



## John Zarik

August 11, 1963 - August 11, 2009

JOHN PoochS. Zarik age 46 of Valparaiso and formerly of Glen Park passed away Tuesday August 11 2009. Survived by mother: Katherine Zarik of Valparaiso brother: Mike (Margie) Zarik of Crown Point three sisters: Linda (Dale) Thompson of Crown Point Janice (Edward) Samay of Valparaiso JoAnne Laster of Valparaiso loving uncle of Laura Chrissy Cindy Carolyn Jenny Daniel Nicole Brian and Jessica great uncle of Allison and Corey special aunt: Mary Ann Zarik of Crown Point. Preceded in death by father: John Zarik father figure Frank Acosta grandparents: Steve and Katherine Balenovich and John and Catherine Zarik beloved Uncle George Zarik and Uncle William Zarik aunts Julia Lash and Anne Bartok. John attended Lew Wallace High School and worked at Hydro Mechanics and Franks Piano. He enjoyed the Chicago Cubs fishing and spending time with his family. Funeral Services will take place Friday August 14 2009 at 1:00 p.m. at Pruzin Brothers Chapel 6360 Broadway Merrillville with Rev. Steve Loncar officiating. Friends may gather with the family one-half hour prior to services. Cremation to precede interment. At rest Calumet Park. Memorials preferred to Health Linc in Valparaiso.

# Tribute Wall

VW

“ I love you Katie more than you can imagine! You were always my other mother. Mrs Bokatie the candy lady!!!! You will always be in my heart. I think about you often and my mother also!! Ill never forget when Pooch ran around the outside of your house in my cheetah print underwear for no reason what so ever in the dead of winter and we watched him run by the outside camera just because!!!!!!!!!! TMI !!!!!!!!!!!

---

**Virgil Wardell** - October 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“ Would like to send my regards to pooches family .I have played hours of online poker(pokerstars) with pooch along with a long list of regulars who are very taken back to hear of johns passing.Will miss his cheeky moustache and the loving and positive vibe he would bring to the poker table .His generosity was second to none any one had nothing he was the first to sheare :) POOCHIE u r missed my friend .deedragonluv

---

**DEEDeanna johns** - August 30, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KR

“ My Condolences go out to the Zarik family. John was a kind man and will be missed! My thoughts and prayers are with the family.

---

**Kelly Robbins** - August 30, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ I saw Poochie last a few years back at both my parents funerals and he had not aged or changed a bit!!! Still the same smiling sweet guy that I grew up with!! I can just picture Ken & Poochie hanging out in Heaven together :) My thoughts and prayers are with you at this very difficult time June Makis

---

**June Makis** - August 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Pooch we are going to miss you very much. We know you are at peace now. You and Dad are together which both of you are so deserving of. I know Dad is proud of you for taking such good care of Mom. Rest in Peace my Loving Brother and Father. JoAnne & Sheila

---

**JoAnne & Sheila** - August 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ My prayers are with all of you and this time of sorrow. Havent seen John since 7th grade but have never forgot him nor ever will. God bless and RIP.

---

**Lori ( Hurst ) Fahy** - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PD

“ My condolences to all of poochies family. I say poochie because thats the name we called him growing up. We had a lot of fun growing up in the neighborhood together. I remember playing football in street with him and his brother and driving to Lew Wallace every morning with each other. John Wendell Keven Calyor now Poochie I cant believe what is happening just unbelievable I am truly saddened by this news. Phil

---

**Phil Davis** - August 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

FB

“ I am so sorry for your lost. we went to school together and Grad. in Lew Wallace High school. My Prayers are with you and your family. GOD BLESS Frances K. Barrett (Hatch)

Frances K Barrett - August 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AA

“ Poochie i made the mistake of not keeping in touch with you. One thing you taught me was to not waste anymore time. I need to get in touch with as many of my friends as possible. Thank you for teaching me a lesson I am sorry didnt learn it sooner.

Anthony Arciniega - August 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ The last time I saw Pooch he was fishing on 61st Avenue. So glad we were able to talk. Lots of memories of Pooch from high school and what a handsome wonderful person. His smile and amazing ability to connect with people will live in my memory forever. See you on the other side Pooch. Until then...youll definitely be missed.

Lisa Albrecht Cortazar - August 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM

C(

“ Dear Uncle Pooch I miss you so much and I still see your smile and hear your laugh wherever I go. I could always count on you to have fun or get me into trouble! Im so sorry for the hard times and pain that you went through. I know you are bringing smiles to everyones faces in Heaven. I wish I could hear you call on the phone and say Hi my loving niece its your favorite Uncle Pooch can I borrow \$20? I will never forget you and will always keep you in my heart. I Love & Miss You dearly. Things wont ever be the same without you. Your Loving Niece Chrissy

Chrissy Shuman (Laster) - August 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Hey everyone Im sorry for your loss..... Ive known Poochy since 7th grade. We used to have a great time. He will be sorely missed..... Sincerely Jeff Mokol

Jeff Mokol - August 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ My deepest sympathies to Poochies family. May God be with all of you during this awful time. I will be praying for all of you and for Poochie as well.

Cindy Konikowski Ryan - August 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ TIME NEVER STOPSIT PASSES...TAKING AWAY THINGS AND LEAVING BEHIND MEMORIES.. BUT TIME IS ALSO THE BEST HEALER.. OUR PRAYERS AND WISHES ARE ALWAYS WITH YOU

barb & marilyn - August 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ To all of the family members I would just like to extend my condolence. Pooch was a friend of my since the 1st grade and I will remember him has as a true and genuine person. I will miss him greatly and our times together will be in my mind forever. Rest in peace my friend.

Matthew Sosh - August 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ To the Zarik family My thoughts have been with your family during this difficult time. I went to high school with Poochie and reconnected with him on Facebook yet I was unaware of the difficulites he was facing as he did not share that. I hope some of my memories I have of John will bring a smile to your face. The strongest memorie I have of Poochie was his smile and his laugh. No matter what life threw at you if Poochie laughed it made you realize that it wasnt as bad as you may have thought it was. The next memorie I have is the time I TPed his house with toilet paper. I dont recall Poochies reaction yet I just remember the fun I had when he was around. I recall the times I may have seen him around Junedale or walking down the hall in High School yet the one thing I will miss is that fantastic smile and laugh. May you find peace in each other during this difficult time and know he has brought much happiness to those around him. God Bless. Mary Sanchez-Kelley

---

**Mary Sanchez- Kelley** - August 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ you were a funny guy in school and in life and will be missed

---

**lori wisneski wingard** - August 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ I share your deepest sorrow on the loss of your son pooch. He was always a good friend to me and always there to help you out. I shall miss him very much.

---

**SHIRLEY BONO** - August 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ Poochie as it has been a very long time since we played at Junedale you will be sorely missed. You were the character and all the kids enjoyed your smile and playfulness. God rest your soul my friend.

---

**Matt Tretter** - August 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ I know Pooch is in heaven and I know he and Daddy are taking care of each other. My thoughts and prayers are with the Zarik family.

---

**Jenny (Acosta) and Eric Avery** - August 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM