

Armand Chris Riopel, 81, of Lecanto, FL passed away June 5, 2024. He is survived by his loving wife of 46 years, Abigail; his loving daughter Laura of OH and his loving son Paul of NYC. He is also survived by his siblings, Joseph & Marilyn of CT, Armond, Cynthia, Evelyn, James and Virginia of AL; step-brother Joseph Mennone of NV. Chris was preceded in death by his sisters Irene, Carolyn and Susan. Chris resided in upstate NY, CT, NJ and every NYC Borough. He had some interesting careers during his lifetime. Chris left good friends in every location he was sent to for work. No matter where Chris and his family resided, he left with such friendships, that any family member could go back and visit with any one of them and they would be most welcome. He was missed and loved by people in every town he ever resided in. Chris was a member of the Knights of Columbus since 1980 and a past Grand Knight of Council #474 in NJ. He was an insurance agent, general agent of his own K of C agency, a company field director and retired in 2003 as Vice President for the Knights of Columbus in CT. In 1994, he and his family moved from Brooklyn, NY to Homosassa, FL. He was a volunteer-interviewer for DAY-star almost every week since 1996. Chris was an active member and Usher of St. Thomas Church. A year later, he moved to Lecanto and became an active member and Usher of St. Scholastica Catholic Church. In 1990, he became a member of the Elks Lodge #22 of NY and maintained his membership with the West Citrus Elks of Homosassa once he moved to FL. Chris and his wife raised a total of 13 future Guide Dogs between their residences in NJ and FL that were offered absolutely free to any blind or visually impaired person. Mass of the Resurrection will be held at 11AM, Monday, June 10, 2024 at St. Scholastica Catholic Church in Lecanto, FL. Burial will follow at Fountains Memorial Park Cemetery in Homosassa, FL. The family requests no flowers be sent, in lieu of flowers, donations are requested to be sent to Southeastern Guide Dogs, Inc., PO Box 1180, Lecanto, FL, 34460. The school does not receive any government grants or support of any kind to help with the raising of future Guide Dogs. Arrangements are under the care of Brown Funeral Home & Crematory in Lecanto, FL.

