



Clement Christopher Surak

October 18, 1936 - August 23, 2025

Clement “Clem” Christopher Surak, born in Essex Co, NJ, on October 18, 1936, passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on August 23, 2025, in Wilmington, NC, after a short battle with cancer. He was the oldest child of Clement and Helen Surak and brother to Eileen. A graduate of Seton Hall Preparatory High School and Newark College of Engineering (now NJIT), he began his career as a Civil Engineer in 1958 and married his high school sweetheart, Joan Prince, that same year, marking the beginning of a lifetime of love and dedication.

Clem dedicated his career to serving his country as a General Engineer for the US Army Electronics Command and later the US Army Satellite Communications Agency (SATCOM), both at Fort Monmouth, NJ, spanning a 30-year federal service career that took him to all points of the globe. He continued his passion for engineering through work with Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC), Telos Corporation, and TAMSCO on related projects, finally retiring in 2001.

He will be lovingly remembered by his wife, Joan, of Wilmington, NC; his children, Denise (Robert) McCormack of Leland, NC, Patricia (David) Ramsden of Southport, NC, Clement (Audrey) Surak of Wilmington, NC, and Christopher (Carli) Surak of Downingtown, PA. His grandchildren include Ryan, Robert, Jessica, David, Kelsey, Matthew, Reed, and Riley, with great-grandchildren Warren, Lily, and Parker. Clem also leaves behind his sister, Eileen (Robert) Monetti of Cherry Hill, NJ.

A proud former Chief and life-time member of the Freewood Acres Volunteer Fire Company in Howell, NJ, Clem was known for his generosity and unwavering dedication to others, including the Catholic communities in the towns they settled in, Howell, NJ, Manahawkin, NJ and Wilmington, NC. In his youth, he was active in archery and a member of the Blessed Sacrament Junior and later Senior Drum Corps, as well as learning resiliency by rooting for the Brooklyn Dodgers and later the NY Mets and Giants. Later in life, he enjoyed classic cars and building radio-controlled boats through his retirement. He and Joan were active and cherished members of the Perry's Lake retirement community in Manahawkin, NJ, before moving to Wilmington. Clem's friends and family remember him for his selflessness, intelligence, patience, loyalty, humor, and his signature phrase, "No Sweat!" He will be deeply missed but forever remembered for his kindness, selfless spirit, and love of family. A celebration of his life will be held at a later date.

Tribute Wall

RW

“ *To the Surak family, I am so sorry for your loss*

Ronnie Weber - September 22, 2025 at 07:12 PM

MD

“ *We share many great moments along with his granddaughter with the Blessed Sacrament Golden Knights.
Great man.
RIP*

Michael Diaz - September 07, 2025 at 07:42 PM

JL

“ *Sending my sympathy to the entire Surak family. Mr Surak was such a nice, patient and kind man. I recall him being unflappable in the face of a lot of girl energy, being the perfect girl-dad.
Sending love to all and know he was an admired and well-loved man.*

Jen Lata

Jen Lata - September 02, 2025 at 07:23 PM

AM

“ *A friend or family member planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Clement Christopher Surak.*

A friend or family member - September 01, 2025 at 10:29 AM

BF

“ Clem, we are so very sorry for the loss of your father. I know he raised an amazing family that I'm sure he was very proud of and blessed that he had a full and very interesting and accomplished life. We will be keeping you in our prayers for strength and healing in this time of sorrow and for many great and loving family memories.

Barry and Dana Stull & family - August 31, 2025 at 06:56 PM

PB

“ I am deeply sorry for you lose. I so privileged to have met him the times I did. He was a very kind soul. Prayers to all.

Paulina Balduyck - August 31, 2025 at 10:32 AM

SG

“ Joan and family, I only have fond memories of Clem .The firehouse and when he used to pick me up to babysit. May he rest in peace and you find peace.
Fondly,
Susan

Susan Kulibaba Goedkoop - August 30, 2025 at 11:52 PM

JW

“ Patty and Family.. so sorry for your loss..keep your memories close to your heart ❤️

Judith Wisniewski - August 30, 2025 at 12:53 PM

FG

“ Truly one of greatest man I had the privilege of calling a friend. My prayers are with the Surak family during this difficult time. Rest assure that he is in heaven with our Lord and watching over all of you. He will certainly intercede on your behalf as you continue your journey to be with him in eternity with God.

Frank Guido - August 29, 2025 at 09:13 PM

SL

“ In loving memory of Clement Christopher Surak. Sending our deepest condolences.. Sue and Cliff Langan planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Clement Christopher Surak.

Sue and Cliff Langan - August 29, 2025 at 01:26 PM