



## David John Marec

April 23, 1939 - April 23, 2020

David John Marec took the ultimate journey home to Heaven early on his 81st birthday. David was born on April 23, 1939 and passed on April 23, 2020.

David grew up in Cleveland, Ohio and received his undergraduate from Case Institute of Technology with graduate work at Seton Hall University to follow his passion for chemistry. He enjoyed working on his “Weed Patch Farm” in Pennsylvania and nurturing the many flowers at his home in Brea, CA.

David was a devoted Catholic actively participating in the Knights of Columbus for over 40 years. In support of the Chemical industry, David was also very active with the American Chemical Society, including traveling for conferences to represent the local chapter.

A loving husband, supportive father, inspirational grandfather, and calming brother, David is survived by his wife Laura; his five children Linda Hidalgo (step), Roger Marec, Victoria Starling, Bill Marec, and Leigh Ann Pocek (step); six grandchildren: Lia Macirowsky, Richard Marec, Cheyenne Hidalgo, Steven Marec, Hayley Pocek, and Ellie Pocek; and three siblings Nancy Bald, Eileen Cernea, and Kenneth Marec.

The service for David was held at St. John Paul II Polish Center in Yorba Linda on Friday, May 1 at 4 PM. Due to the current pandemic, only local family members attended the service. The service is available on YouTube for remote family and friends at [www.polishcenter.org](http://www.polishcenter.org). Scroll down and click on ‘View Masses’.

# Comments

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“ Those were the days...

Childhood memories of hopes and dreams, family outings, music and games, fun and laughter of those brief days on Brainard Avenue.

I remember David...

Dreaming of plans for the future always occupied the bedtime hour.

Playing baseball in the alley behind the house.

Climbing Gran"s cherry trees to pick the cherries for her.

Hiking, fishing and picnicking at the many lakes in Ohio.

Leading the 10 O'clock "Dialog Mass" on Sundays at St. Michael's Church

Playing the accordion and trombone.

Enjoying a good game of chess.

And so many more.

Childhood memories are the best.

...from Nancy

**Nancy Bald** - May 22 at 07:46 PM

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“ This is such a wonderful historic family photo of David with his family and part of my family before I was born. David is in the striped shirt. I am David's first cousin Llz (Nagorney) Smith. David's mother was my Father Frank Nagorney's sister and my lovely Aunt Jo.

From left to right: Grandma Nagorney; David's Mother Jo Marec; David's sister and my cousin Nancy Marec; David's uncle and my father Frank Nagorney; and David in the striped shirt at around age 13. I believe the baby sitting is David's cousin and my brother Frank Nagorney and the little girl in the hat is David's sister and my cousin Eileen Marec.

I will miss David.

Cousin Liz Smith



**liz smith** - May 05 at 12:22 PM

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“ It was an August morning, I was 15 years old, and I had been visiting my brother David there in the Appalachian Mountains of central Pennsylvania. He was about to leave for work and I was about to be dropped off at the bus station for my return to Cleveland when still in his driveway he turned to me and said, "Would you like to take the bike instead?" Now I was a shy kid. I had never driven a ten speed bicycle nor changed a flat tire or been on my own for that matter. And this was the middle of a mountain range. But so, as not to back down in front of my big brother I said "Sure." And within moments I had a my backpack tied to the handlebars, a map in my hand, and was on my way, by myself, for the 300 mile journey. There was no time to think. I was on my way. And I had a great time. The best time. David taught me that day that life was an adventure and all the better to take on a challenge. I think that is why he loved science so much. It presents a constant challenge. To be serious with a ready smile, keep a sense of humility, and finish it all off with a good laugh. That was his formula to be to be at your best. (That was also his favorite style of pontificating given any opportunity!) That is how I will remember David. He was a good brother and a great guy.

**Kenneth Marec** - May 01 at 05:36 PM



“ Wow Ken...What an adventure.I don't think I was aware of that ride.Sometime you could fill me in on the details of that experience. David was a a good step -dad although in reality I always felt that he was like a second father.I used to like to give him hugs and kisses, and he would groan( jokingly) in response. He instilled in me a love and appreciation for classical music and being in the woods, hiking, family picnics and just being outdoors in general. Also, I think he is the reason that i have a good work ethic today. He was definitely a big influence in my life.I miss him already.

**Linda Hidalgo** - May 02 at 11:18 AM



“ It was the little things. For many years David telephoned our mother each morning. It was before he left home for work, and it was a short, brief call. Mom said that she didn't know why David called each day, but we all knew why. And Mom loved the attention. In those brief calls, he gave her a tidbit of conversation, like the name and color of a flower he had cut from his garden for someone at work.

It was the little things.

One year he planted a small package of Bee Feed Flower Mix from the Sierra Club. He

decided he had nothing to lose. He found a large container, but "Much to my dismay, they were growing on one side of the pot." Then the empty side began growing too. The plants kept growing and his wildflower planter was his pride and joy. He emailed a picture, but said that it was hard to capture its beauty.

It was the little things.

Analytical, David? In an email he wrote about his hydrangea. Two days ago its flowers were pink at 96 degrees temperature. The next day it was 111 degrees. The next day some pink flowers turned blue. He never saw hydrangea flowers change color due to heat and/or light. There is a special aluminum salt that is used to make the flowers blue, but he hadn't used it. He wrote, apparently, the pink hue is not stable. He sent before and after hydrangea pictures.

It was the little things.

One time David sent pictures of several container plants. He wrote there is a story behind each picture. They were pictures of his 3 year old pink and yellow flowering Plumeria trees (started

from cuttings, a gift from his neighbor) and a picture of his 30 year old fiddle fig tree (pointing out its leaf looked like a fiddle).

One August, the story behind his August blooming Amaryllis picture was simply, it usually bloomed in Spring.

It was the little things.

He often spoke of his trips to the local city park. One time he saw a Mama Mallard Duck with 8 babies in the little creek in the park. One time he found two golf balls and planned to donate them to charity for door prizes. There was the Audubon article he forward with a picture of a Mama Merganser followed by more than 50 fuzzy babies. He wrote my buzzard picture looked more

like California terns! He forwarded the National Geographic video about a gynandromorph cardinal--one side was red and one side was tan, a bird phenomenon.

It was the little things.

And among interesting reads, there was the Science Alert about a diamond with a whole other diamond inside it was discovered in Siberia. He forwarded "Thoughts to Ponder" and we both had

the same favorite. "There's an unspoken rule that when your pet is sleeping on you, you don't move." In March 2020 David emailed the site for US National Parks. He pointed out there

were videos on the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, our much loved Ohio treasure.

It was the little things.

God bless Laura, David's family, and his "little" terriers.

Always in my heart, Eileen Cernea

**Eileen Cernea** - May 23 at 04:34 PM

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“ 4 files added to the album A short movie 1971?



**Kenneth Marec** - May 01 at 03:32 PM



“ Ken, Is the sister in the video sister Mariann? How is she related to the family?

**liz smith** - May 05 at 12:25 PM



“ Dear Laura and Family,

I am so very sad and sorry for your great loss. Craig and I are fortunate that we were able to visit with you and David at your home in October. Thank you for inviting us to the virtual Mass today. My brothers and sisters will also be attending.

Liz Smith



**Liz Smith** - May 01 at 10:26 AM