



Sylvester M. "Sy" Straka

September 4, 1950 - December 28, 2017

Sylvester M. "Sy" Straka, 67, of Latrobe, died Thursday December 28, 2017. He was born September 4, 1950 in Latrobe, a devoted son of the late Joseph E. and Margaret (Janesko) Straka. A wealth of talents and interests led to Sy's careers in academia, music, ski instruction, and residential carpentry and design. He received a bachelors degree from Saint Vincent College and a masters degree from Duquesne University both in Philosophy. His passion for teaching philosophy at West Virginia University, Saint Vincent College, and Westmoreland County Community College never waned and his dedication to his students received him special recognition at West Virginia University. An avid skier and golfer, Sy's adventurous spirit, love of debate, and appreciation of nature and beauty guided his life path. He will be deeply missed by those whose lives he has touched. He is survived by his life partner Susan Beth McClure of Irwin; his older siblings Margie (Luther R.) Horrell of Ligonier, Mary (the late James) Kornides of Latrobe, Raymond Straka of Hunker, and Joseph (Toni) Straka of Youngstown; also numerous nieces and nephews. At Sylvester's request there will be no funeral or memorial service. William Snyder Funeral Home Inc., Irwin, is in charge of arrangements. Donations in his honor may be sent to the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Rails to Trails Conservancy or a local humane society. For online condolences please visit www.snyderfuneralservices.com.

Tribute Wall



“ Sylvester M. "Sy" Straka

October 07, 2023 at 10:37 AM



“ Sylvester M. "Sy" Straka

August 23, 2022 at 04:00 PM



“ Mom,

I am so sorry for your loss. I know that he meant the world to you. I am sure that it meant a lot to Sy to be able to pass away peacefully at home with loved ones around. Please let me know if there is anything I can do for you. I love you.

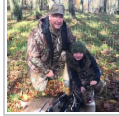
Eric

Eric McClure - December 31, 2017 at 03:02 PM



Suzi, again, we are so sorry for your loss. Please don't hesitate to call if you need anything. We are both here if you need us. Love, Sandi and John

Sandra Glistner - December 31, 2017 at 07:33 PM



Susan, I am very sorry for your loss. Sy.....my memories of our lives growing up from grade school, our adolescent actions during high school and our determination to serve in the National Guard can only be bettered by you being my best man at Janet and my wedding. Wow what a reception! Though our adult lives drifted apart for several decades I never forgot our friendship. Who would have thought that such a terrible sickness would attempt to reunite our lives. I'm so sorry that we didn't have more time to golf and share old memories. May God comfort you until we meet again! Jack Moyher

Jack Moyher - January 01, 2018 at 08:32 PM

KC

God Bless you all during this difficult time. Just hearing his name brings back many memories of Cy playing in the Band Why Not watching him pitch for the Redbirds ...

Ken Cramer - January 02, 2018 at 01:16 PM

EE

I'm sorry to hear the loss of your loved one. I have fond memories of Sy. Still see him teaching the little ones on Tamecat. But most of all, listen to his music and any deep conversations we had will stay with me. RIP

Eva-Maria Ellrich - January 05, 2018 at 07:42 PM