



## Stanley Vanagunas

April 29, 1938 - June 25, 2020

Stanley Vanagunas, age 82, passed away peacefully on the evening of June 25, 2020 in Tucson, Arizona.

He was born April 29, 1938 in Marijampole, Lithuania. Stanley, along with his parents and two brothers, emigrated to America in 1949 and settled in Chicago, Illinois. He graduated from St. Ignatius High School in 1956 and then served in the First Tank Battalion of the US Marine Corps.

He went on to graduate with a Bachelor and Master of Economics from University of Illinois (1963); Master of History from University of Wisconsin (1968); and a Ph.D. in Social Science from Michigan State University (1975).

Stanley was an academic for twenty-five years, retiring in 2001 as a Professor of Public Administration from Arkansas State University. He also taught at Marquette University, University of Arizona and at the University of the South Pacific in Suva, Fiji. Stanley was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship in 1989 and again in 1994 to lecture on public administration and economics at Vilnius University in Lithuania.

Stanley was an avid fly fisherman and world traveler. He was a member of fly-fishing organizations around the world. Most recently he served as a board member of Old Pueblo Trout Unlimited in Tucson.

Stanley is survived by the catch of his life, his wife Armida Bedoya Vanagunas; daughter Severina Vanagunas (Steve), son Arunas Vanagunas (Kimberly), daughter Stephanie Glidewell (James); granddaughter Emilija Vanagunas, grandson Gerard Glidewell; his brothers Ramunas (Danguole) Vanagunas and Dr. Arvydas (Audrone) Vanagunas; and numerous nieces and nephews, extended family and dear friends.

Stanley's family took comfort in knowing he was in the care of Traditions Health – Hospice Services. They are eternally thankful to the hospice staff for the amount of help, care, and compassion provided to Stanley at the end of his life's journey.

To ensure the health and safety of our community, we are following all guidelines set by local, state and CDC officials. If you are planning on attending a service, please contact the church in advance, so that we can plan accordingly.

# Events

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**JUL** **Viewing** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

**2**  
St. Margaret Mary Alacoque Roman Catholic Church  
801 N Grande Ave, Tucson, AZ, US, 85745

**JUL** **Mass** 11:00AM

**2**  
St. Margaret Mary Alacoque Roman Catholic Church  
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# Comments

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“ On behalf of the faculty, staff, and students at Arkansas State University, I want to express my condolences on to Dr. Vanagunas's family and friends. I told the chair of our Department of Political Science today that Dr. Vanagunas led an incredibly interesting life and I am glad that he was able to share some of it with us here in Jonesboro. Peace unto you all.

Kelly Damphousse  
Chancellor, Arkansas State University

Kelly Damphousse - July 01, 2020 at 06:13 PM

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“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Stanley Vanagunas.



June 30, 2020 at 09:26 PM

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“ Arunas and I often talk about the legacy that we want to leave. Years ago when I first met Stan I asked him "what is the one thing that you think you are an expert at?" Out of all the accomplishments that he had in his life, he said it was being a fly fisherman. Some think that a legacy means money, or a building, I think about the importance of what each generation passes to the next.

Thank you for leaving us the legacy of being a good man, loving his wife and kids, and being an heck of an angler.

Rest in peace my friend.

Kimberly

Kimberly Goessele - June 30, 2020 at 09:23 PM

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“ The first time I met Stan was in Nashville TN.. He and Armida came to town to see Arunas (Stan's son) and to meet me (the new girl friend). As Stan was asking questions about me and my family, he discovered that my dad was a big angler as well. Which at that point Stan challenged me to a fish filleting contest. He wanted to see how much fish I could filet in an hour.

I think back now to memories that make me smile. Stan was an incredible teacher of life and told me that other than being a great husband to Armida that being a fisherman was what he was best at.

Rest well my friend and thank you for welcoming me into your family.

Kimberly Goessele Vanagunas.

**Kimberly Goessele** - June 30, 2020 at 09:08 PM