



## Mark J. Hrehocik

October 23, 1962 - August 25, 2022

HREHOCIK, Mark

My loving, kind, quiet, funny, positive, gentle, confident, and smart husband,  
Mark Joseph

Hrehocik, crossed over the threshold of this world to the next on August 25,  
2022, at age 59

from dementia caused by sinonasal undifferentiated carcinoma and treatment.

Born in and

faithful to his Mon Valley roots, Mark was the epitomized Pittsburgher, holding  
only two jobs in

his life: working a game booth at Kennywood Amusement Park and enjoying a  
36-year career

as a mechanical engineer at Bechtel Bettis Atomic Power Laboratory. A proud  
Slovak and the

youngest of seven raised in Glassport, PA, Mark believed in both the simple  
joys of life and in

working hard while pacing oneself. Mark loved mentoring younger engineers,  
spending time

with his three children (Michael, Ben, and Matthew) and two step children  
(Anya and Alma), a

solid round of golf, a lunchtime run on a hot day, and a poker game with  
friends. He could

identify which play a Shakespeare quote was from and sing every lyric to songs from Bob Dylan

to Bob Marley to REO Speedwagon. His two favorite books were Les Misérables and Ball Four.

Predeceased by his first wife Kristen, stillborn daughter Kayleigh, parents Michael and Pauline

(Terek) Hrehocik, and sister Tish, Mark knew sorrow. He drew from this deep well, practicing

compassion for others, a seize-the-day zeal for life, and the wisdom of knowing that sitting

outside enjoying a sunset has just as much value as accomplishing any task.

We learned from

each other the depths of love in the hardest of times. We were grateful for the good days and

found joy tucked into the folds of the bad days. We felt fortunate for the time we had together.

Mark and I knew each other through nearly equal years of sickness and health. Mark was

always insistent that he was going to live forever. He would have given anything for one more

day with Michael, Ben, and Matthew, and to get that—just like their mom did—Mark gave

everything. I wish he had been right, but Lord, did he fight a good fight.

My Mark now sails through time and space, launched into the unknown and unknowable, a

brilliant soul and spirit untethered from the confines of our small and beautiful world. In addition

to me (his wife, Diane Reckless), Mark is survived by many who loved him: his three sons,

Michael, Ben, and Matthew; two step-children Anya and Alma; four sisters, Paula Roche (John,

dec.), Teena Culbert (Roy), Jane Clampitt (Henry), and Marcia Uziel (Don, dec.); a brother,

Michael Hrehocik (Vickie); nieces, nephews, friends, and a huge and immensely generous

community that rallied to support our family for the past three years.

Please join us for a celebration of Mark's life at East Liberty Presbyterian Church, 116 S.

Highland Avenue, Pittsburgh, on Saturday, September 10, at 10:30am.

Reception to follow in

the church social hall. Please feel free to send all the flowers; Mark loved them. Memorial

donations in Mark's memory may be made to the Light of Life Rescue Mission, 913 Western

Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15233. Please visit the funeral home website to leave a personal message of condolence for Mark's family.

Professional services trusted to D'ALESSANDRO FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY LTD., Lawrenceville.

[www.dalessandrold.com](http://www.dalessandrold.com).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

SEP **10**. 10:30 AM (ET)

East Liberty Presbyterian Church  
116 S. Highland Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mark J. Hrehocik*

January 13, 2023 at 04:43 PM



“ *Our sympathies and goodbye to a longtime friend and team mate.*

*Larry and Tammy Steighner-Ondik*

**Larry & Tammy (Steighner) Ondik** - September 14, 2022 at 02:10 PM



“ *I met Mark at the Bettis bowling league when we were both in our 20s. It didn't take long for us to become lifelong friends. Mark and I did everything together throughout our 20s and 30s. He always impressed me with his intelligence, quick wit, and athleticism. I was the best man at his first wedding, and Mark was the godfather to my son, Steven. Mark was a great friend, a great father to his kids, and someone I admired. Mark had a profound affect on my life.. I will never forget him.*

**Kevin Mullen** - September 09, 2022 at 11:42 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mark J. Hrehocik.*



September 09, 2022 at 02:46 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Mark J. Hrehocik.*



September 09, 2022 at 07:37 AM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Mark J. Hrehocik.*



September 08, 2022 at 09:46 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mark J. Hrehocik.*



September 07, 2022 at 12:26 PM



“ *Mary Beth Krenitsky and Family purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Mark J. Hrehocik.*



**Mary Beth Krenitsky and Family** - September 05, 2022 at 10:14 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mark J. Hrehocik.



August 31, 2022 at 11:37 AM



“ Claire Ann Boyd and the Clan purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Mark J. Hrehocik.



Claire Ann Boyd and the Clan - August 30, 2022 at 05:18 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mark J. Hrehocik.



August 30, 2022 at 04:59 PM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Mark J. Hrehocik.



August 29, 2022 at 11:21 AM

DA

“ When I visited Diane, Mark and family last summer, we played the Dictionary game and I was "pummeled" by Mark's creativity and poker face delivery of totally believable and totally made up definitions. I also discovered that he didn't like pasta anymore. I'm hoping that in the great beyond, at table with the saints, and angels, with Bobby, my Nonna, my Uncle Mario that you will be able to enjoy a full plate of spaghetti and meatballs! I was so happy to meet you and to witness the love and support that surrounded you, especially from your Earth Angel, Diane. With deepest sympathy for all your family, Debbie

Debbie Albano - August 29, 2022 at 11:07 AM

NH

“ My husband, Brian, worked with Mark and played poker with him. I knew Kristen. My heart is broken for all of you. I told, Brian next poker game, have a toast to Mark. Nadine Hapach

Nadine Hapach - August 28, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mark J. Hrehocik.



August 27, 2022 at 01:33 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mark J. Hrehocik.*



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August 27, 2022 at 01:20 PM



“ *I am thinking so much about Mark's whole family. I never had a chance to get to know him, but have heard so much about him from Diane. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. What a terrible loss.*

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**Macon Finley** - August 27, 2022 at 01:17 PM



“ *Mark's passing came as a shock to me. He was such a great guy. I always thought of him as one of the kids at Bettis since he was so much younger than me. He will be missed here on earth but he will be a joy in heaven. Rest in peace, Mark.*

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**George Bradley** - August 27, 2022 at 07:44 AM



“ *I was in Mark's golf league at Bettis and golfed with him. He was one of the good guys. He was kind, compassionate, encouraging, funny and always positive. Too young!! Rosie*

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**Rosemarie Wilczynski** - August 27, 2022 at 06:59 AM

JD

“ I am torn apart by Mark's passing. He was the nicest guy and deserved so much more from life. I feel so honored to have known him. He will be sorely missed. My heart breaks for his family. I wish I could have just one more game of poker with my friend.

Jason DiVecchio - August 27, 2022 at 12:46 AM

KB

“ I worked at Bettis in the same department as Mark for a few years. I didn't know him well, but I saw him in the hallway often and he would always say hi and smile. This obituary was beautifully written. Wishing your family peace and comfort at this difficult time.

K. Bullen - August 26, 2022 at 08:59 PM

JM

“ Mark may you Rest In Peace, thanks for the few times we played golf together. I always enjoyed our discussions and admired your excellent golf swing. You were a super dad and engineer. God bless.

Joe Mizikar - August 26, 2022 at 08:38 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Mark J. Hrehocik.



August 26, 2022 at 07:19 PM

JW

“ Rest in glory Mark. Spiritual wisdom tells us we grow more Christ-like by suffering with him, but the brave fight you fought with such dignity begs that eternal question of why such good people have to endure it. May your family gone before you come to greet you with the saints, angels, and our Risen Lord. Diane and Your children are blessed by both your earthly and heavenly watch over them. Rest In Peace free of pain and full of light.

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**Joe Witkowski** - August 26, 2022 at 06:06 PM

SA

“ Mark, we never met, but your courage and humour, and spirit, captured so lovingly by Diane, moved so many of us. I can only imagine that for those who knew you in person, your legacy will be felt indefinitely.

*A virtual community of strangers sends their love to your family and friends -Saskia*

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**saskia** - August 26, 2022 at 06:01 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mark J. Hrehocik.



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August 26, 2022 at 05:39 PM



“ *Classic Charcuterie Snacks Gift Set was purchased for the family of Mark J. Hrehocik.*



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August 26, 2022 at 05:35 PM