



Roy Francis Frontani, 86, died on Friday, April 21, 2023 at Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital, Salinas, California after a short illness. He is preceded in death by sister Elsie and her husband, Joe Ruffo, niece Betty Jo Ruffo, and daughter-in-law, Heidi Frontani, and leaves behind a loving family, including his wife of 62 years, Thelma, their four children, Michael (Salinas), Michelle Coyle (and husband Bob, Clovis), Noelle (Rancho Cucamonga), David (and wife, Holly, Aldie, VA), and 5 grandchildren, Chelcie and David Babin, Dante Frontani, and Marina and Jude Frontani.

Roy was born on January 27, 1937, in Peckville, Pennsylvania, to Italian immigrant Attilio Frontani and first-generation Italian American Antoinette (nee Scassellati), joining older sister, Elsie.

Following the death of his wife, in 1946, Attilio married Olivia (nee Smacchi), and the family moved to San Jose, California. Roy graduated from San Jose High School in 1954 when, too young to do so himself, he had his father sign the papers that enlisted him in the USMC Reserves, in which he served for eight years. Following high school, Roy attended San Jose State University and graduated in 1958 as part of its first class of Metallurgical Engineers.

He was employed by North American Aviation, in Los Angeles, where he worked on, among other things, the North American X-15 hypersonic rocket powered aircraft and XB-70 high-altitude Mach 3 bomber before moving on to Lockheed Corporation.

In 1960, he married Thelma (nee Imperiale), and following the birth of their first child, Michael, they moved to San Jose, where daughters Michelle and, then, Noelle followed.

In 1966, Roy and Thelma moved the family to Dayton-area, Ohio, where Roy was employed at the Wright-Patterson Airforce Base as an analyst in the Foreign Technology Division of the Department of Defense. The young family welcomed a new member, David, in 1968.

Roy retired in 1994, after 29 years, and he and Thelma moved to Salinas. He and Thelma attended Sacred Heart since moving to Salinas, and Roy loved singing in the choir led by Thelma for nearly 30 years. Roy was also a proud and active member of the Knights of Columbus, both in Dayton and Salinas.

Visitation will be held 3:00p.m. to 7:00p.m. Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at Struve and Laporte Chapel, 41 W. San Luis St. Salinas, CA. 93901.

Rosary will be 6:00p.m. Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at Struve and Laporte Chapel.

Funeral Mass will be 1:30p.m. Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at Sacred Heart Church, 22 Stone St. Salinas, CA. 93901.

Donations can be made to your favorite charity