



Arthur Maris Franke

April 9, 1944 - June 1, 2025

Arthur Maris Franke passed peacefully at Ohio's Hospice in Columbus, OH on June 1, 2025. Maris was born the oldest of 3 boys on April 9, 1944 in Dayton, Ohio to Arthur H. Franke and Dorothy McCrabb Franke. Having been raised on a farm in St. Paris, OH, Maris never lost his love for farm life and treasured his 1958 John Deere tractor. He was a proud alumnus of The Ohio State University College of Agriculture and its well-known TBDBITL marching band (The Best Damn Band in the Land).

Maris married Nancy Sidner on December 9, 1967. They have two children, Brian Douglas (sp. Ikuko Nishimura) and Anne Louise (sp. Joseph Locatelli), two grandchildren Mia Cecile Locatelli and Joseph Franke Locatelli. He is survived by two brothers, Michael Douglas and Marc Anthony (sp. Cheri), brother-in-law Wilbur "Skip" Sidner (sp. Dyanne) and 2 sisters-in-law, Mary Frances Tokar and Judy Carter, and 12 nieces and nephews. Maris had a great love for family and treasured his times with them making homemade ice cream and lemonade in Chicago, Los Angeles, and Iowa.

Maris's career began in Animal Nutrition and expanded into software development for IBM. For 26 years he managed his own software development company, Practical Solutions. In later years he enjoyed volunteering for Meals on Wheels and the local Family Shelter. He was also a member of the Rebounders Club, avid supporters of The Ohio State Women's Basketball team. Whatever Maris was involved with, it led to strong friendships including his last years at Brookdale Retirement Community.

A Memorial Service will be held at Columbus Mennonite Church, 35 Oakland Park Ave., Columbus on Sunday, June 15, 3:30 PM with visitation from 2 – 3 PM.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Ohio's Hospice, Newark, OH, www.OhiosHospice.org/Give or Doctors Without Borders, www.doctorswithoutborders.org

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 15. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Columbus Mennonite Church
35 Oakland Park Ave.
Columbus, OH

Memorial Service

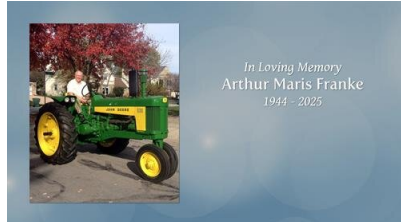
JUN 15. 3:30 PM (ET)

Columbus Mennonite Church
35 Oakland Park Ave.
Columbus, OH

Tribute Wall



“ *Rutherford Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Arthur Maris Franke*



Rutherford Funeral Homes - June 04, 2025 at 02:05 PM

MS

“ *The Stones offer our deepest condolences to Nancy and the entire Franke family. My father once said of Maris, “There are very few great men—and he is a great man.” In the time I was blessed to know him, I saw a man who never stopped giving—whether it was his time, his resources, or his deeply empathetic support for others.*

To our family, Maris was much more than a friend. He was a cherished fishing buddy, a trusted business partner, a passionate sports fan, and above all, a devoted member of our extended family.

I imagine there’s a very long reception line waiting for him in God’s kingdom—each soul ready to thank him for the many ways he touched their lives.

Michael D Stone - June 19, 2025 at 02:42 PM

KC

“ Our sincere condolences to Nancy and family on the passing of Maris. As a visiting cousin, child and adult, I always remember Maris to be smiling and welcoming. And yes, so proud of his John Deere tractor. Interesting to be riding in a suburban neighborhood, but everyone seemed to be used to seeing it. God sure created a great man, and now he is in His Loving arms.
Love Kitty and Larry Croes

Kitty Croes - June 15, 2025 at 12:46 AM

TF

“ The Witt Family purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Arthur Maris Franke.



The Witt Family - June 12, 2025 at 08:10 PM

GW

“ What a beautiful tribute to a dear cousin! I had the wonderful opportunity to get to know him best in the last years of his life. His joy, his attentive listening, his constant interest in others, his sense of humor, his true humility, and his genuine kindness touched my life deeply. Maris's devotion to Nancy, the rest of his family, and his friends were consistent models for us all to emulate. I thank God that our life paths intersected in such meaningful ways. I am a better man for having known Maris. May the Lord bless and comfort the family, and the rest of us who are feeling a great void with Maris' passing. Greg Witt

Greg Witt - June 04, 2025 at 10:16 PM

CC

“ *Cathy & Chuck lit a candle in memory of Arthur Maris Franke*



Cathy & Chuck - June 03, 2025 at 08:23 PM

RH

“ *Rev. Ron Hooker lit a candle in memory of Arthur Maris Franke*



Rev. Ron Hooker - June 03, 2025 at 05:45 PM