to accept.*

*I'm going to miss you. Our many private conversations filled with laughter, thoughts and sometimes tears. I love you my brother and I refuse to say goodbye. The recording you made for me on 05/13 will be remembered for life. I know you're in the presence of God.*

*Your pain and suffering subsided. Rest Peacefully, John Yohannan Sr.*



John Yohannan Sr - June 19, 2022 at 11:04 PM



“ *All my love and deepest sympathy to the entire family. I am so very sorry for your loss.*

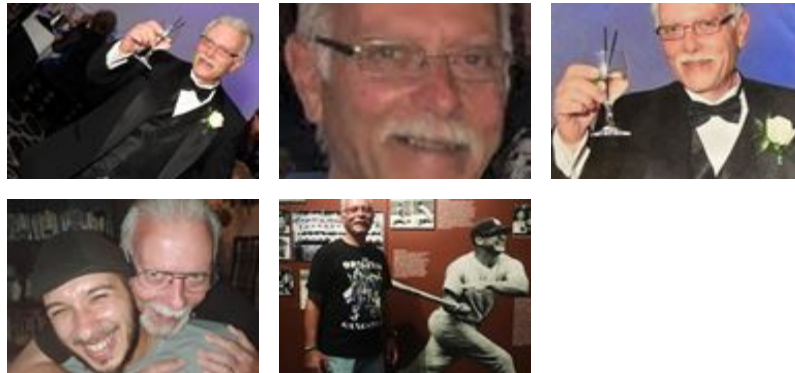
*George was a wonderful Husband, Father and friend. I pray for peace for his family.*



Christine Nagy - June 18, 2022 at 10:35 PM



“ 119 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



**Michael Hegarty & John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals and Cremation Service** - June 18, 2022 at 02:11 PM



“ *Divine Light* was purchased for the family of George Vretakos.



June 18, 2022 at 01:19 PM



“ *I am so saddened by George's passing. I have fond memories of all the good times we shared on Tanbark Drive with Marina, George and the girls and the extended family and friends. He was so lucky to have such love and dedication from Marina, Tanya, Lydia and Erica. May he rest in peace.*

*Denise Hubela*

**Denise Hubela** - June 17, 2022 at 11:07 PM

DA

“ Marina, I have always admired the incredible bond you and George had with each other and with your girls. I am heartbroken for all of you and pray you will hold onto the closeness you always shared for it will forever be in your hearts. You are all in our prayers and may God help you get through this. Sending love and prayers,  
The Antonelli Family

---

**Deborah Antonelli** - June 16, 2022 at 10:57 PM

JZ

“ My first memories of George is how he ruthlessly (and hilariously) messed with John when we were kids. You could never really tell if he was being serious or kidding and that's what made it so great. His sense of humor was truly one of a kind.

*But the thing I'll remember most about him is how fiercely he loved his girls. If you knew nothing else about him, you knew that because he never missed an opportunity to say how proud he was to be their Dad. And I would say really, even Erica? And she would hit me and call me stupid.*

*I'm really going to miss George. He's someone who I always had great respect and appreciation for. I'm going to miss just catching up with him and talking about life.*

*He was a great man and better father and I'm glad to have called him a friend.*

---

**Joe Zezza** - June 16, 2022 at 07:53 PM

AD

“ *Marina, Tanya, Lydia and Erica,  
Mike and I are heart broken over the passing of George. May your  
memories bring you moments of peace and comfort.  
He will be forever in your hearts.  
Love - Alison and Mike*

---

**Alison D'Addio** - June 16, 2022 at 01:40 PM