



## David Brantner

September 28, 1945 - March 13, 2026

David Arthur Brantner, 80 years old, affectionately known by many as "Pittsburgh Dave," passed away peacefully on March 13, 2026. He was surrounded by the love of his family. Born on September 28, 1945, in Rochester, Pennsylvania, Dave carried his roots with him throughout his life, spending many cherished years in both Valparaiso, IN, and his beloved Pittsburgh, PA.

A man of duty and dedication, Dave proudly served his country in the United States Navy. Following his service, he built a long and successful career with North American Refractories before his well-deserved retirement. His commitment to community was also evident through his proud, lifelong membership in the Monacatotha American Legion, a place where he shared countless hours and good-natured banter with his late brother, Tom.

A true Pittsburgher at heart, Dave was known for his unwavering loyalty to his hometown teams, especially the Pittsburgh Steelers. It was rare to see him without at least one piece of Steelers gear on (often many!) He was fiercely competitive and athletic, with a lifelong love of basketball. He often made the case that Wilt Chamberlain was the greatest basketball player of all time, a debate he readily enjoyed having with anyone willing to listen. Dave possessed a deep and tender heart, especially when it came to animals; he was a devoted animal lover who held a special place in his heart for creatures of all kinds.

Above all else, Dave's greatest joy and pride was his family. His legacy lives on through his children: Kelly Hansen (David), Kimberly Moore, Lauren Brantner (Jerry Galvan), Roger Rialmo (Katherine), Katherine and David Burke. He was a proud and loving grandfather to J.J., Finnegan, Mirielle, Larkin, Castle, Evelyn and Xander, and a great-grandfather to Gabriel. He is also survived by his brother, Eric Brantner (Aleatha) of Florida.

Dave was preceded in death by his parents, Harold and Mary Brantner, and his dear brothers, Jan Brantner and Thomas Brantner, who now welcome him home.

Those fortunate enough to know Dave will forever remember his strength, his steadfast loyalty, and the unmistakable humor and warmth of his Pittsburgh spirit. He lived his life for the Black and Gold, but more profoundly, for his family. His presence, his humor, and his fierce loyalty will be missed by all who knew and loved him. May his memory be a blessing, and may he rest in peace.

Dave will be cremated and laid to rest at Sylvania Hills Memorial Park beside his parents.

In honor of Dave's love for animals, memorial donations may be made to your local humane society.

Professional services entrusted to Thomas M. Smith Funeral Home & Crematory Ltd; 930 Center Avenue Blawnox, PA, 15238; [www.thomasmithfuneralhome.com](http://www.thomasmithfuneralhome.com).

# Cemetery Details

**Sylvania Hills Memorial Park**

Rochchester, PA

# Tribute Wall

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“ *Condolences to the family of David Bratner from Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 862.*

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**Don Villella, SGM(R)** - March 16 at 08:16 PM