



George D. Schmotzer

FEB 18, 1949 - JAN 5, 2026



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 4



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George D. Schmotzer, 76, passed away on January 5, 2026, in Pittsburgh, PA following a battle with pneumonia and kidney failure. George was a former mathematics teacher and retired supervisor for the PA State Unemployment Services.

George contracted juvenile diabetes when he was only two years old. The disease ravaged his body in later life. In 1985 the disease became particularly debilitating when George needed successive retinopathy procedures, followed by serious heart issues, a kidney transplant and serious vascular conditions which resulted in the amputation of his lower left leg. For the last two years of his life, George stayed at a skilled nursing facility.

Despite all his afflictions, George made the best of it. George remained very positive, always jovial and was one of the most endearing, kind, and caring people anyone could have ever met. He made a lot of people happy.

George liked playing cards, was a prolific book reader, and enjoyed playing the piano and organizing trivia and other events for the other residents at the skilled nursing home. He was also an avid Pirates and Steelers Fan and a devout practicing Catholic. We all loved George very much in life and know that his spirit and soul will always be with us. George is survived by his brother Francis "Frank" Schmotzer (Vivian) his loving family and many great friends.

Visitation will be held from 2-4pm and 6-8pm on Thursday January 8, 2026 at Jefferson Memorial Funeral Home 301 Curry Hollow Rd. Pittsburgh, PA 15236. A Blessing service will be held on Friday January 9th at 12:00pm in the Funeral Home Chapel.

Online Condolenced can be made at www.jeffersonmemorial.com



Tribute Wall

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Mary Happe Arelt posted:

I encountered Gary during a social outing in downtown Pittsburgh. Gary and Frank presented themselves as a notable duo, both exhibiting kindness, compassion, and humor. My colleague Stevetta and I particularly appreciated George's comedic contributions. My deepest sympathies are extended to Frank, Vivian, and their family. Mary Happe- Arelt

January 17 at 6:09 PM



Linda Denk posted:

George was such a great guy!! I knew him through the Disabled American Veterans local chapter at their annual Valentines Dance in previous years. George was always smiling and always willing to help anyone. I know he's up above watching down on everyone .

January 8 at 8:18 PM



James D. planted a grove of 3 Memorial Trees in honor of George.



January 8 at 10:48 AM



Jim Tischler posted:

I attended St Bail High with George for 4 years and got to know him very well. He was immensely liked by all of his classmates. George started a chess club at our high school and was almost unbeatable. He rode the bus to and from work after college and often found himself riding the bus with my mother who used the bus for public transport. Whenever he saw her he would always move to sit by her to chat, to see how she was doing and always asked about me. Just a kind gentle soul. Rest in peace my friend.

January 8 at 10:24 AM



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Mimi Varasse posted:

Please accept my deepest condolences on the passing of George. He was truly a remarkable individual. George had an unforgettable smile—one that brought genuine joy to everyone around him. His positive spirit and happiness were constant and will be deeply missed. I would also like to extend my sincere regards to his brother, Frank. He was a devoted and caring brother, always advocating for George's needs and ensuring he was well looked after. The love and dedication he showed were evident to all who knew them. May God grant eternal rest to George, and may perpetual light shine upon him. May the Lord bring comfort and peace to your family, and may His loving presence be felt during this time of sorrow. Please know you are in my prayers. Mimi Varasse

January 7 at 9:50 PM



Beverly McKinney lit a candle in honor of George.

Beverly McKinney lit a candle in memory of George Schmotzer

January 7 at 4:07 PM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring George by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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