



Dr. Dean A. Sousa

July 5, 1962 - May 23, 2008

Sousa, Dr. Dean A. Age 45 May 23, 2008 Born in Detroit and moved to Las Vegas to practice optometry. Returned to Michigan in 2007. Dean fought a courageous battle against brain cancer. He is survived by the love of his life Ellen Nee Saigger Married on July 27, 1985. Dean was the son of Ernestine and the late Louis Sousa. Brother of Dawn Gonzales. He also is survived by his niece Kristal Mark Grabowski and their children Belle and Jacob, Nephew of Del Sousa. Son-in-law of Eleanor Saigger. Brother-in-law of Linda Saigger, David Suzee Saigger and their children Matt and Adam. Was "daddy" to his two kittens Maui and Kona. He leaves behind many friends and former patients. He received his B.S. from Wayne State University in 1985 and his Doctorate from Illinois College of Optometry in 1989. He was a successful optometrist, loved by his many patients. He had a contagious smile, positive outlook and caring attitude, touched all with his outgoing personality. He loved cruises, traveling, movies, basketball, tennis, hiking, singing, and playing card and board games with friends. Visitation at the Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home 8459 Hall Rd. 3 Blks E. of Van Dyke Utica Monday & Tuesday 2-9pm Instate Wednesday 10am at Shelby Bible Church 47905 Hayes Rd. Btwn 21-22 Mile Shelby Twp. until time of Service 11am Interment at Van Hoosen Jones-Stoney Creek Cemetery Rochester Hills Family request donations to East Maui Animal Refuge 25 Malu Aina Place Haiku, Hawaii 96708 Please share a memory at www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com

Tribute Wall

DB

“ Dear Ellen, I just read of Dean's death in the recent ICO news. I have wonderful memories of Dean ... I would pick him up at your apartment building each morning our first year. Later I moved to a southern suburb. We had some great laughs and interesting experiences on our way to and from ICO. I know it is 2 years but I pray for God's continued patience and understanding for you. God Bless, Paul.

Dr Paul Beaver - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ I realize that this is quite late, I am so sorry. I just found out. He diagnosed me with a very serious eye problem when I was 22 years old. He saved my vision. That was 19 years ago. I followed him all over town. It's now time for my children to have exams and I couldn't think of a more caring Dr. for them. I have been looking for him, I thought maybe he had moved out of state...again, I am so sorry. He was a wonderful Dr. and a wonderful man.

Melissa Feeney - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ My sincere condolences to the entire Sousa family. We have all suffered a loss, but the testament of what Dean leaves behind is key. Optometrist and human being extraordinaire, I will remember the prayers with Dean, and the Sponsoring of A child through Compassion International as defining moments. Well done good and faithful servant. Matt 12:25. AM

Aaron Mancuso - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ I was a long term patient of Dr. Sousa's. I started seeing him when he was first with Walmart on Tropicana, then saw him at the Fashion Show, then with the group in Henderson and then at the Costco. He was so gracious and kind. I was sad when I found out he was no longer there this spring when I was needing my exam. My heart hurt so when I found out he had passed away. He was much too young. My deepest sympathy to his family. He will be missed by many. With Deepest Sympathy and prayers. Sheri & Phil Stine

Sheri Stine - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ Dear Ellen and Sousa family It is with great sadness when I heard of the passing of Dean. We spent many hours studying together at ICO and Dean was very proud to graduate as part of the class of 89. He always had a smile and brought a ray of sunshine to all those around him.

Dr. Michael Kaplan - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GK

“ Ourdeepest sympathy on your loss of Dr Sousa. He was our Doctor whom we thought of as a friend even though we only saw him once a year. We will miss him and his caring ways.

Gerald & Marjorie Kolb - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BU

“ I feel honored to have been one of Dr. Sousa's 1st patients here in Las Vegas! In fact, my whole family counted on him for our eyecare. I am so sad to hear of his passing. I only hope he knew how much it meant to me to have had the priveledge of being able to say "Dr. Sousa is my doctor"! My prayers are with the family of this kind and wonderful man.

Billy Unruh - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Dean made everyone feel important. He listened. he cared ,he remembered everything and was always happy! I don't think I have ever known anyone else like him. It was a pleasure knowing him. I believe that in his short lifetime he found great happiness . He was a joy to know and a very fine human being. My best to you Ellen at this sad time

jean meadows - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ WHEN DR. SOUSA JOINED OUR PRACTICE IN 2007 A BRIGHT LIGHT APPEARED IN OUR OFFICE. HIS SMILE, FRIENDSHIP AND HIS COMPASSION WERE A BONUS TO ALSO HAVING A GREAT DOCTOR IN OUR PRACTICE. WHEN THE LIGHT DIMMED, SO DID OUR HEARTS. WE LOVED DR. SOUSA AS IF HE HAD BEEN WITH US FOREVER. NOW, THE LIGHT IS BRIGHTER THAN EVER BECAUSE EVEN THOUGH HE IS GONE FROM US, HIS SPIRIT AND HIS SMILE WILL BE WITH US FOREVER. I AM SO GRATEFUL TO HAVE KNOWN SUCH A FINE MAN.

KIM MC hUGH - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ We were first introduced to Dr. Sousa through our daughter Sarah. She was his employee for several years in Henderson. We all had the highest regard for him personally and professionally. He seemed to be always planning and dreaming about his next trip to Hawaii with his beloved bride, Ellen. He will be greatly missed by so many. Love, Ron and Cheri Gollner

Cheryl Gollner - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KE

“ Ellen. we send our thoughts and prayers to you and your family. We will miss Dean so much. That smile and laugh is what I most remember. He will be missed by so many whose hearts he touched.

Kimberly Elge - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ what a tremendous loss we all suffer!! dean made such a difference in this world not only as a professional, but as a great freind! anyone who was in contact with him surely was touched by his grace and humor! i will miss you dean, although i was far away, you and ellen are always in my prayers!!! much mahalo thanks for all the good times we shared in las vegas and hawaii! i loe you guys!!!!

Juli Womack - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ Dr. Sousa "watched my eyes" as I was going through radiation and chemotherapy treatment to my neck. His care and concern touched me deeply and I was saddened when I learned of his cancer. He will continue to be in my prayers as I pray for his eternal peace. A wonderful and dedicated man. He is sorely missed in Las Vegas. Carol Brock

Carol Brock - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ Dear Ellen and Ernestine, I'm so sorry for the loss, Dean was such a wonderful person. He fought such a brave fight. I'm truly blessed to have had the chance to know Dean and be apart of your lives. Always remember how much he loved you both, that was something that always shined in his eyes. I will never forget the time he made me the best Salmon, with the salt from Hawaii the name I can't remember. I'm here for you. Love you. Andi

Andi Fox - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ To Dawn and family I'm sorry for your loss; God bless and keep you all in the name of Jesus.

Juanita Hawkins RN - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LG

“ I remember the first time I met Dean. Twenty plus years now. He was smiling and laughing. I thought to myself, WOW, what a great personality he has. Ellen, I was very shocked and saddened when Lorri called to tell me about Dean. I am SO sorry. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Linda Ryan Gillis

Linda Ryan Gillis - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GP

“ Dawn and family, You have my deepest sympathy. I will continue to lift you up in prayer. The Lord is our comforter during these trying times. Gwenn Parker

Gwendolyn H. Parker - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ I met Dean in the 80's through Ellen. He would come to watch us bowl or try to! weekly to keep Ellen company. Although I moved away and haven't seen them for awhile, I remember Dean as being a great guy, hard worker, and having specific goals in his life. He is one of the few people who managed to make and surpass every one of those goals. What I remember most, is how happy he made Ellen. Those will be everlasting happy memories I know she'll find comfort in keeping.

Sherry Walker - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CO

“ Dear Ellen & Ernestine: Dean was one of my nephew Bob's best friends in school, and they remained good friends through the later years. I would often see Dean at Bob's house, and at the cottage. Dean was a bright, cheery, upbeat young man, and I knew that he would have a successful life as he had so much going for him. He always greeted us warmly and was sincerely glad to see us. Our loss is heaven's gain. Condolences to his family and wide circle of friends. Ellen- we have a lot in common. My husband had an untimely death, too. I want to recommend a book to you-Healing After Loss-Daily Meditations for Working through Grief, by Martha Whitmore Hickman, paperback by Avon Press. On Amazon.com, I saw that she wrote other books as well. This one is page a day- just a couple thoughtful paragraphs and an inspirational quote. May time bring you peace-Aunt Chris Ohlrich

Chris Ohlrich - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ Dear Ellen: Even though I only saw Dean a few times, I always sensed that you were truly a happy couple. From what I have read on this website, I was absolutely right. Most people live their lives never knowing the kind of love you two had. Cherish the wonderful memories that you have of a very special love and life together. I am so sorry for your loss. He is no longer suffering. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Take care. I hope to see you in a few days.
Love, Sandy

Sandy Campbell - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ Words could never express all the sympathy felt for you in the loss of Dean. Just remember all the beautiful memories gathered through the years are yours to keep forever Love You Deborah

Deborah George-Goss - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KG

“ Dear Ellen and Family, We lift you up in prayer during this time. Dean was a very kind man with a smile that brightened everyones day. And when he was next to Ellen that smile even got brighter! Dean was also a very humble man with many accomplishments. He was a doer of the fruits of the spirit...love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control. Dean made a positive imprint on the lives he met, we are so thankful for that. He will be missed. The Gates of Heaven have opened for Dean. In loving memory, Kathy Giuliani-Stubbs and Family

Kathy Giuliani-Stubbs - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ Dear Sousa Family, It is with sad hearts that we write this e-mail to all of you. Dr. Sousa was a wonderful Dr. and person. We were patients of his for 15 years, following him from Walmart on Tropicana all the way to Costco and were planning to see him in his new office building when we got the news of his illness. He meant a lot to all of us and we just wanted to send you our condolences. May God bless all of you during this difficult time. Sincerely, The Ginnows

Curtis, Brenda & Matthew Ginnow - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Dear Ernestine and Ellen: By God's divine providence, I read today's obituary only to learn of Dean's demise and that Louis had also passed away. I am truly sorry that both your husband and son have died and pray that the Lord will grant you strength, hope, courage and peace. Dean's obituary is a moving testament to his loving family and friends. He was indeed a remarkable and wonderful man who will be sorely missed. May he reside peacefully and lovingly in God's heavenly kingdom. Masses will be offered for the repose of his soul.

June McRae - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SV

“ I am deeply saddened by the loss of Dr. Sousa. I will never be able to find anyone to replace him. He will always be in my family's heart. We think of him often and really miss him. Thank you Dr. Sousa for being such a wonderful person.

Shana Valenti - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ I am so sorry to hear of Dr. Dean's passing. He was my first optometrist at Costco when I moved here in 2002. We always had friendly conversations and he was extremely pleasant. I moved with him over to his practice on Pecos Rd. when I later found out about his illness. My condolences to his entire family. He was an exceptional doctor and a wonderful person.

LaShanda Witherspoon - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

ST

“ What can i say about this wonderful guy! We both started our businesses about the same time and he was one of my first clients. I was his insurance agent and he did keep me busy. Everytime i turned around he was calling me to insure another car. He was actually one of my favorite clients too-so understanding. The world will not only miss a great person but a great optometrist too!

sue tanjuaquio - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ I had the privilege of being Dean's pastor in Henderson, NV. He was certainly a special man! Our church family will miss him terribly. We send our condolences to his mother Ernestine and wife Ellen.

Pastor & Mrs. Ernie Carrillo - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ All of our families were Dr. Sousa patients when he was with Costco. We had intended to follow him to his new practice but he was no longer there when we tried to make an appointment. Dr. Sousa was the best optometrist we ever had and I am sure ever will have again in the future. We are all so very sorry he is no longer with us. We will miss his smile, his concern and his expertise. He cared for his patients and we cared very much for him.

Michele Winsten and Richard Scown - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ Dear Ellen, Thank you for sending this. Thank you for being the wonderful blessing you have been to your husband, mother in law and all of us who are lucky to call you and Dean friends. Your husband has touched our entire families hearts and lives. Both of you have such tender hearts and insight into people and love our puppies. Ellen, Dean is in peace, joy and singing with the best choir in the universe. I have not experienced what you have gone through but know my heart, love and our home are open to you at any time, day or night. We miss our friend with the contagious laugh, deeply. We love you, Jeff and Candy

Jeff and Candy Eggen - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ When I think of Dean, I have many thoughts of him. Over the years that I had known Dean, I have found him to be a very generous, sincere, fun, caring and compassionate individual. Whether it be cruising, playing basketball, tennis or discussing business, Dean always had great insight. Dean was a wonderful athlete who played the game to the fullest with his heart. After telling the basketball gang of his passing, many still remember Dean from many years past and were greatly saddened. Dean always made a positive and lasting impression! Dean will not only be greatly missed by his family but also by his colleagues of which he had great impact upon and his friends.

Steve Girisgen - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Dr. Sousa was such a sweet man and a wonderful eye doctor. We will miss him very much and feel honored to have known him. Mac King and Jennifer Sils Las Vegas, NV

Mac King and Jennifer Sils - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ I was a patient of Dr Sousa when he was working at the Costco store in Green Valley Henderson NV. Such a kind, articulate and friendly man....my prayers and thoughts are with his family. I know that I will ALWAYS remember what a decent doctor and human being that he was. Thank you for this opportunity to share thoughts...

Phyllis Phyl Hedges - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

NF

“ Dear Ellen and Members of the Family of Dean Sousa: We have been deeply saddened to receive such unfortunate news. Today is Memorial Day, and it will not pass without our giving much thought to the past meetings and interactions that we were privileged to have had with Dean, as well as to his memory. We were fortunate indeed to have been counted among his patients. Although we met with him infrequently, we will always remember his contagious smile, remarkably positive disposition, and genuine concern for and commitment to so many others. We shall always be grateful for having had the chance to meet and know such a special person. Try to remember and reflect on happier times of the past. They will serve to sustain you as you gradually accept his passing. Sincerely,
Nicholas J. Feduska, M.D. Katharine Wong Feduska

Nicholas J. Feduska, M.D. and Katharine Wong Feduska - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ Dear Ellen and Family, I was so saddened to hear of Dean's passing. It is such a loss to this world. Dean was one of the first and finest optometrists I met when I got back to Vegas. He was one of the biggest hearts there were. Always with his contagious smile and energy. Always helping others and reaching out in any way he could. I can't count the endless volunteer programs he did just as an optometrist! He was always ready to help and jump into any project. An amazing doctor but an even more impressive human being. I will miss his engery and his smile. Ellen, I know how much you two loved each other, and how amazing that bond is. My thoughts and prayer are with you. May God bless and watch over you and your family in this time of sadness.

Stephanie Lee - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ Dear Ellen, My prayers and thought go out to you. The world has truly lost one of the nicest guys on the planet. I was a research assistant at WSU when Dean was an undergrad student in Dr. Hahn's lab. He was such a smart, personable, wonderful , kind, caring,compassionate human being and fun to work with. Very often, it was Dean and Kevin who made the job bearable. I believe the world would have been alot better in the past decades and now a days, if there had been more Dean type people out there among us.Those in heaven are enjoying him now.....

EVAMARIE GAIL COX - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ Hello dear Ellen, I can't imagine the grief and loss you feel at his time, but I pray that God will fill you heart and mind with stength and peace knowing that Dean is in heaven and at rest. My husband and I truly love and miss you, especially at this time. I count it a privilage to have known Dean in this life, his love and compassion will not be forgotten. May God bless you Ellen, we will continue to pray for you and the family. "For I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God:" Job 19:25-26

Melvin and Carolyn Ragodos - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ Dear Ellen, We want to express our deepest sympathies to you and Ernestine. Dean was such a blessing to my wife and me every time we would see him. He was one of the most joyful, happy, positive, and encouraging people I have ever known. Dean was the kind of person that once you had the priviledge of meeting him, he was your friend for life. He will be greatly missed. Please know that Jeri and I are praying for you and Ernestine. Rick & Jeri Las Vegas, NV

Rick & Jeri Wise - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ Ellen, I don't know where to start. Steve and I loved Dean so much that it's going to be so hard for us to know he's not going to grace our lives any more. As you and everyone know, he was the best guy ever. There will never be another "Dr. Deanie." It was fate that made us such good friends. When Steve hired you at Record Town, who could have known that your life and ours would change so much for the better because of meeting Dean. Please know that our love for you will not change. We're so happy to have you in our lives.

Steve & Estelle Markow - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ just a kind word about Dean..My husband Jim has diabetes...we have seen Dean since he began at Costco. Just recently he saw Jim again & suggested to stop wearing his contacts ,as his diabetes is getting worse & his eyes weren't "breathing" at night. If it weren't for Dean's advice Jim would have lost his sight. Jim & Dean had a "Dad/Son " relationship...Dean spoke of his Dad with Jim & they felt a bond. He will definitely miss Dean...

Janis Caris - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ Dear Ellen & the Sousa family, We are so sorry to hear of your loss. What a joyful, bright personality. I first met Dean when administering part of the NV State Board exams - he was so easy to get to know. We both graduated from ICO, so we had that in common. You may remember, Ellen, there was a year that no matter where Karen & I went in Las Vegas, we would run into you & Dean - good memories. May the God who created us pour out His comfort, peace & rest on each of you, as only He can. Sincerely, Ray & Karen Barry

Ray Barry - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RA

“ Dear Ellen & the Sousa family, We are so sorry to hear of your loss. What a joyful, bright personality. I first met Dean when administering part of the NV State Board exams - he was so easy to get to know. We both graduated from ICO, so we had that in common. You may remember, Ellen, there was a year that no matter where Karen & I went in Las Vegas, we would run into you & Dean - good memories. May the God who created us pour out His comfort, peace & rest on each of you, as only He can. Sincerely, Ray & Karen Barry

Ray - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ A bright star has burned out. He was a wonderful person. I was one of his patients. He will be in my prayers. He will be missed. Michael Callahan Las Vegas Nv.

Michael Callahan - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ Dear Ellen, Our hearts are filled with sadness at the passing of our friend, and your love, Dean. What a wonderful Doctor he was!! He was our first optometrist when we moved here. We met him on Oct. 31, 1992, dressed in costume. He always was kind, professional, and a joy to be with. We greive with you.

Marshall, Penny and Justin Klein - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ Our thoughts and prayers have been with Dr. Sousa since we first heard of his brain cancer. We were very saddened to read of his passing. God has now lifted his pain. Dr. Sousa will be greatly missed in the Las Vegas and Henderson communities.

Michael and Becky Crowe - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ I was so sorry to learn of Dr. Sousa's passing. He was our first optometrist when my family moved to Las Vegas in 1990. Interestingly enough, our family's cat was similarly named "Souza," which the doctor got a kick out of. He was a terrific physician and will be greatly missed. My thoughts are with his family during this difficult time.

Lisa Sciortino-Ferguson - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ Dear Ellen and Family, I am so sorry to hear about Dean's passing. Upon my move to Las Vegas he was my first optometrist and we became friends. He was such a nice guy and honest. I can not say enough about him. He will truly be missed. Sincerely, Larry Davis, Las Vegas Nevada

Larry Davis - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ I was shocked to hear the sad news. Dr. Sousa, to this day, was the kindest most generous employer I have ever had. I immensely enjoyed the years I worked for him at Costco in Henderson. You will never meet a more kind or happy person than Dr. Sousa. He was always smiling. The patients especially loved him. I will always remember our time together with a smile. Ellen, I am deeply sorry for your loss. I know words can't heal or help right now, but please know that you are in our prayers. Earth has lost a great man. Heaven is so lucky.

Sarah Gollner Wagner - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ A very exceptional , caring, young man lost his brave fight for life. There are not enough positive words in the dictionary to describe a truly nice guy. I met Dean around 1980 when he was a student working his way through school. We worked at one of the music stores in the mall. Dean put 100% effort into that job selling stereos even though we all knew he was headed to bigger things . I don't know of anybody that worked and studied harder to put himself through school. Dean was 4th in his high school class, graduated from Wayne State with honors. Not only was he a successful optometrist, he was a success in life as a person. His good friends would tease him about being an " optometrist to the stars." He took that in stride and knew it was because he was so well loved by his friends. I Dean had the opportunity to have some famous patients. Ellen and I were friends working at the store when they met and fell in love. We all kept in touch through the years and I was deeply saddened when Ellen told me of your illness. When you moved back here it was bittersweet for me, to see my friends again, but you were so ill. Dean, I will miss you. My sympathy goes out to my good friend Ellen , your mom Ernestine, the rest of the family and your many friends .

Rose Palmer - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CU

“ My deepest sympathies to Dean's family. I met Dean attending Melby Junior High School. Since our last names were close together we often were seated close to each other, and became pretty good friends. I remember Dean as a very happy and upbeat person with a distinctive laugh. I also attended Wayne State and believe I even had him in a class or two there as well. I was not surprised that after graduation I found out that Dean had become a successful Optomitrlist. He was always smart, articulate, and had a good sense of humor. Please know that Dean, and his family will be in my prayers. God bless you in your time of sadnes.

Chris Utykanski - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *My sympathy to your family. carol gibson, nurse assistant, oncology and hospice, beaumont hospital.*

carol gibson - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM