



Joseph F. DeLuca Jr.

January 15, 1932 - January 23, 2026

Joseph F. DeLuca Jr., 94, of Ocala Florida passed away peacefully in his home on Friday January 23, 2026.

Joseph was born in Lyndhurst, New Jersey to Joseph DeLuca Sr. and Teresa Nicolliello on January 15, 1932. He was raised in a family of six brothers and one sister.

Joseph graduated from grammar school in 1949 but never attended high school as he needed to work at an early age to help support his large family. He entered the Air Force in January of 1951 at the age of 19 and served on a base in Alaska as a military radar tech until being honorably discharged in July of 1953.

Upon returning from his military service he worked for a short time as an apprentice auto mechanic in a New Jersey Pontiac dealership. He then bought two lots in Lake Hopatcong, New Jersey and built a home on one lot with the help of his father Joseph Sr. and his brother Mikey, and then eventually sold them both.

In August of 1956 at the age of 24, Joseph enrolled in Lincoln Technical Institute under the GI Bill and earned his certification as an Air Conditioning/Refrigeration technician. Soon after, he joined the HVAC Union

Division of New Jersey installing large commercial refrigeration and air conditioning units in supermarkets which became a lifelong career that he enjoyed doing and was very proud of.

Joseph married the love of his life JoanAnn in October of 1959 and after a few years with three children in their first home in Roselle Park, NJ, decided to move to Clark, NJ where they had a fourth child, and stayed until 1998. For many years while in Clark, Joseph and JoanAnn were charter members of an Italian/American club called The Gran Centurion's in which Joseph would volunteer his time in maintaining their refrigeration units.

In the 1970's, Joseph and his wife JoanAnn, whom was a registered nurse, left their careers to go into business together. They started "DeLuca's Gallery of Collectables" after a number of years of selling collectable plates and figurines at Flea Markets on the weekends. They experienced many successful years running the business with much help from family members and great friends. A downturn in the economy in the early 90's along with some unfortunate circumstances caused them to liquidate the business and return to their previous careers.

Joseph and his wife JoanAnn retired in 1998 and moved to Delray Beach Florida. They enjoyed fishing, cruising and vacationing in Orlando. In the year 2000, they had a home built in Royal Palm Beach, Florida where they resided for the next 21 years. Joseph enjoyed working on various projects in their "retirement home" such as painting, decorative trim work and tile work over the years. He continued to maintain and improve their home up until the age of 91, doing his own lawn care and painting the outside of their home.

Over the last two years Joseph and his wife JoanAnn moved in with their daughter Karen and son-in-law Michael in Ocala, Florida, and sold their Royal Palm Beach home. Joe and JoanAnn were married 65 years when JoanAnn

passed on December 24, 2024.

Joseph is survived by his brother Raymond DeLuca, sons Joseph DeLuca III and fiancée Belinda Burns, Thomas DeLuca and wife Barbara, James DeLuca and wife Dominie, his daughter Karen Besosa and husband Michael Besosa, his four grandchildren Joseph DeLuca IV, Michael DeLuca, Brian DeLuca, Gabriella Besosa, and his great granddaughter Addison DeLuca.

Gathering of family and friends will be held at Roberts Funeral Home West Chapel, 6241 SW State Rd 200, Ocala, FL 34476 on February 2, 2026 from 2 to 5 pm with a short service that begins at 3 pm. Private family burial will be the following day at the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, Florida.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 2. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Roberts of Ocala West Chapel
6241 SW State Rd 200
Ocala, FL 34476
(352) 537-8111
<http://www.robertsfunerals.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Roberts of Ocala Funerals and Cremations created a Tribute Video in memory of Joseph F. DeLuca Jr.*



Roberts of Ocala Funerals and Cremations - February 02 at 02:50 PM

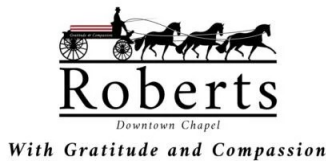
RB

We miss you, Rich and Sheila

Rich Battaglino - February 05 at 06:01 PM



“ *Roberts of Ocala Funerals and Cremations created a Webcast in memory of Joseph F. DeLuca Jr.*



Roberts of Ocala Funerals and Cremations - January 30 at 01:40 PM

KB

Thank you, Roberts Funeral Home for the beautiful way you helped our family get through this most difficult time with our father Joseph DeLuca. All of you were just so incredibly helpful, professional and kind. We will never forget this, and we can highly recommend Roberts Funeral Home to all who ask of us in the future.

Karen & Michael Besosa - February 13 at 10:11 AM

CG

“ Joe was a wonderful neighbor who loved his family, his little dog and taking care of his perfectly groomed lawn. I never saw him without a smile and a friendly greeting. He was my inspiration for so many things. May his dear family get peace from remembering all the good times. RIP to a wonderful friend and neighbor.

Caren Griffin - February 07 at 10:22 AM

TD

“ Dad, you will always be my carpenter partner, my ham buddy, and my spiritual brother in Christ. I appreciated you so much more when I became an adult and to this day you continue to be a person I admire and learn from. Your example left it's imprint on my soul in so many ways, and I am grateful to God for you. I will always miss you, and I love you so much dad. Now you can truly laugh, and finally be with your bride forever!

Tom DeLuca - February 07 at 10:05 AM

KB

“ We will always love and miss you daddy. We know you are at home with Jesus our Lord now.
Dance!!! 🕺🙏

Karen & Michael Besosa - February 06 at 11:19 AM

TD

“ 13 files added to the tribute wall



Tom DeLuca - February 02 at 04:01 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Joseph F. DeLuca Jr..



February 01 at 06:16 PM

KB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Karen Besosa - February 01 at 10:45 AM

TD

Mom and dad's (pre-renovation) kitchen in their Royal Palm Beach home

Tom DeLuca - February 07 at 09:53 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joseph F. DeLuca Jr..



January 31 at 08:17 PM



“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Karen Besosa - January 28 at 07:45 PM



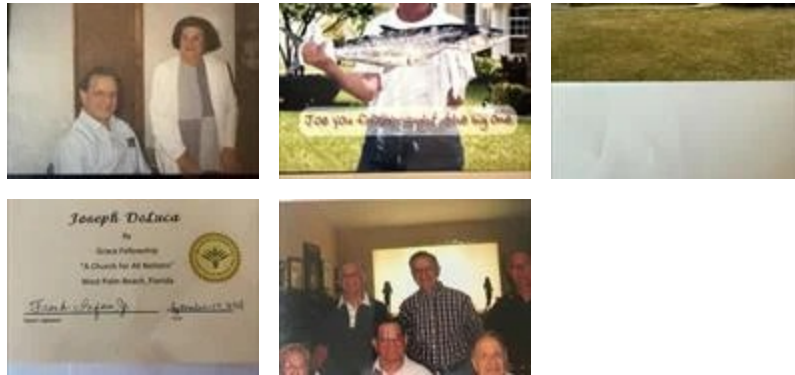
“ 13 files added to the tribute wall



Karen Besosa - January 28 at 07:22 PM

MB

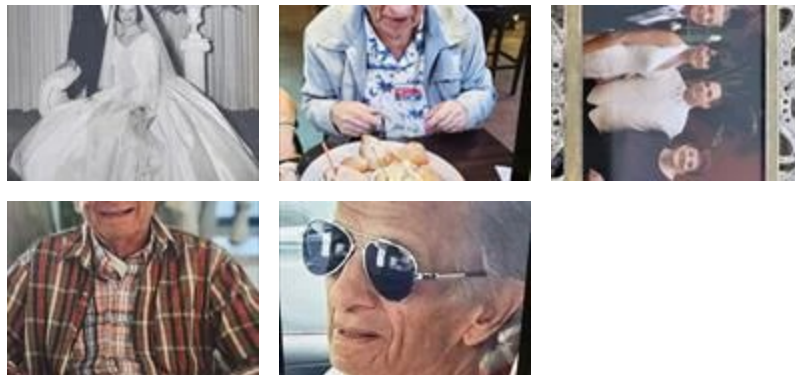
“ 17 files added to the tribute wall



Michael Besosa - January 27 at 05:57 PM

KB

“ 7 files added to the tribute wall



Karen Besosa - January 27 at 09:29 AM

MB

“ 32 files added to the tribute wall



Michael Besosa - January 26 at 09:31 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Joseph DeLuca - January 26 at 06:05 PM

TD

Igor and dad!

Tom DeLuca - February 07 at 08:57 AM

PO

“ 10 files added to the tribute wall



Paul Orlando - January 26 at 03:18 PM

JD

“ 11 files added to the tribute wall



JOSEPH F DELUCA - January 26 at 02:56 PM