



## Maj. Thomas P. Rozga

March 30, 2018

Born to Eternal Life March 30, 2018 at the age of 95 years. Beloved husband of Gloria (nee Rakowski) for 71 years. Loving father of Susan (Mike) Barrett, Thomas (Bunny), Melissa Kay (Steve) Rabe, Mary Ellen, Ann Elise (Allan) Kryszak and John (Jackie). Dear grandpa of Tim Barrett, Nicole (Rick) Hahne, Neal (Kensy) Rozga, Sara (Brian) Tilton, Matthew Barrett, Amy Rabe, Jason (Michelle) Kryszak, Steven Rabe, Jessica (Matt) Sullivan, Kyle Rabe, Courtney (Shawn) Casper, Leanna (T.J.) Cavender, Adam (Kristin) Rabe, Jordan (Christopher) Higgins, Trevor Rozga, Jenna (Dee) Kenyi, Jonathan Blair and great-grandfather of McKenna and Jack Barrett, Mark and Mason Reszczynski, Morgan and Martin Higgins, Chase and Grant Hahne, Braden Rozga, Cole Hahne, Abby and Lexie Rozga, Carter and Rylee Sullivan, Logan Kryszak, Cayli Cavender, Halle Blair and Nehemiah Kenyi. Preceded in death by his parents John and Katherine and siblings; Florence, Helen, Felice, Mary, Anthony, John and Thaddeus. Dear brother-in-law of Lois Rozga. Dear friend of Mary "Berry" Determan. Further survived by many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Tom was a proud veteran of the US Navy, US Marine Corps and US Army serving from 1942 to 1969 as a Pilot with the rank of Major. He served in WWII, Korean War and the Cuban Missile Crisis. While Commander of the 4th Marine Division VMO-4 Squadron he was the first American Aviator to step foot on Iwo Jima on D+2 Day. He was awarded three Distinguished Flying

Crosses while serving during wartime, earning one of them for a particularly dangerous night mission on Iwo Jima. He received 12 awards for combat service and air medals in both WWII and Korea.

Tom was a Funeral Director for over 60 years and the 3rd generation owner of Rozga Funeral Home which is now in the 5th generation of family operating 3 locations in Milwaukee. He was a member of the Wisconsin and National Funeral Directors Associations, a lifelong member of the Basilica of St. Josaphat Parish where he was involved in many ways for many years, including a member of the St. Josaphat Holy Name Society, founding member and first President of the St. Josaphat Home & School, Knights of Columbus St. Josaphat Council 13583 and Knights of Columbus St. Josaphat Assembly 3210. He was also a member of the Distinguished Flying Cross Society, a past National Commander of the PLAV and member of Post 49. Member of VFW, 40&8 Jefferson County Voiture Locale 750, 1st Cavalry Division Alumni Association, American Legion and Past Commanders Club, EAA, Milwaukee Society PNA, South Side Business Club, International Mushrooms Pickers Society "IMPS", Sons of Neptune and Noel Society. Memorials to the St. Josaphat Basilica Foundation would be appreciated.

Visitation Friday, April 6 at the Rozga-Walloch Funeral Home (4309 S. 20th St) from 3:00-7:00 PM with a Vigil Service at 6:30 PM. Additional Visitation Saturday, April 7 at the Rozga Funeral Home (703 W. Lincoln Av) from 9:00 – 10:30 AM then to the BASILICA OF ST. JOSAPHAT (601 W. Lincoln Av) for the celebration of Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 AM. Interment with Full Military Honors to follow at St. Adalbert Cemetery.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Adalbert Cemetery

3801 S. 6th Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53221

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 6. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Rozga Funeral & Cremation Services - Rozga-Walloch Chapel  
4309 South 20th Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53221  
(414) 281-7145  
<https://www.rozgafuneral.com/>

## Vigil Service

APR 6. 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Rozga Funeral & Cremation Services - Rozga-Walloch Chapel  
4309 South 20th Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53221  
(414) 281-7145  
<https://www.rozgafuneral.com/>

## **Additional Visitation**

---

APR 7. 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Rozga Funeral & Cremation Services - Lincoln Village Chapel  
703 W Lincoln Ave  
Milwaukee, WI 53215  
(414) 671-5200  
<https://www.rozgafuneral.com/>

## **Closing Prayers**

---

APR 7. 10:30 AM - 10:45 AM (CT)

Rozga Funeral & Cremation Services - Lincoln Village Chapel  
703 W Lincoln Ave  
Milwaukee, WI 53215  
(414) 671-5200  
<https://www.rozgafuneral.com/>

## **Mass of Christian Burial**

---

APR 7. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Basilica of St. Josaphat  
601 W. Lincoln Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53215

## **Cemetery Committal Service**

---

APR 7. 12:15 PM - 12:45 PM (CT)

St. Adalbert Cemetery  
3801 S. 6th Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53221



# Tribute Wall

LS

“ Tommy was my dad's cousin. He was a wonderful guy and always made us laugh. When my dad Edward passed, Tom and Gloria took such good care of us. My sympathy to the entire family.

*Lynn (Gumpert) Scharf*

---

**Lynn Scharf** - April 30, 2018 at 03:18 PM

DW

“ Tom, You may remember me from your years at Briggs. I read the article about your father in today's Journal. You can be so proud of him, he was a real hero. My sympathy to you and your family. Don Winger

---

**Donald Winger** - April 07, 2018 at 12:03 PM

RC

“ My sympathies to the family on the passing of this true hero. Talk about for God and Country, this man humbles us all. Rest in peace, good and faithful servant.

---

**Raymond M. Biedrzycki St. Roman Adult Ch** - April 06, 2018 at 05:53 PM

JS

“ My condolences to the Rosga family for your loss. Mr. Rosga rest in peace.

*Jim Scherr*

---

**Jim scherr** - April 06, 2018 at 05:49 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Maj. Thomas P. Rozga.*



---

April 06, 2018 at 03:35 PM



“ *To the Rozga Family - Sorry for your loss. I am Kathleen Farley Sanfelippo. I was the roommate of Melissa at Stevens Point. I happened to see the notice and needed to say a few words. Thoughts and prayers.*

*Kathleen Farley Sanfelippo*

---

**Kathleen Sanfelippo** - April 06, 2018 at 03:06 PM



“ *To the Rozga family,*

*Please accept my sympathy with the passing of Mr. Rozga. I met him a few times ay funeral director functions and he was always afforded the respect he deserved by his peers. People sometimes forget that caregiving funeral directors need to grieve when they have a loved one die, yet the public assumes the funeral director does not need the support that others do when coping with a death, that we are used to it because we live with others grief everyday, that we have the answer for grief and don't feel the pain. I know and have experienced this feeling and want you to know that my thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. Please let me know if there is anything I can do.*

*Mark Jelacic*

---

**Mark Jelacic** - April 06, 2018 at 11:10 AM



“ *Sweet Liberty was purchased for the family of Maj. Thomas P. Rozga.*



---

April 06, 2018 at 10:26 AM



“ *My deepest sympathy to Tom's family. I was a WIMS classmate of Tom's in 1957. He was the oldest class member and I was the youngest but still got to be good friends. He was the greatest funeral director as well as a great veteran.*  
*Mark Buchanan - Buchanan Funeral Home.*

---

**Mark Buchanan** - April 05, 2018 at 11:29 PM



“ *My deepest sympathy to the Rozga family. Kathi Monreal*

---

**Kathi Monreal** - April 05, 2018 at 06:02 PM




“ *My prayers and blessings to the family of Tom Rozga a wonderful and loving man. Christine (Laskowski) Walczak*

---

**Christine Walczak** - April 05, 2018 at 01:04 PM

BJ

“ *Mary Ellen, Sending prayers and love to you and your family ~ this is always such a hard time despite someone’s age or illnesses. My dad passed three years ago and I still think about him every day. What an incredible life your dad lived, thank you for sharing part of his story in his obit. Thinking of you all ~ Barbara Jackson (Lecci)* 

Barbara Jackson - April 05, 2018 at 10:45 AM

TN

“ *The Sons of Neptune purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Maj. Thomas P. Rozga.*



The Sons of Neptune - April 05, 2018 at 10:20 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Maj. Thomas P. Rozga.*



April 04, 2018 at 09:59 AM

RN

“ *so sorry for your loss gloria. we have had many happy memories with you both with our noel society and visiting you in the villages played many card games and ate many of Maryellen's cookies. rita nowak*

rita nowak - April 04, 2018 at 09:04 AM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Maj. Thomas P. Rozga.*



April 03, 2018 at 08:26 PM



“ *Tony, Mike, Kris, Amy and families purchased the Tropical Tribute Spray for the family of Maj. Thomas P. Rozga.*



**Tony, Mike, Kris, Amy and families** - April 03, 2018 at 06:51 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Maj. Thomas P. Rozga.*



April 03, 2018 at 05:11 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



**Terri Polley** - April 03, 2018 at 10:56 AM

JF

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



---

**Joe Finch** - April 03, 2018 at 07:07 AM

JF

“ *Tom, You have been a good and faithful servant here on earth and to our Father in heaven; Your family's faith attests to your faith. You have been a leader among men in every way; it is fitting that your final flight clearance is into sunny blue skies and you are cleared all the way to Heaven. Your family is better able to make it through this difficult time because they are aware of how much you loved them. Thank you for your leadership, your patriotism, your service, your remarkable Christian and Military example to all of us. May you have smile on your face as you climb to the heights and touch the face of GOD. I miss you my friend. You have encouraged us all. Joe Finch =:)*

---

**Joe Finch** - April 02, 2018 at 04:31 PM

DG

“ *Mr.Rozga was very inspirational to me ,things I have learned will always be with me. Truly a Great Man ,very happy to have Him has part of my life. Thoughts and prayers to all His family. Beth & Dennis Gust*

---

**Dennis & Beth Gust** - April 02, 2018 at 10:45 AM