



## Samuel J. "Sam" Lee


October 22, 1949 - February 24, 2009

59, of Basking Ridge, NJ, formerly of Indianapolis, passed away February 24, 2009. He was born October 22, 1949 to Fred E. and Martha L. (Kingen) Lee. Sam was a graduate of Lawrence Central High School, and received his degree in engineering from Purdue University. Sam was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force earning the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He served as an instructor for T-38s, and was an instructor at the Air Force Academy, and was assigned to refueling KC 135 tankers. Sam started his career in aviation in 1981 with People Express which is now known as Continental Airlines and had earned the rank of Captain. Visitation will be Tuesday, March 3, 2009 from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Shirley Brothers Fishers-Castleton Chapel, 9900 Allisonville Rd. Funeral services will be held Wednesday at 12:00 p.m. at Castleview Baptist Church, 8601 Hague Rd., with visitation one hour prior. Sam is survived by his mother, Martha L. Praed (Chuck), and father, Fred E. Lee (Becky); brothers, Kent (Glenda) and Kevin (Dawn) Lee; stepbrother, Kent Cupp and Mike Praed (Sherry); stepsisters, Kim Head, Kara Pringle (John), Cheri Zimmerman (Brian), Cathy Lamarca (Kevin), Jennifer Ester (Trace), Shirleylou Kormanec (Joe); also several nephews, nieces, aunts, uncles and cousins. One half-brother, James Mascitelli, preceded him in death. Memorial contributions may be made to Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, 6350 N. Andrews Ave., Ft. Lauderdale, FL, 33309-2130.

# Tribute Wall

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“ *Sammy was my precious cousin, and because we were close in age, we shared many Lee family moments together. I looked up to him and loved his smile. I have a family professional picture taken at Grandma and Grandpa Lee’s home, when I must have been around three. I remember looking at Sammy (you can see me looking sideways) to watch his smile, I wanted to smile just like him! I remember another family moment, I was so excited when he spent the night with our family when I received a trampoline for Christmas. We both slept on the trampoline to celebrate and be ready to jump on it in the morning. It was located in our living room so jumping high was limited but still great fun as youngsters. I then visited his home during the summer and spent time riding bikes to creeks and tried to skip flat stones over streams.*

*As we matured and married we reconnected at Lee family reunions. I remember he always had a wonderful warmth when he greeted all the family and had a real passion for aviation and flying. I remember our special conversations together as we called each other to catch up on our private lives. He shared his thoughts and future plans, family was very important to him. His death really crushed me emotionally as I was not prepared to lose him at such a young age. I’ll never forget one morning in my Florida home as I had just completed my morning devotions and his passing was still filling me with so much sadness. As I prayed to God about Sammy, I asked he give me comfort as well as showing peace to myself and Sammy’s family concerning Sammy’s tragic death. As I entered my living room, I looked up to 2 large walls and there were 2 beautiful rainbow  prisms! The window sheers were drawn but God’s light was reflecting through a small glass stand on my table, casting the beautiful colors on the pale walls. I was overwhelmed in joy and newfound peace by the presence of Father God, the creator of Sammy and rainbows too. I shared the gospel with Sammy years ago, so I pray he is flying high among the heavenly angels.*

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Mary Lynn Whitaker Bartolomeo - April 23, 2021 at 11:32 PM