



## Peter Francis (Pete) Genta

March 11, 2021 - October 15, 2012

Mattoon, IL-Peter Francis (Pete) Genta, age 91, of Mattoon, IL, passed away at 9:39 a.m., Monday, October 15, 2012, at Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center, Mattoon, IL. The funeral service in his honor will begin at 10:00 a.m., Friday, October 19, 2012, at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 320 North 21st Street, Mattoon, IL. Reverend Dennis Kollross will officiate. Interment will follow in Calvary Cemetery, Mattoon, IL, with military rites conducted by the Mattoon VFW Post 4325. Visitation will be held Thursday evening, at the church, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Biblical wake will begin at 7:00 p.m. Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home, located at 1200 Wabash Avenue, Mattoon, IL, 61938, is assisting the family with arrangements. Born March 11, 1921, in Carlinville, IL, Peter was the son of Batista and Mary (Gambo) Genta. He married Patricia Shay on November 25, 1954 in Shelbyville, IL. She survives. Other survivors include five children, Michael Genta and wife Jayne of Mattoon, IL, Ramona Yuskanich and husband Michael of Springfield, IL, Tim Genta and wife Carole of Mattoon, IL, Maria Miller and husband Dan of Arcola, IL, and Teresa Logue and husband Michael of Gurnee, IL; ten grandchildren, Jason, Monica and Molly Genta, Alexandra and Nicholas Genta, Brock, Claire, and Clayton Shay Miller, and Michael P. and Maria Logue; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Commander John L. Genta. Mr. Genta graduated from Carlinville High School in 1939. He served our country during World War II as a signalman in the United States Navy. He later earned his

associates degree from Blackburn College in Carlinville, IL, where he also played basketball. He then attended Eastern Illinois University, where he earned his Bachelors and Masters degrees. He began his career in education with the Arcola school district as a science teacher and coach. He then spent ten years as a science teacher and coach for the Humboldt school district where he met the love of his life. The last twenty-five years of his career he served as Principal for the Bennett and Hawthorne schools in Mattoon.

\r\n\r\nMr. Genta was a member of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Mattoon, IL. Other memberships included the Knights of Columbus, a lifetime membership with the American Legion of Mattoon, and the Mattoon Recreation Board, where he served as director for 30 years. \r\n\r\nFor sixteen years, Mr. Genta volunteered with the Mattoon High School and elementary girls' basketball. He was a volunteer coach for three seasons of the Jesse Owens Games sponsored by Anaconda. For over three decades, he served as an IHSA official for football, basketball, and track. He was a loyal St. Louis Cardinals fan and an all-around sports enthusiast. An avid fisherman, he shared his experiences through a syndicated column titled 'Just Fishin' Around by Pete Genta.' He had a passion for Italian cooking and loved reading and writing poetry, playing his harmonica, and the return of the wrens.\r\n\r\nMemorials in his honor may be made to the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, or the Mattoon High School Girls Basketball Scholarship in memory of Peter F. Genta, in care of the First National Bank, Mattoon, IL. \r\n\r\nPlease visit [www.mitchell-jerdan.com](http://www.mitchell-jerdan.com) to light a virtual candle in his honor or share a memory with his family. \r\n

# Tribute Wall



“ *Peter Francis (Pete) Genta*

October 08, 2023 at 07:40 PM



“ *Although I did not know Mr Genta, I have worked with and know his daughter Teresa Logue. I would like to extend my condolences and say to the family that he most certainly walked IN the Light while on earth and now is experiencing peace and joy walking WITH the Light in Paradise. God Bless*

Richard Marchione - October 24, 2012 at 06:46 PM



“ *My heart hurts for the entire agents family. Pete was such an amazing person! I remember him coming to our high school basketball practices. He pushed us to be the best players we could be. Looking back now, he was in his 70's then and still going strong on the court at molding us into great players. You will be missed Pete Genta!*

Jayme - October 18, 2012 at 02:32 PM



“ *Our sincere condolences to all the family. Our prayers are with you.*

Terry and Kathy Bender - October 18, 2012 at 11:31 AM

JK

“ *My sincere condolences to the Genta family on the recent passing of Mr. Pete. I will cherish the memories of growing up next door. He was a genuinely kind man, and he raised a wonderful family. He will be dearly missed.*

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**John Kuhl** - October 18, 2012 at 12:59 AM

MC

“ *I am truly sorry for your loss. May the sorrow you feel in your hearts lighten by the love of family and friends that surrounds you.*

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**Michelle Crabtree** - October 17, 2012 at 05:23 PM

GJ

“ *Peter Genta was my elementary school principal. Someone used the words, "Gentle Giant". He certainly was that. A kind, loving, and firm man. He loved his family, and had passion for education and children. When Mr. Genta walked into the room, you knew all would be well. His memory will forever be etched in our hearts!*

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**Gaynell Jackson** - October 17, 2012 at 03:44 PM

PS

“ *My thoughts and prayers go out to the family. Pete was a wonderful man and he will be greatly missed.*

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**P. Salak** - October 17, 2012 at 01:37 PM

FJ

“ For those of us from Bennett School, I'll never forget Mr. Genta in the lunch room. When us kids got loud, he'd put his fingers in his mouth and let out a LOUD whistle. Then, while holding up his left hand he would say very sternly, " We'll have 5 minutes of nooooo talking! 5 minutes of noooooooooo talking!". Something I'll never forget. Also, my Mother was Pete's secretary at Bennett School for many years

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**Frank Jarvis** - October 17, 2012 at 12:58 PM

TJ

“ My condolences to all of the family. Mr. Genta and my mother worked together for many years.

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**Terry Jarvis** - October 17, 2012 at 11:35 AM

FO

“ I was saddened to learn of Pete's death. My prayers for him and his family.  
Eternal rest, grant unto his souls, O Lord and let the perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

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**Father Edward Ohm** - October 17, 2012 at 10:42 AM

JS

“ My thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Uncle Pete will be dearly missed by all of us. We find strength in the love of our great family!

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**Julia Strehlow** - October 17, 2012 at 12:29 AM