

## PAUL R. TOPOLOSKY



Paul R. Topolosky, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at the age of 81, surrounded by his loving family members. Born in Braddock, PA to Margaret (Murajda) and Paul Topolosky, Paul was raised with a deep appreciation for his Slovak heritage and Catholic faith. His childhood home was shared with his brother, Ron; grandparents, Baba and Dzedo; his aunt, Francy; and cousin, Lisa. Devoted

husband of 55 years to Kathleen "Kitty" (McCann), Paul was all about family, especially gatherings from "down the house" as a child and young adult to the ones hosted at their home in Monroeville, PA.

When it came to his hometown of Pittsburgh, no one was more passionate than Paul. From his love of their sports teams to the rich history of the Steel City, Paul would take every opportunity he could to share his knowledge about Braddock, US Steel, Andrew Carnegie, Westinghouse and the French and Indian War. His love of Pittsburgh was only overshadowed by his love of his Kitty; children, Lynn, Kristin, and Mark; and his five grandchildren whom he spent much time traveling across the state to visit and dote on.

Never did a time pass where he wasn't trying to provide guidance and wisdom which usually started with "you know what I think you should do" and was followed by big ideas full of possibilities. Paul was always a "big picture thinker and a problem solver".

Paul was very proud of his military service in the Pennsylvania National Guard at the Hunt Armory from 1963 to 1966 and the US Army Reserves from 1966 to 1969. He completed basic training at Fort Knox, Kentucky in 1963, and Artillery School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma in 1964. His later positions included cannoneer, instrument operator, and vertical chart operator and he was discharged as a Specialist 4th class in September 1969.

After obtaining his degree in Business Administration from Duquesne University, he began his career in the accounting department at Alcoa and later became an appraiser at Industrial Appraisal Co. In 1968 he took a position as a programmer trainee at J&L Steel and later joined the MIS organization at Carnegie Mellon University. While at CMU he was a team leader for design and development of their undergraduate admissions system. He went on to work in systems and finance at PPG Industries and then joined Westinghouse Corporate EDP audit staff in the late seventies, performing audits domestically and internationally. While at Westinghouse, he was part of a team that tested new technology for electronic data transmission (the first emails) between Westinghouse in Pittsburgh and Hanford Nuclear Power site in Washington State. He was named Manager of Information Systems with the start up division of Forest Hills ICPD. In 1986 he founded his own firm Gateway Resources Inc. a consulting, contracting and staffing firm specializing in computer and engineering personnel. Paul successfully operated Gateway Resources for over 30 years.

In his retirement, Paul was heavily involved as a volunteer on the advisory council at the Heinz History Center and especially enjoyed working with the Westinghouse archives project and on the steering committee for the California University and Heinz computer systems development. He also pursued his interests in history as an active member of the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Association, Western PA Conservancy, and Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. Paul was also an avid fisherman and nature enthusiast and enjoyed teaching his grandkids how to fish and sharing the wonders of of the Pennsylvania countryside with them.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Margaret (Murajda) Topolosky; his father, Paul Topolosky; and his daughter, Kristin (Topolosky) Hetz. He is survived by his wife, Kathleen (McCann) Topolosky; son, Mark Topolosky and his partner Joseph Hood of Austin, TX; daughter, Lynn Raus (Topolosky) and her husband Barry Raus of Haddonfield, NJ; brother, Ronald Murajda of Rilton, PA; and son-in-law, Scott Hetz of Washington, DC. He was blessed with five grandchildren: Samuel Raus, Jacob Hetz, Meredith Raus, Max Hetz, and Benjamin Raus.

Friends welcome Saturday 5-7 p.m. and Sunday 12-2 p.m. and 4-6 p.m. in the **PATRICK T. LANIGAN FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORY, TURTLE CREEK/MONROEVILLE CHAPEL**, 1111 Monroeville Ave. at James St., Turtle Creek, 412-823-9350.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, at St. Bernadette Church of Christ the Divine Shepherd Parish at 10:00 AM. Burial will follow in Braddock Catholic Cemetery.

Donations may be made to the American Lung Association at <https://www.lung.org/> in Paul's memory.

Send condolences [post-gazette.com/gb](https://post-gazette.com/gb)