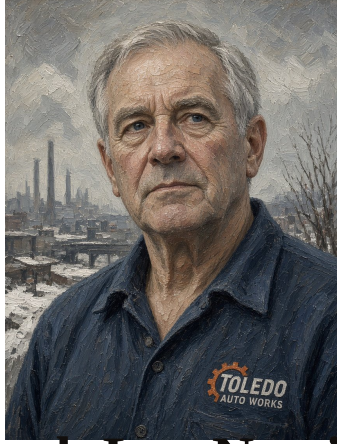




Frank Leo Nowicki

July 2, 1947 - August 26, 2026

Toledo, Ohio

Frank Leo Nowicki died in Toledo on August 26, 2026. He was seventy-nine. Born there on July 2, 1947, he grew up knowing the glass plants as a clock and a weather report. He learned a windshield before he learned a necktie. A clean set, he said, is a kind of promise: it has to hold or the whole story is wet.

He spent thirty-six years in auto glass, first as a helper, later as the man who could hear a bad fit before the gauge admitted it. He did not advertise. Dispatchers called him because he would tell an owner the truth about a chip even when the truth postponed a Saturday. He charged a fair hour and a smaller one when a church van needed a windshield more than a sermon.

He married Helen Nowicki in 1969. They raised two sons in a bungalow that needed a new porch every twenty years. Helen taught Sunday school. Frank grilled on Sundays and considered a perch fry a seasonal obligation. After his knees quit the worst lots he still came out for a favorite wagon, moving slower, swearing less, doing the same honest work.

Friends remember a man who wiped his hands before he shook yours, who could stand in a wind without making it a personality, and who left a bay cleaner than he found it. He loved a quiet porch at dusk, a glass of tea he did not finish, and the sound of a seal that had decided to live. He died in Toledo, in the city whose glass had written his calendar. The shop still opens. Someone else will hear the sound that means trouble.

Services

Visitation in Toledo, then a simple service. A gift to a trade-school scholarship is welcome.

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