

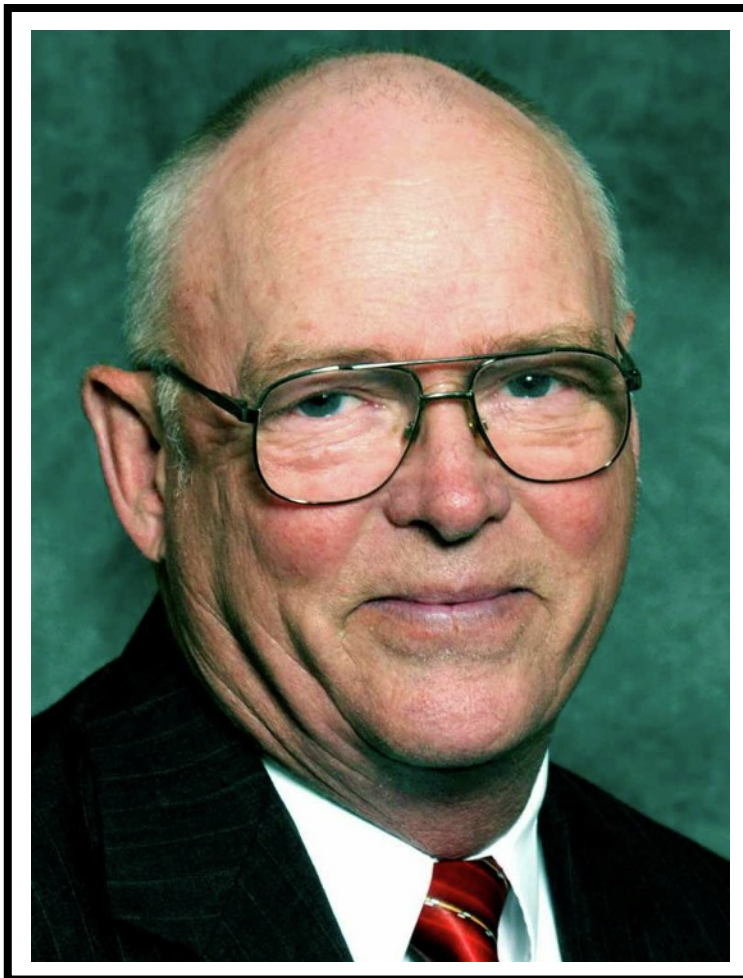


Rotary Leadership Institute

The Rotary Leadership Institute is a grassroots, multi-district leadership development program whose mission is to strengthen Rotary clubs through quality leadership education

November 2024

In Memory of Frank Wargo



Frank Wargo, 81 of New Milford passed away on October 16, 2024 after a brief illness. Frank was born in Waterbury, CT to the late Frank and Anna Wargo. He leaves behind his wife of 54 years Priscilla, his sons, Todd (Eileen) and Scott (Nara), grandchildren, Ashley, Tyler, Sofia and Mitchell. He is also survived by his brother, Douglas (Suzanne) and several nieces and nephews.

Frank graduated college with a B.S, M.S., and 6th Year in Administration. In 1977 after several years teaching he founded and was owner of Fire Control Service Co. Inc. of New Milford. Frank was a past member of the New Milford Town Council, Board of Education and Board of Finance. He served on numerous town committees and was Chairman of the Board at Chestnut Grove.

A member of the New Milford Rotary Club since 1983, he was District Governor of District 7890 in 2000-2001 and in 2016-2017. He represented Rotary International as the keynote speaker at many district conferences and zone institutes around the world. Frank was Training Coordinator and Vice Chairman of the Rotary Leadership Institute and taught facilitation in many countries in Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia. He and his wife traveled to every continent observing and contributing to projects of the Rotary Foundation. He received the Service Above Self award which is the highest honor in Rotary.

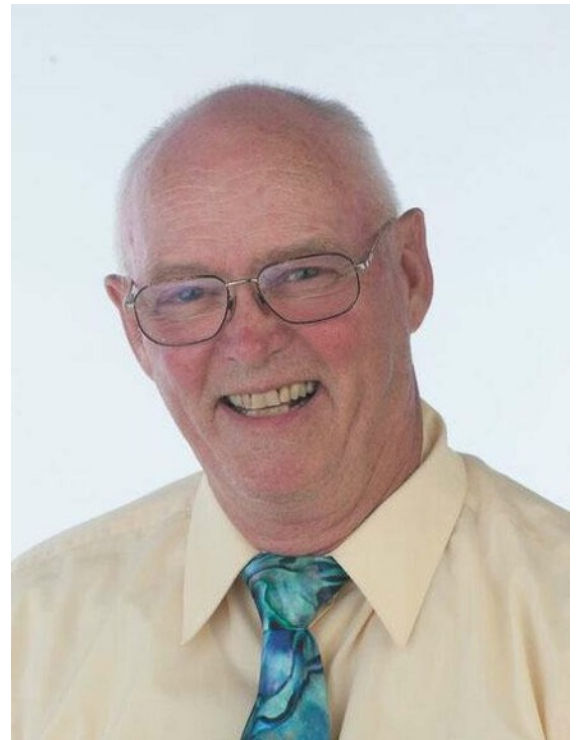
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The Rotary Leadership Institute is not an official training program of Rotary International.

He enjoyed golf, UCONN Husky women's basketball, the Mets and the Giants. He loved large family gatherings at the holidays. He will be greatly missed by his family and his Rotary friends in the United States and around the world where he left a lasting impression.

Calling hours are at Our Lady of Lakes Church in New Milford on Friday, November 8, 2024 from 4-7p.m. A memorial Mass will be held at Our Lady of Lakes Church on Saturday, November 9, 2024 at 10a.m. Lillis Funeral Home of New Milford has care of the arrangements for Frank and his family.

Donations can be made to the New Milford Rotary Foundation PO Box 161, New Milford, CT 06776



Frank was a significant and very important member of the Rotary Leadership International team. He spent years working hand in hand with PRID David Linett, the Founder of RLI and PDG Mike Rabasca, David's number two Man.

His 20 plus years found Frank traveling all over the world introducing RLI to Districts. Frank was our Executive Director overseeing the Curriculum and Facilitator programs. Thanks to Frank's generosity of Time and Financial Consideration, today approximately half of the Districts in Rotary worldwide participate in RLI.



Thank you Frank.

It's an honor to have known you and to have worked with you..

Knut Johnsen, Executive Director, RLI International Board of Directors



I met Frank Wargo many years ago. I remember him as a good friend and always as a gentleman in the treatment of everybody. With a great knowledge about Rotary, he was always ready to share it with Rotarians. An enthusiast of RLI, he was responsible for the development of new leaders and facilitators in many parts of the world. All the Conventions I went to, Frank was there, at the RLI booth, enthusiastically and tirelessly sharing his experiences on RLI and helping to promote it. An irresistible example to be followed. He will be missed by all friends he was able to maintain in his productive life.

PRID and International RLI Chair Antonio Hallage, Brazil

Frank was the consummate Rotarian. He did it all. He served wherever there was a need doing whatever needed to be done. Much of the work of RLI in the world can be traced to his willingness to travel at his own expense and train new faculty who would quickly become his friends. Each year at the convention he was likely the most hugged Rotarian in the House of Friendship as he greeted so many he had impacted over the years. He was my friend for over 25 years and I only wish it could have been for many more.

PRID Michael K. McGovern, USA, Immediate Past RLI International Chair

Frank is a true Rotarian with a heart full of compassion and love for others. It is a great loss to the RLI International and Rotary world. I have met him at several RI Conventions, the most recent one is at the Melbourne and Singapore Convention. He is my inspiration and he will always be with us in our memories. He has left a legacy in RLI International and its team.

On behalf of PDG Fong Hoe Beng, Vice Chair for RLI International South East Asia Division and District 3310 RLI Chair PP Alice Kunjun and its committees, I would like to convey our heartfelt condolences to Frank's wife Priscilla and bereaved family. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

PDG Philip Chong, Singapore



Frank will be missed by everyone who knew him. He was always ready to help and had a wonderful laugh

PDG Lee Phares, USA RLI Sunshine Division

Remembering Frank



I just received the sad news and shocked to learn that Frank has left us and gone to be with the Lord. I graduated under his watchful eyes and I was always fascinated by his style of facilitation. He liked me and my wife Priscilla a lot and I had done many RLI programmes with him. Last November, he was in Chennai, India with us and was in action all through our RLI Annual meet, Syllabus meet and Trainers training meet. He was a pil-

lar of strength to the RLI world in general and RLI India in particular. We will miss him in all the RI Conventions, RLI booth and RLI breakfast.

He was a passionate Rotarian and loved his work for RLI. I learnt many things from him and his dedication cannot be easily matched by anyone. His loss would create a huge void in the world of RLI and we would sorely miss his magnetic presence.

My heartfelt condolence to Priscilla, family and friends. May his soul Rest in eternal peace.

PDG George Sundararaj, India,
RLI International Board Member

Frank Wargo, Frank for his friends, was a leader who inspired and motivated rotarians since the Rotary Leadership Institute was first launched. Every year we have our moment in Rotary while setting up the RLI booth at Rotary Conventions around the Rotary world. We will miss his friendship

PDG Juan Pedro Torroba, Argentina
RLI International Board



Remembering Frank

It's quite a shock to receive sad news like this. I was happy to have met PDG Frank during the Melbourne Convention. When he was our speaker and facilitator at Shang Manila, I was very impressed and inspired with his eloquence and mastery of RLI, talking on and on without notes.

We have lost a great Rotarian. Big, big thanks for his contribution to Rotary and having spear-headed the RLI. My sincere condolences to his family and my prayers for eternal peace!

PDG Oliver Ong
Phillippines

Frank is a kind man and has been a good friend also to my dad and mom (PDG Ed Tumangan and Tessie). He will be greatly missed. We will include him in our prayers. May his soul rest in peace and may peace come to his wife and family.

Majella Villaroman
Phillippines



PDG Frank was a great Trainer, Mentor and friend to many of us in the Philippine Division. He was also the one who led us during the 2020 Philippine RLI Training Seminar held in Shangri-la Makati.

I last met Frank during the 2024 Singapore Convention at the RLI Booth inside the House of Friendship and we discussed how we could reboot and refresh our division. Sad to think that it would be our last conversation.

To the family of Frank, we offer our deepest condolences and sympathies.

Eternal rest grant unto Frank, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

PDG Ernie Choa *Philippine Division Head, Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI)*

Remembering Frank

So many laughs and smiles with Frank over the years. While driving to Cornwall yesterday morning, I flashed to a morning where he & I were on the same road to do Facilitator training and it was sheer ice, detaining us and having to take the only other way. I am glad I got to know Frank over the years and always looked forward to the Convention HoF talks.

PDG Bonnie Black, Canada / USA



Vale Frank Wargo

It is with great sadness that we learned that PDG Frank Wargo has passed away. I have known Frank within Rotary, and particularly the Rotary Leadership Institute, enjoying our conversations and activities promoting the great work of the institute over the years. He worked tirelessly to promote the work of RLI and had an active role in its operation for many years as an instructor. Frank also took on the important role of treasurer of RLI. We have lost a true and valued Rotarian; we extend to his family our heartfelt condolences and thank Frank for all of his contributions to Rotary over many years.

Immediate Past RLI Chair (Australia)

PDG Tim Moore

"My first introduction to RLI was when I met Frank Wargo and Paul Muczynski after I was selected to be RI Director. They seemed to come as a matched pair. Frank's enthusiasm for the program was infectious. From that day forward, Frank was encouraging me to become more involved with RLI and wouldn't take no for an answer. I looked forward to meeting him at different Rotary events but especially the RI Conventions. He greeted everyone with a broad smile and warm embrace. Frank's passion for RLI is one of the reasons that it is the success that it is today. I will miss our conversations about all things Rotary but most of all I will miss his warm and engaging smile. Thank you, Frank, for everything!"

BrynStylex, Canada, RLI International Board Member

My last meeting with a very dear friend and RLI Guru Frank, was at the RLI Booth during the Singapore Convention ... The first time I met him & Priscilla was when they accompanied PDG Bill Hawkins in January 2003 to spread RLI in the eastern Districts of India. We, from Kolkata RID 3290 travelled to Dur-gapur in RID 3240 and attended the District Conferences of RID 3250 in Puri followed by RID 3260 at Bhubanesh-war. This first visit of Frank, lead to 12 more visits to India. We together travelled and spread RLI in all the Districts of South Asia which included Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka & Pakistan. I need to mention the unstinted support & assistance we received from Late PDG Rekha Shetty of Chennai and Late



PDG Subhas Saraf, Pune. On many occasions, PDG Knut Johnsen & PDG Tam Mustapha also joined Frank to India in our efforts to spread RLI in South Asia. Have lost a very dear Rotary & RLI friend ... Pray he rests in peace .. Will miss you my dear friend !! Pray the Lord gives strength and fortitude to Priscilla & family to bear this irreparable loss... Om Shanti, shanti, shanti

PDG Binod Khaitan, India,
International Board Member



Frank was a true Rotarian and a dedicated RLI trainer. He came to Bulgaria twice. We had a wonderful time together when he came here with Mike Rabasca. He will certainly be missed by all who knew him.

Sincere condolences to his family.

PDG Kalcho Hinov, Bulgaria, RLI International Board Member

Heard about PDG Frank, the passing of a century has made us Rotarians infinitely regretful and sad.

I got to know PDG Frank at the RLI breakfast meeting at the Rotary International Convention in Singapore. My impression of him is:

Integrity Kindness Humility Very touched.

I pray that PDG Frank has a safe journey and is safe.

We also ask Frank's family to express our condolences and take care.

Stan Lee prays (Taiwan)



Remembering Frank

"Frank Wargo was one of the RLI leaders who gave to RLI its recognition and respectability around the world. I join my empathy to that of the other members of the International RLI board of Directors ; we will miss him . RIP."

PRID Jacques di Costanzo, France
RLI International Board of Directors



I was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Frank Wargo, may he rest in peace. Frank was an enthusiastic, active, smart and dedicated Rotarian. There is no doubt that he will be greatly missed by his family and the Rotary movement. We send our deepest condolences to his family.

Dr. Nachum Frenkel PDG Chairman of RLI District 2490 Israel

Folks, It is never easy to share the news of a loss. Frank Wargo, who passes away last Wednesday, contributed greatly to the success of RLI and RLI NEA over many years in a range of roles, most notably for many of us providing materials for our sites. He was a passionate speaker about Rotary at many events. His family is in my prayers.

- PDG Mike McCarthy, RLI Northeast America Chair

I felt sorry to hear the sad news of Parting away of PDG. Frank. I had a short interaction with him and PDG. Subhash Saraf Sir during my first RLI session in Mysore way back in 2013. I found him to be a very down to earth man who had dedicated all his energies for promotion of RLI in All clubs of the world.

May the Good Lord rest his noble Soul in Eternal peace. Amen.

PDG. Dr Gautam Jahagirdar RID 3160, India

Remembering Frank

Please extend our deepest condolences to the family of the late Frank Wago.

We knew him well.

He visited Singapore and Malaysia in 1968 and was responsible for training Rotary leaders in Singapore, Malaysia, The Philippines, Indonesia and Taiwan who eventually formed RLI in their various Districts.

We remember his fondness of the tropical fruit Durian. He will be deeply missed by all of us.

May his soul rest in Eternal Peace.

PDG Hoe Beng Fong, RLI Singapore

I met Frank at a Curriculum meeting in Orlando, Florida. We hit it off immediately when we found out we had both been debaters in school (and he became a coach!) Thanks to that background, Frank and I had several interesting discussions about curriculum, facilitation, and adult education. I learned a lot from Frank and always looked forward to those talks.

I will miss him... and his opinions.

My heart goes out to his family.

PDG Margie Kersey, USA, RLI International Board Member

It is with great sadness that I receive the bad news concerning the passing away of our very dear and late friend, PDG Frank Wargo, whose Rotary commitment is well known.

I present my sincere condolences as well as those of the Division of District 9103 of the Rotary Leadership Institute, to his biological family, the entire Rotary family and particularly to the Rotary Leadership Institute International for this unexpected blow we are faced with.

May the soul of the illustrious deceased rest in peace and may eternal light be granted to him.

DGN Stanislas HACHÈMÈ , Africa D-9103 Division Chair

On behalf of the Mexico division of the ILR. Zone 25A. We join in the grief of FRANK WARGO's family for the painful loss of an excellent Rotarian, and a better human being. I sincerely ask that you convey to your family our feeling of solidarity and recognition of your great career.

PDG Guillermo Rangel Barba. Mexico Division President 2024 - 2027.

Remembering Frank

My condolences to Frank's family, his club and District

- PDG Roberto Silva Pérez D4340

Very sad - a great loss.

- PDG Vince Cautero, RLI Sunshine

We shall miss this humble and hard working Rotarian, always ready to help in service at all times

May his gentle soul rest in peace

- PDG Ayo Oyedokun FCA ACTI ACIS
RLI- Vice Chairman District 9127

I feel very sad, but at the same time I feel happy, because I had the privilege to share with him so many wonderful experiences.

May God bless his family.

- PDG Adriana de la Fuente, Mexico
RLI International Board Member

God Rest Him in Peace!

- PDG Corneliu Dinca, Romania

Sorry to hear this bad news about the passing away of PDG Frank Wargo our condolences to his family and the RLI friends. Frank was an exceptional Rotarian dedicated member may his soul rest in eternal peace

- PDG Assem Abdel Razek, Finland

Frank was instrumental for my RLI journey. He will remain in warm memory.

- **PDG Leila Risteli, Finland,**
RLI International Board Member

Lamento profundamente la desaparición física de Frank.

Mis condolencias a su familia y a todos los que lo conocimos.

- PDG Eduardo Hindi, Argentina

I am very sorry to hear of Frank Wargo's demise! He was my mentor when I chaired RLI District 2450 from 2007-2013. May he rest in peace.

- PP Colette FREGE HAGGAR, Egypt

May God rest his soul and console the family he left behind.

Such a dedicated and caring person he was.

- PDG Tunji Funsho, Nigeria
RLI International Board Member

Nuestras sentidas condolencias ante la desaparición física de Frank. QEPD.

- PDG Omar Adi, Uruguay

I am so very sorry to hear of this loss to RLI, Rotary, and the world. I didn't have the opportunity to meet Frank but my most sincere condolences to his family and friends. Sending peace and healing thoughts to all who love him, from RLI Atlantic-Atlantique Division.

- PDG Leanne Whelan
Chair, RLI Atlantic-Atlantique

So sorry to hear of the demise of Frank. He will be remembered fondly. Will pray for the eternal repose of his soul. We join you in mourning his loss.

- PDG JojiTan, Indonesia

We fervently pray for Frank, may he rest in eternal peace.

God bless his family!

- PDG Lilo Alino, Phillipines

Remembering Frank

Thanks for recognizing Frank, a great friend and a fantastic Rotarian.

For over 18 years, Frank and I shared hours together at the RLI booth at numerous International Conventions worldwide. Together we enjoyed greasy pizza and questionable sandwiches from all the vendors in the House of Friendship, all of which his wife Priscilla was "not to be informed about"!

When I served as RLI NEA Chair for 4 years, Frank's role as Operations manager was invaluable to me and all the Districts we served. He would load, unload and reload always with a smile and a hug.

He always teased me about not being a "morning person" until he overslept at an RLI Winter curriculum meeting in Orlando. That put an end to his teasing of me!

I will miss his sincerity, his smile and his always kind words even for those not worthy. Another great Rotarian gone but never forgotten.

PDG Toni McAndrew, USA

It's hard to believe Frank has passed. He was the utmost Trainer of Trainers. I first met Frank when I attended Facilitator training where I saw his passion for Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI). I don't think you can go anywhere in the world without seeing and hearing the results of Frank's commitment to RLI. The past two years I had the pleasure of working the RLI booth at the Rotary International conventions. Rotarians would stop by the booth not to find out about RLI, but to say hello to Frank. Frank was truly a world traveler for RLI.

PDG Paul F Muczynski, Executive Director
Rotary Leadership Institute International

*What we have once enjoyed,
we can never lose. All that
we love deeply becomes
a part of us.
- Helen Keller*

