

## **BARRY MITCHELL**

Barry Mitchell of Erie, formally of Braddock passed away on Sunday, September 1st, at Fairview Manor Home in Fairview, PA, where he received the best of care. We appreciate all that the staff had done for him. Barry was born December 10, 1942.

Each day he would call his sister greeting her with "How ya doin?" If he talked to his son, Nick, that day, Barry would update his sister with what Nick was up to. During some of these calls, Barry and his sister would sing Slovak songs, especially during the holidays. Each call ended with "Love you Jessica! Love you Barry! Talk to you tomorrow!"

Barry enjoyed many of the games he played at Fairview. When he would win, he would donate his winnings to charity. Barry lived in a Slovak household with his parents and grandparents. His mother had to teach him English before he went to first grade. His favorite meal was pirohi with fried onions and sour cream, one of the many Slovak comfort foods. Barry was a great fan of baseball. He was a pitcher in little and pony league, where he pitched a no-hitter in a play-off game. His dad would take him to Pirate games at Forbes Field where they would sit at the top of the bleacher section and enjoy chipped ham sandwiches and Reymers' Blend. Barry's other joy was music. He played the accordion. His mother would request The Anniversary Waltz and My Happiness and she would sing as he played. One of his favorite memories was going to see Bobby Darrin on New Year's Eve in Pittsburgh, with his Aunt Betty. Barry was an altar boy for twelve years at Sts Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church in Braddock, PA. He was devoted to his religion. Barry graduated from St. Thomas High School in 1960, Duquesne University in 1964, and received his Master's in Theology at Notre Dame University. He was a professor for over twenty years and became an Associate professor of theology at Gannon University, where he met his wife, Christina. They married June 21, 1969 and welcomed home their son, Nick in 1977. Barry, Chris, and Nick spent many summers at their cottage in Lake Erie. After retirement, Barry and Chris attended daily mass. On weekends, you would find them at Waldameer Park where Barry would sing karaoke. His favorite song to sing was Sweet Caroline by Neil Diamond.

Barry was preceded in death by his wife, Christina; his parents, John and Anne Mitchell; mother-in-law, Thea Doubler; and brother-in-law, Richard Pingree, Sr. He is survived by his son Nicholas and his wife, Gemma; and sister, Jessica Pingree. He also survived by nephews Richard Pingree, Jr., Brian Pingree and his wife Jennifer, and Douglas Pingree and his wife Katie. Great nieces and nephews Johnathan, Caitlin, Nicholas, Allison, Noah, and Charlotte. Niece in-law Claire Pingree. A special thank you to Jennifer Goldstrohm. Services are private. The **KLOECKER FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORY, INC.** is handling the arrangements.05

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