

RICHARD M. BURTNETT



The world has lost one of the nicest men to ever walk it.

On the afternoon of July 16, 2023, his 68th birthday, Rich peacefully left us to attend his heavenly birthday party. We are sure all of his loved ones were waiting to welcome him with hugs and kisses and of course a Coors Light.

The youngest son of Joseph and Mary (Hughes); Youngest brother of Joseph and the late Jack (surviving spouse Peggy). Devoted husband of nearly 42 to years to Elizabeth (Betty); and proud father to Christine (Chris) and RJ (Brittany); loving grandfather to Sabrina; a beloved brother-in-law to Betty's two brothers Norman and William; as well as a treasured cousin and uncle to the Beck and Burtnett extended families.

Rich had so many great qualities that it's impossible to list them all. He was an avid sports lover. He coached football at Annunciation and St. Sebastian's grade schools for many years, continuing even after RJ left to play at North Hills. He took any opportunity to golf with his buddies, which was the subject of many stories for years to come. Cross Creek was another Christmas to him and he looked forward to it every August. He was a simple man who took great pleasure in simple things. He loved to sit on his porch with a beer, especially when it was raining outside. He enjoyed the trips he and Betty took to Las Vegas, Niagara Falls, and to Walt Disney World with all of his family, making sure we made the most of our times there thanks to Christine and her expertise at planning. He even looked forward to picking grapes each Fall in North East, PA so Betty could make her world famous jelly. Nothing compared to the joy he got when spending a week in Conneaut Lake with his whole family, a tradition started with his children and continued so that his precious Sabrina could experience it too.

Rich had more friends than anyone we knew, always running into someone he knew wherever he went and wherever he traveled. We used to laugh that it took him many hours to cut the grass because he had to stop and talk to everyone. He was proud of having been raised on the North Side. He was still close to many of his Annunciation grade school friends. He was a proud resident of McKnight Village in Ross Township for 36 years where he happily raised his children and made lifelong friends who became family. Our family will never be able to express our sincere gratitude and thanks to the many friends and neighbors who supported, cared for, and prayed for us during this difficult time.

Rich was a dedicated individual. He worked in the bearing industry for over 40 years, first at Bearings Inc. and then at American Roller Bearing/Timken up until May 1 when he entered the hospital. He was a treasured employee and friend to all. Nothing was more important to Rich than his family and he was so proud of them. He was so relieved when our children found spouses to love them as much as we did. Thanks Chris and Brittany. Our Sabrina was the apple of his eye and he loved to tease her about sharing her saved up money with him and always made sure she had chocolate candy each time she came to visit. We should all aspire to be more like Rich. Babe, Dad, Papa, Birdie, Brother, Coach, Friend, and neighbor, your love will be felt forever.

May all the blessings you bestowed on us in this life be with you for all eternity.

Friends received Thursday 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at **DEVLIN FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 806 Perry Hwy, North Hills. Mass of Christian Burial in Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish, St. Sebastian Church, Friday 10:30 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to Animal Friends (Camp Horne Road) in honor of his beloved Granddogs, "Gdoggie" Baby Marie, Junie, and Belly Belle.

Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb