



## Michael Franz John Little

November 23, 1940 - January 23, 2025

Little, Michael Franz John -

On Thursday 23rd January 2025 in Raleigh, North Carolina, passed peacefully in his 84th year.

Beloved husband of Lynn Leong Little. Father of James (Donna) Little of Florida and Louise (Daniel) Cullen of New Hampshire. Michael will be loved and missed by his grandchildren; Jaimie (John) Florio, Phoebe (Christopher) Cullen, Flora (Scott) Laurent, as well as, great-grandchildren; Connor and Elliott Florio; sister Toni (Mark) Butler; sister-in-law Alawiah Yap, nephews Jeffrey Yap, Frankie Yap, James Butler, and Brad Little; nieces Jennifer Yap and Chantal Mebs. Michael was preceded in death by his brother David Little and brother-in-law Fon Fook Yap.

The weight of flesh, a fading dream,  
I rise above, a liberated stream.  
No more the ache, the weary sigh,  
I soar on wings, beyond the sky.

The family will receive friends from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM on Thursday, January 30, 2025, at Michael Hegarty & John Vincent Scalia Home For Funerals and Cremation Service, 3377 US Highway 9, Old Bridge, New Jersey. Interment will take place at 1:00pm at Cloverleaf Memorial Park, US-1

& Rt 35 Woodbridge, NJ 07095

The family invites guests to a Chinese New Year style dinner at 2:30pm on Thursday, January 30, 2025 at the West Lake, 1016 NJ-34, Matawan, NJ 07747

To read the full obituary please refer to the NY Times on Tuesday, January 28, 2025.

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

# Cemetery Details

## Cloverleaf Memorial Park

Route 1 & 35  
Woodbridge, NJ 07095

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**JAN 30.** 10:00 AM - 12:00 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](mailto:hegartyfh@scaliahome.com)  
<https://www.hegartyscaliafuneralhome.com>

## Service

**JAN 30.** 1:00 PM (ET)

Cloverleaf Memorial Park  
Route 1 & 35  
Woodbridge, NJ 07095

# Tribute Wall



“ A grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Michael Franz John Little.

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February 02, 2025 at 10:51 AM



“ A grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Michael Franz John Little.

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January 30, 2025 at 08:14 AM

SS

“ From Sophia Stelmach (John Morris's girlfriend)

Dear Lynn, Jim & Donna and family,  
Please accept my deepest condolences during this difficult time!

Michael Franz John Little, a man I've never met, but only heard from  
John...

Life is such a precious gift! People who are dear to our hearts ❤️  
come and go, like the Seasons. And every season has its beauty!  
Although I'm a total stranger to Michael's and Lynn's family, I felt  
compelled to share this in an effort to help anyone during their  
personal loss..

Through pain and suffering (I've lost my best friends- my family),  
I've learned to appreciate every moment, every season!

I've learned to live in a moment!

My beloved mother (may God rest her soul!) used to say: "What do  
we take with us when we pass on?" The answer is: Absolutely  
nothing, except happy 😊 memories!

There is a great joy in Giving, being Generous, Kind,  
Compassionate, Living your life as it's the last day!

NOW is a good time to give, Love ❤️ and share... we may not have  
another chance!

It's all about Love ❤️ and what we do for each other... A give and a  
take..

Only God loves us unconditionally and He will never betray us!  
May Michael's family be comforted in knowing that your father is  
loved by God and perhaps Michael met my only son Albert, who I  
recently lost to brain cancer.

I could envision both of them are cracking jokes on the other side 🙏



It seems like they both 💕 loved telling jokes!

I believe in a power of a prayer 🙏!

If I don't have a moment to read the powerful words of wisdom,  
Psalms or Proverbs, I say: "Walk with me, God" or I recite Psalm 91

*(which I memorized) for protection.. and my day is sweeter!*

*If you can be anything- BE KIND!*

*May the unconditional Love ❤️ of God be with all of you now and forever!*

*With all my love,  
Sophia*

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**Sophia Stelmakh** - January 30, 2025 at 08:03 AM

“The world has lost a renaissance polymath the kind we may never see again. He was a classic English gentleman. As Michael’s sister once said to him, “they don’t make men like you any more.”

*Michael excelled in technology and engineering. He worked as a consultant for Sybase (one of the largest relational database vendors). He was a designer and builder. I remembered Michael described with pride and enthusiasm how he designed a plumbing system to get hot water upstairs without using a pump. The contractors didn’t understand how it would work and proceeded with much skepticism. Once completed, they were flabbergasted that it actually worked. Michael also built a pool in the backyard himself.*

*Michael enjoyed all modes of transportation, be it land, sea, or air. He loved getting behind the wheel, riding motorcycles, sailing, and flying. I once went sailing with him and Lynn. I wasn’t much of a sailor. Michael handed me a beer once we got on the boat. At one point, the boat was leaning at least 45 degrees. I got nervous thinking it was going to capsize. Both Michael and Lynn kept chatting and sipping beer as if it was all routine (maybe it was to them).*

*Michael was a classic English gentleman upholding traditional values in an assertive yet gentle manner. He held himself with dignity and confidence. He exemplified “confidence by competence.” He was the kind of role model we need for young men. He articulated with clarity and firmness. If observant, one might tell when something got on his nerves, yet he never lost his composure. He once told me the story that a rambunctious boy was running around in a restaurant where he and Lynn were dining. While many diners felt disturbed and annoyed, they remained silent. Michael being the man he was, called the boy over, firmly and gently told the boy that it wasn’t proper behavior. The boy scampered off. Later the boy’s father came over to their table and thanked Michael.*

*Michael, thank you for being who you were. I am grateful for your presence in my life. Your spirit shall live on within all people upon whom you have bestowed your wisdom and character.*

Pete Ch - January 30, 2025 at 06:40 AM

RV

“ Rajan V. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael Franz John Little.

Rajan V. - January 29, 2025 at 08:29 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Michael Franz John Little.

January 29, 2025 at 02:34 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Michael Franz John Little.



January 29, 2025 at 02:34 PM

CF

“ Christina Adidjaja and family purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Michael Franz John Little.



Christina Adidjaja and family - January 28, 2025 at 04:32 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Michael Franz John Little.*



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January 28, 2025 at 12:15 PM



“ *Dear Lynn,  
Mark and I are deeply sorry for your loss. Michael was such a kind and funny person to be around with. Mark got along very well with Michael when they got together. He will be missed. Our prayers are with you and your family through this difficult time.  
-Anna and Mark Wydell*

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**Anna Wydell** - January 28, 2025 at 10:40 AM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Michael Franz John Little.*



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January 27, 2025 at 06:24 PM



“ *Much love, Sharon & Claus purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Michael Franz John Little.*



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**Much love, Sharon & Claus** - January 27, 2025 at 11:29 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael Franz John Little.*



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January 26, 2025 at 11:24 PM



“ *Dear Jim and Donna,  
My son Stephen and I are sending our deepest condolences to you for the loss of Jim's father Michael Little. I know that my son John knew Michael Little already many years ago, when they both were neighbors living in Yonkers. Since Jim and John were best friends for ever that I can remember, they all shared many good times together.*

*I will add Michael Little to my prayers, together with his Great-grandson Connor (the Miracle-Baby) who has been in my prayers ever since his birth.*

*Love,  
Natalie and Stephen*

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**Natalie Morris** - January 26, 2025 at 11:00 PM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Michael Franz John Little.*



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January 26, 2025 at 08:34 PM

MC

“ *Michael was an amazing person. He loved to share stories of his life with all who would listen. Pappy as we know him . I enjoyed going out on his boat in Tarrytown. He loved his toys but not as much as he loved his family. He fought a good fight. He will be missed. Rest in peace .*

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**Marie Ciccimarra** - January 26, 2025 at 04:59 PM

CC

“ *In memory of Michael Little*



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**Christopher Cullen** - January 26, 2025 at 10:00 AM

PC

“ Micheal, (Pappy) was my grandfather. He was a profound influence on my life. When I struggled academically as a child Pappy made me believe I was not stupid. He had many of the same struggles I had; and he was brilliant man. He made me believe that even if I did not get good grades that I was smart enough and tough enough to figure out a way to have a good life. The way Pappy treated his wife Lynn, had a deep impact on me as a young woman, the kind of relationship I wanted, and the kind of man I was willing to accept. As I became an adult, he and I would periodically get on the phone and talk for hours about history, and his hobbies. I loved to hear him talk, he was such a loveably excentric and unique person. I learnt an incredible amount from him. It felt like he knew something about everything, and most things about most everything. Most importantly I learnt never to compromise who I am or to allow others to influence my values. My grandfather was a gentleman, a true gentleman, he was never rude but neither did he care what anyone thought of him. He did not need the approbation of others, only to be satisfied with his own conduct and the morality of his own actions. Even though I can no longer call him or sit down to dinner with Pappy he will continue to influence me for the rest of my life. He was a force of personality who left an indelible mark on everyone he met. The advice he gave me will echo in my heart for as long as it beats.



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Phoebe Cullen - January 26, 2025 at 09:51 AM

MA

“ Dear Lynn and family,

*Our deepest condolences to you all.  
May God grant you peace and may the memories of Michael give  
you strength during your time of sorrow. RIP Michael.*

*Sending love and hugs  
Eng Cheng and family (in Stuttgart, Germany)*

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**Maliha Eng Cheng Amir-Alikhani** - January 26, 2025 at 01:27 AM

CC

“ 1 file added to the album Michael Little



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**Christopher Cullen** - January 26, 2025 at 12:02 AM

JL

“ *I always thought I was a self made man. Now I know I am the man  
made from my father. A lot to live up to, but I will do my best.*

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**James Little** - January 25, 2025 at 09:01 PM

JM

“ John Morris  
31 minutes ago

*Dear Lynn,  
Jim & Donna,  
Jamie , John and family  
Louise, Danny and family*

*I'm so sorry for your loss.*

*Please take comfort in knowing how much  
Micheal was loved by his family.*

*Michael was a great friend personally  
for over 40 years,  
My best friend Jim Buddy Little's Father,  
shared many good times, adventures, experiences and holiday  
celebrations with the family together over the decades.  
Mike could always make everyone laugh with his special Old World  
English sense of humor and paraphrases.  
Remembering special times I spent with him @ Riverwood in the  
1980's Yonkers days.  
We even Survived a Boat fire together on the  
Hudson River one Fourth of July.*

*On another Maritime adventure,  
Mike, Jim and I braved the rough waves of the  
Florida Ocean all while we had the best  
tunafish sandwiches ever !  
Good times always to be remembered !*

*Michael, you will be missed but never forgotten.*

*Thank You  
Love,  
John and Sophia*

john morris - January 25, 2025 at 08:59 PM

DL

“ Well, what could I say about Mr. Little? He always called me his favorite daughter-in-law, which is funny since I'm the only daughter-in-law he has I tell people he was the most intelligent person I've ever met. Lynn and Michael used to watch our dog Rocky when we went on vacation. I never thought Michael would get attached to Rocky the way he did. It was very funny. He would take Rocky in the car with him to drop Lynn off at work and then he would take Rocky to get a burger at Burger King. James and I have such good memories with Michael and Lynn especially camping with our RVs. Boxing day will not be the same without my father in law. He would make the best meal but i looked forward to his trifle all year. It was so delicious. He kept us all laughing with his funny stories. I am going to miss him but I am relieved that he is no longer in pain. He was a fighter and never gave up. Until we meet again.....love always your daughter in law Donna

Donna Little - January 25, 2025 at 08:54 PM

CC

“ Michael was a wonderful grandfather to my wife Phoebe, and indeed, to myself. He and Lynn made a great effort to get to know me when I first started dating Phoebe, and really helped me feel included in the family. And throughout the time that I knew him he was always supportive, even giving us a place to stay during covid and helping with our wedding. I am eternally grateful for his and Lynn's support, and am deeply sorry I was only able to know him for a few short years. He will be missed.



Christopher Cullen - January 25, 2025 at 08:35 PM

JM

“ Dear Lynn,  
Jim & Donna,  
Jamie , John and family  
Louise, Danny and family

*I'm so sorry for your loss.*

*Please take comfort in knowing how much  
Micheal was loved by his family.*

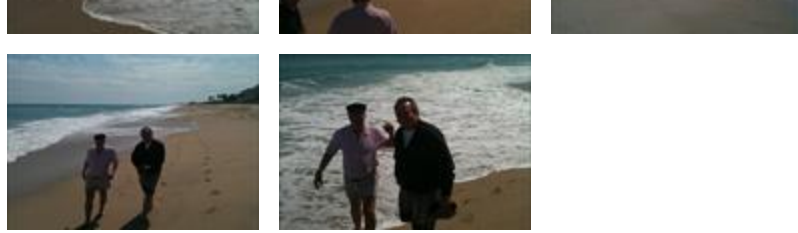
*Michael was a great friend personally  
for over 40 years,  
My best friend Jim Buddy Little's Father,  
shared many good times, adventures, experiences and holiday  
celebrations with the family together over the decades.  
Mike could always make everyone laugh with his special Old World  
English sense of humor and paraphrases.  
Remembering special times I spent with him @ Riverwood in the  
1980's Yonkers days.  
We even Survived a Boat fire together on the  
Hudson River one Fourth of July.*

*On another Maritime adventure,  
Mike, Jim and I braved the rough waves of the  
Florida Ocean all while we had the best  
tunafish sandwiches ever !  
Good times always to be remembered !*

*Michael, you will be missed but never forgotten.*

*Thank You  
Love,  
John and Sophia*





**John Morris** - January 25, 2025 at 08:16 PM

FL

“ *I will forever cherish my happy memories of my grandfather ‘Pappy’, Michael Little. I most remember the many spectacular Christmas brunches we shared, a time I looked forward too every year. He will be missed.*

**Flora Laurent** - January 25, 2025 at 07:49 PM



“ *Lynn, I am deeply sorry to hear about your loss. My thoughts are with you and your family. Please accept my heartfelt condolences during this difficult time.*

*- Joe Baldino*

**Joe Baldino** - January 25, 2025 at 05:14 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michael Franz John Little.*



January 25, 2025 at 04:47 PM

LC

“ When I was a little one maybe 4 or 5 the song “Joy to the World” by Three Dog Night would play on the radio and my father would belt out the lyrics with joy, abandon, gusto. And I would join him with my little kiddo voice singing with all my heart (because that’s what he did) and I think that pleased him because one day he told me that it was possible to buy music, such a new idea to my little brain. He then explained that my brother and I were to start receiving a nickel a week. I so clearly remember him explaining, patiently, that this wasn’t an allowance, a gift, or a reward, but a contract, part of the contract of being part of a family. Mummies and Daddies and children all had roles to play in a family. The roles might change from time to time, but one of the things my brother and I could count on was our nickel a week IF we adhered to the family contract. (My father always spoke to us littles with utmost sincerity and with the most demanding vocabulary.)

After a time my father took me to the record store and handed me not a quarter, but my quarter, and I bought my first single, “Joy to the World”. I was so very proud, and so very happy, and I think my father was too because after I played my single my father called me took the record player and put on the album. We listened together and belted out all the words we could, and there it was, love, life, lessons from a wise man to a little girl and Joy to the World.

Love you Dad.

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**Louise Cullen** - January 25, 2025 at 03:02 PM

JF

“Michael was my grandfather, and to me was "Pappy." A couple of months ago, I wrote a letter to Pappy, and I'd like to share some of what I wrote in the letter to him:

*“You are without a doubt the most intelligent person I’ve ever met, but also one of the wittiest. Your approval or pride isn’t something I’ve needed in my life, but something I’ve always appreciated receiving because of your own intellect and achievements. I’ve found myself subconsciously wanting to impress you, and the biggest surprise came when I impressed you with the family I’ve created rather than any academic or career achievements. The amazement and love you’ve had for both of my children is something I’ll always treasure.*

*...There is so much more to you that comes to mind whenever I think of you. What resonates most with me is your laugh and the way you lean back in your chair with your head back when you find something truly humorous (usually something my father’s said). Then, there’s your charisma and charm, your knack for story-telling, and your ability to always be the most interesting person in the room. There’s a confidence about you that I can only hope to have one day.*

*...When I think of you, I picture you in your house in Danbury - a house which reflected your personality so greatly. I think of the family crowding together in the dining room enjoying a meal you so carefully prepared, which always tasted fantastic. I think of carefully chosen furniture, music, and trinkets. You’ve brought culture, history, eccentricism and intellectualism to my life. I love you and the person that you are, complexities and stubbornness included.”*

*Love,*

*Jaimie*

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Jaimie Florio - January 25, 2025 at 02:02 PM

JF

“ 24 files added to the album Michael Little



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**Jaimie Florio** - January 25, 2025 at 01:58 PM

BL

“ *Benedicte Lambert purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Michael Franz John Little.*



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**Benedicte Lambert** - January 25, 2025 at 10:24 AM

BL

“ *Au Revoir Michael !*

*Dear Lynn, I was so sorry when I heard the news of Michael's passing.*

*I have such good memories of him and his good spirits when we met at the end of some of our CS events and remember fondly when we spoke French together.*

*My thoughts are with you in this difficult time. Please let me know if I can do anything for you.*

*Benedicte*

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**Benedicte Lambert** - January 25, 2025 at 10:14 AM

CA

“ *Lynn,  
I reach out with my deepest sympathies for you during this trying time. Michael was a wonderful man and I saw the joy you gave each other. I still remember how he enjoyed drinking Arak with Daniel. God be with you and your family.  
Love,  
Christina Adidjaja and family*

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**Christina Adidjaja** - January 25, 2025 at 09:39 AM

PB

“ *Lynn so sorry to here your sad news this morning my thoughts are with you and the family Phil*

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**Philip Bull** - January 25, 2025 at 05:12 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Michael Franz John Little.*



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January 24, 2025 at 10:38 PM



“ *Raymond Tozer lit a candle in memory of Michael Franz John Little*



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**Raymond Tozer** - January 24, 2025 at 09:51 PM