

JOSEPH EDWARD BUSHOFSKY



Age 85, of Pinehurst, North Carolina, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, March 6, 2024, at home surrounded by loved ones.

Joe was born January 24, 1939, in Pittsburgh on the North Side, to the late Jacob and Anna (Suska) Bushofsky. Joe graduated from North Catholic in 1957, was Vice President of his class, and a three-sport letterman. Joe received a scholarship and graduated from North

Carolina State University in 1962. He played football for the Wolfpack from 1959-1961. Joe began his coaching career in Pittsburgh-area high schools, eventually returning to his alma mater. Joe coached North Catholic to its first Pittsburgh Catholic League title, with a perfect, undefeated, untied season. The 1970's team played before 10,000 fans at Three Rivers Stadium. Joe stated, "before the game, Steelers founder Art Rooney, Sr. came into the locker room and talked to us," he said. "All of his sons went to North Catholic." After falling behind early, 7-0, North Catholic scored 33 unanswered points to secure the victory. "Those kids still get together," Bushofsky said. "It was a special team."

After teaching and coaching at North Catholic, he moved to the NFL in 1974 as a scout for the BLESTO combine under Jack Butler. He joined the Detroit Lions scouting staff and was named personnel director in 1987. Joe helped draft players such as Barry Sanders, Chris Spielman, and Herman Moore. He was hired by the Miami Dolphins working with legendary Head Coach Don Shula from 1992 to 1994. He ended his career in the NFL with the Carolina Panthers from 1995 to 2002 working alongside his brother Jack Bushofsky. After 28 years working in the NFL, he retired in 2002 in Pinehurst, NC. He loved to paint and was an avid golfer who enjoyed playing under the Carolina blue sky. Joe was inducted into the 2010 Western Chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame and a member of the class of 2008 North Catholic Hall of Fame.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Rosemarie (Kollinger) Bushofsky; two brothers, Jack (Maryanne) Bushofsky of New Port Richey, FL, James (Cathy) Bushofsky of Pittsburgh, PA; son, Ted (Teri) Bushofsky, of Lake Orion, MI.; daughters, Tracy (Keith) Cornacchia, of Lake Orion, MI., Trish (Matthew) McDonnell, of McMurray, PA, and Terri Bushofsky, of Durham, NC.; five grandchildren, Andrew, Anthony, Emma, Michael and Patrick and one great-grandchild, Brayden.

A visitation will be held at **DEVLIN FUNERAL HOME** on Thursday, March 21, 2024, from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. A Catholic Mass will be held on Friday, March 22, 2024, 10:30 a.m. at Saint Teresa of Avila Church in Pittsburgh, PA. Everyone please meet at church.

Online condolences can be made to www.devlinfuneralhome.com.

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