



# Mark A. LaMarra

Send Flowers



Obituary

Show Support

Guest Book

## ABOUT

[Woodbury High School](#)

[Rowan University](#)

## FUNERAL HOME

Smith Funeral Home - Mantua  
47 Main Street  
Mantua, New Jersey

## UPCOMING SERVICE

Service  
Dec. 28, 2024  
12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
Smith Funeral Home  
[Send Flowers](#)

## Mark LaMarra Obituary

[Publish in a newspaper](#)

Mark A. LaMarra, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and dedicated educator, passed away peacefully with his family at his side on December 20, 2024, in Clarksboro, NJ. Born on February 3, 1942, in Camden, NJ, to the late Dominick and Marie Margiotta LaMarra, Mark grew up in Westville, NJ, alongside his sister, Linda LaMarra.

Mark graduated from Woodbury High School in 1960 and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in 1966 and a Master's degree in Psychology from Glassboro State College. He dedicated his career to education, serving as an Earth Science teacher at Gateway Regional High School from 1967 to 1974 before becoming a beloved guidance counselor, a role he held until his retirement in 2002. Known for his compassion and dedication, Mark had a profound impact on students, helping them navigate challenges and achieve success.

Mark married the love of his life, Jane Higgins LaMarra, on June 28, 1980, after meeting at Gateway Regional High School, where they both worked. Together, they built a life centered on love, family, and a shared appreciation for nature. Mark was a proud father to Sherri LaMarra and Nicole LaMarra from a previous marriage and to Mark LaMarra (Laura) and Danielle Rivas (Carlos). He was an adoring grandfather to Shane and Scarlett LaMarra, Adelina and Isla Rivas, cherishing every opportunity to attend their sporting events, dance recitals, and milestones.

Mark had a lifelong passion for nature. He was an avid gardener, enthusiastic birder, and participant in educational hikes with the South Jersey Land and Water Trust. He also nurtured a unique love for Ferraris, which reflected his zest for life and curiosity. Friends and family will remember Mark as kind, honest, and compassionate, with a direct yet warm demeanor that endeared him to all. Known for his kindness, honesty, and compassionate nature, Mark was deeply committed to helping others. His colleagues and students remember him as someone who genuinely cared for their well-being and went the extra mile to ensure their success. Despite physical challenges later in life, Mark's dedication to his family never wavered. His resilience and determination to remain an active presence at family events, no matter the difficulties, were a testament to his unwavering love.

A memorial service will be held on December 28, 2024, at Smith Funeral Home, 47 Main Street, [Mantua, NJ](#), with visitation from 12:00 to 2:00 PM, followed by a memorial service at 2:00 PM.

Donations may be made in Mark's memory to the South Jersey Land & Water Trust (21 Main St., Swedesboro, NJ 08085) or online by clicking [here](#) or New Jersey Audubon (9 Hardscrabble Rd., Bernardsville, NJ 07924) or online by clicking [here](#). Mark will be deeply missed by all who knew him, but his legacy of kindness, curiosity, and devotion will continue to inspire those he loved and guided. To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Mark, please visit our floral store.

[Obituary](#)

[Show Support](#)

[Guest Book](#)



## for Mark LaMarra

**DEC 28** Service

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Smith Funeral Home

47 Main Street Mantua, NJ 08051

[Send Flowers](#)


**DEC** Memorial service

**28**

2:00 p.m.

Smith Funeral Home

47 Main Street Mantua, NJ 08051

 Send Flowers

**Funeral services provided by:**

[Smith Funeral Home - Mantua](#)

47 Main Street, Mantua, NJ 08051

 Call: (856) 468-0670

**Memories and Condolences for Mark LaMarra**

What is your first memory of Mark?

Answer a question, share your own memory, or leave condolences

Obituary

Show Support

Guest Book

[See Suggestions](#)

4 Entries



**Louise Master** Yesterday

I am so sorry to hear of the passing of my former colleague. Mark LaMarra. Mark and I taught at Gateway where we became

[See More](#)



**Kirstie Ransdell** Yesterday