



## Gerald William Petrini

May 5, 1941 - May 3, 2023

Gerald (Jerry) William Petrini passed peacefully on May 3, 2023, surrounded by his loving family. Born in the Chicago area on May 5, 1941, Jerry and his family moved to Santa Barbara in 1953. Jerry attended San Roque Grade School and then joined Saint Anthony's Seminary for his high school years. Upon completing his education at Saint Anthony's, Jerry attended the University of California at Santa Barbara where he obtained his Masters in Education and his lifetime teaching credential. Jerry taught English at Dos Pueblos High School his entire career.

Jerry had a love of travel, gardening, golf, family, good food and Cuban cigars. Jerry is survived by his wife, Virginia Petrini, his son Greg De Leon, daughter Yvonne De Leon, brothers Eugene Petrini, Julio (Madeline) Petrini, and James Petrini.

Right of Christian Burial will be held on Friday, May 12, 2023, at 11am at Saint Barbara's Parish at the Old Mission Santa Barbara.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Mass

MAY 12. 11:00 AM (PT)

Old Mission Santa Barbara  
2201 Laguna St.  
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

# Tribute Wall

DA

“ He changed my life. Thank you Mr. Petrini for being that adult who cared. An amazing teacher inside the classroom, he was also a teacher for everyone through his life showing real kindness and compassion.

*I remember specifically going through a really bad time in my life and almost crying in class. Mr. Petrini then sat outside with me, concerned, asking what was wrong. That moment, gesture of care and those words meant so much I felt it changed my life and is one of the top ten pivotal moments I'll never forget. Because of it I kept going and actually tried to reach out to him a few years ago to tell him what an impact he had on my life and what I do now.*

*When I write about being a “caring adult” in the description for my non profit this is the person and that is the moment I think about.*

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**Daisy** - May 09, 2023 at 10:35 AM

RP

“ Being one of seven siblings, Uncle Jerry has 29 nieces and nephews. Not only do us cousins have fond memories of Uncle Jerry, but so do many of our kids. Uncle Jerry was a fixture at almost every family reunion since the very first long ago, and his smiles and laughter were so natural it seemed to be how he breathed. His quick wit always amazed me!

*Ginny, you and Uncle Jerry fit hand in glove as an amazing couple. I still remember your wedding day and how happy Uncle Jerry was to have you in his life.*

*We love you, Uncle Jerry, and will miss you.*

*Much love,*

*Rick*

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**Rick Petrini** - May 09, 2023 at 10:23 AM

TJ

“ I remember a conversation while drinking wine at John's house, (unusual I know) at a pizza party sitting around my uncles and aunts. Uncle Jerry and the rest of the family were entertaining us with stories of the past. The one that made us all laugh was the story about his experience with a potential girlfriend at school and setting up a date to sneak off to a "closet" at the school in anticipation of potential shenanigans. They were both so nervous they spent their secret tryst talking of baseball games.

He also spoke of never touching hot chili peppers and not washing your hands, as that can prove irritating if needing to use the bathroom.

He always had a smile and a joke to light up our lives.

Ginny,

We all know you are heartbroken, but you were the best thing to happen in his life, and so lucky to have the time you did.

Love to all,

Joanne and Terry

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**Terry and Joanne** - May 09, 2023 at 12:36 AM

SJ

“ Jerry was our neighbor and friend for almost 37 years. He was a warm, kind, and hospitable man. For many years, Jerry and his lovely wife Ginny welcomed us to share Thanksgiving with their family and friends. We will forever cherish those wonderful memories.

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**Scott, Karen,& Laura Johnson** - May 08, 2023 at 06:05 PM

JP

“ I remember a cross-country trip I was able to take when I was younger with Uncle Jerry (and others) where we stopped at Mt. Rushmore, Wall Drug, Corn Palace, etc. Still is one of the favorite trips I've ever been on.

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**Joshua Petrini** - May 08, 2023 at 02:43 PM

TP

“ Uncle Jerry's dedication to the teaching profession was and continues to be inspiring for me as an educator. He was a wonderful role model and a great man. He will be missed!

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**Tyler Petrini** - May 06, 2023 at 09:51 PM