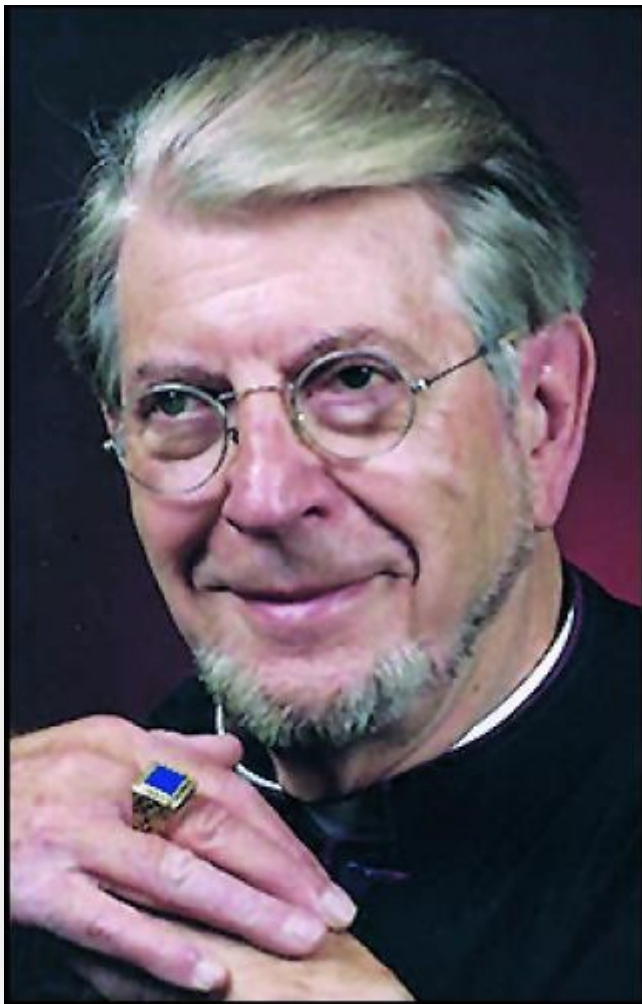


# Marvin Kapushion

1930 - 2020



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**Monsignor Marvin J. Kapushion** was born April 18, 1930, in Crested Butte, Colo., the third child of George and Anna (Matkovich) Kapushion. He died just a few days short of his 90th birthday, on April 7, 2020, at his residence at the Bonaventure of Pueblo after more than a half century of priestly life in the Diocese of Pueblo. After attending elementary school in Crested Butte, he moved to Grand Junction to live with his sister and brother-in-law, Jake and Helen Spehar, in order to attend Grand Junction High School, graduating in 1948. Enrolling at St. Thomas Seminary in Denver, he was ordained a priest in June, 1956, in ceremonies at St. Joseph Parish in Grand Junction. His first assignment as assistant pastor at St. Joseph Parish in Salida was followed by a transfer to St. Francis Xavier Parish in Pueblo two years later. The young Father Kapushion's life changed dramatically in 1962 when Bishop Charles Buswell offered the opportunity to study for a Master's degree in Social Work and run Catholic Charities for the Diocese of Pueblo. After completing graduate studies in 1964 at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., he began more than three decades of service as director of Catholic Charities, Social Services of Pueblo-United and successor affiliates. Upon retirement in 1999, he served on the agency's board of directors and continued in his favorite role as a counselor. Early in his time as director of Catholic Charities, he helped found the Community Organization Program to serve Pueblo's minority communities with an emphasis on young people. As time evolved, he became a state and national leader on social services issues, serving on the board of directors of the National Association of Social Workers, the National Council of Social Work Education and the National Commission on Accreditation for colleges with social work programs. He was president of the Colorado Conference on Social Welfare, was appointed to the Colorado Comprehensive Health Planning Council and was a member of the Colorado Advisory Committee for Youth and Children. In Pueblo, he served as chairman of the United Way Executive Directors. While accomplishing much in his secondary

profession, Monsignor Kapushion remained, at heart, a parish priest. For more than 30 years, he commuted to Rye to care for parishioners at St. Aloysius Church. In later years, he assisted at the St. Mary Corwin Chapel in Pueblo while also serving as chaplain for the Poor Clare Monastery of Our Heavenly Father. He retired for a second time as chaplain at St. Therese Catholic School in Pueblo after also serving as principal at the request of Bishop Arthur Tafoya and on the school's board of directors, finding true joy in his work with students there, always reminding them to believe in themselves because "God don't make junk." He was an advocate for the underdog and a true shepherd, always there for anyone who needed counsel, guidance and prayer and to minister to the lonely and the downtrodden. Before and during his several retirements, he volunteered for the Youth Offender System, at the Pueblo County Jail and the San Carlos Correctional Facility. As he once said, "In my spare time, I'm retired." Monsignor Kapushion was preceded in death by his parents; his beloved sister, Helen Spehar; his older brother, William Kapushion; and nephews, George and Timothy Spehar. He is survived by his sister-in-law, Irma Kapushion; nephews, Jim, Gerry and Tom Spehar, and Marvin Kapushion; as well as nieces, Marianne Mercado and Sheri Ochoa; and numerous grand-nephews and grandnieces proud to call him "Uncle Marvin." The family would like to thank most of all the many caring friends in Pueblo and Rye whose help allowed Monsignor Kapushion to extend his ministries into his later years and also Bishop Daniel Berg, Monsignor Ed Nunez and Deacon Dan Leetch for their kind assistance and direction as health and memory issues evolved. We extend a special thank you to Gerry Spehar for his extraordinary efforts after being chosen by his uncle to shepherd his affairs during his final years. Visitation, 4 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 14, 2020, in the Montgomery & Steward Chapel, with ten people allowed at one time. Services are to be held in Pueblo and Grand Junction at a later date, with burial alongside his parents in Grand Junction. Memorials may be made to St. Therese Catholic School, 320 Goodnight Ave., Pueblo, CO 81004. Those at the school and many others

will remember Monsignor Kapushion's frequent admonition to "Do the right thing at the right time for the right reason." Online condolences, [MontgomerySteward.com](http://MontgomerySteward.com).

To Plant Memorial Trees in memory, please visit our [Sympathy Store](#).

Published in The Pueblo Chieftain from Apr. 9 to Apr. 12, 2020.

**Kapushion**  
See n

### MEMORIAL EVENTS

**APR Visitation**

**14** 04:00 - 06:00 PM

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## MEMORIES & CONDOLENCES

Guest Book sponsored by Montgomery & Steward Funeral Directors Inc

What would you like to say about Marvin?

Not sure what to say? 

Add a photo

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Your Email Address

Your Relationship 

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## Add Memory

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**9 entries**

April 18, 2020

Dear Father Marvin, you will be missed.

**Bill Gilliam**

April 16, 2020

Special prayers for Father Kapushion My husband Don and I were the first marriage Father Kapushion performed after he was ordained.

We were married August 4, 1956 in Salida, Colorado  
He will always hold a special place in our hearts.

Sincerely Don and Shirley Coscarella

**Shirley Coscarella**

April 13, 2020

He was an outstanding warrior for God's Kingdom on Earth, spreading love and guidance, teaching God's Love as a model of kindness, strength and commitment. He will be greatly missed by many and we'll try hard to do "The right thing, at the right time for the right reason" Me and my son appreciate all you did for us. May God hold you in a very special place in Heaven.

**Hermine Ryan**

April 13, 2020

He was my favorite priest, I was in his parish at St. Aloyius in Rye, he married my late husband and I! I'll always remember him fondly.

Marianne Townsend

**Marianne Tonsend**

April 13, 2020

Rest In Peace.

Gary, Mary and Michael.

**Mary O'Briant**

April 12, 2020

Monsignor Kapushion had been my next door neighbor from '96 until was unable to stay there by himself. In twenty years we created fond memories by breaking religious, ethnic, and economic barriers. We did things like shovel each other's sidewalks; sometimes together with him in PJs and a robe while I'm in a down jacket and gloves. Another time we were catching up in our yard because, although he allowed us access to the fruit on our side of the fence, we were allowing it to spoil. About a dozen wasps from a bamboo nest had settled on his suit coat collar. I panicked and tried to shew them away. We ended up in his elaborate kitchen being treated for stings by one of his effective home made mixtures. He often talked with my pets as if they could understand him. He helped me understand his "Calling" and took interest in my personal convictiond That he has been missed is an understatement.

### **William Conner**

April 9, 2020

He was very kind and did so much for so many people. He will be missed.

### **Fred Hebein**

April 9, 2020

I first became acquainted with Msgr. Marvin Kapushion as a young Cuban refugee residing at the Sacred Heart Orphanage in 1964. His compassionate and understanding nature was very much in evidence at that first meeting.

Fr. Kapushion brought us a message of hope and encouraged us to tell him about any grievances we may have had at that time.

He interceded in our behalf, resolving many of those issues to our satisfaction.

I had the pleasure of personally expressing my gratitude to him as an



adult, and will remain forever grateful to him.

Our condolences to his family, many of whom I had the pleasure of meeting at his Jubilee Celebration a few years ago.

May God Bless him, and may he rest in Peace in the arms of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Ciro & Sydney Alvarez

### **Ciro Alvarez**

April 9, 2020

In loving memory of a wonderful person. We will love you and miss you always.

### **Joseph Zorc**

Friend

## **INVITE OTHERS TO ADD MEMORIES**

Share to let others add their own memories and condolences



## **ADVICE & SUPPORT**

**The Five Stages of Grief**

**Sympathy Advice**

