



Peter Paul Puzak II

JUL 9, 1952 - DEC 24, 2011



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Events	Page 4
Tribute Wall	Page 5
Media	Page 13



Peter Paul Puzak II

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Peter Paul Puzak II

Peter Paul Puzak II of Arnold, MD passed away at his home on Saturday, December 24, 2011. He was 59.

Peter, known to friends as “Zak”, was born on July 9, 1952 in Erie, PA. He was soon adopted by loving parents, the late Peter Paul and Frances Puzak, of Washington, D.C. He was a 1970 graduate of Potomac Senior High School, Oxon Hill, MD. He then enrolled at Towson State University in Baltimore, MD and graduated in 1974 with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology. Shortly after, he began his working career with the State of Maryland and worked there for the past 31 years.

Peter spent most of his free time on the golf course with friends and his wife, Patty. They also enjoyed spending weekends together at the beach. Peter was a sports enthusiast. He played basketball and baseball in high school and later coached his daughters on many youth teams. He was also an avid Redskins fan.

Peter is survived by his wife, Patricia “Patty”, of 27 years; three daughters, Christine Cox of Arnold, MD, Melissa Greene and husband Josh of Annapolis, MD, and Julia Puzak of Arnold, MD; one grandson, Christopher Cox of Arnold, MD.

A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at St. John Neumann Catholic Church on Friday, December 30, 2011 at 10:30am. A visitation will take place at Lasting Tributes Cremation and Funeral Care, P.A. 814 Bestgate Rd. Annapolis, MD on Thursday, December 29, 2011 between the hours of 6 – 8pm. Interment will be held at Bestgate Memorial Park immediately following mass.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to a charity of your choice.



Events

Peter Paul Puzak II

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Visitation

Thursday, December 29, 2011

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET

Lasting Tributes Cremation & Funeral Care
814 Bestgate Rd, Annapolis MD 21401

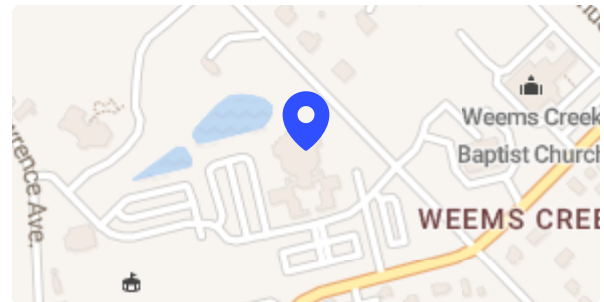


Service

Friday, December 30, 2011

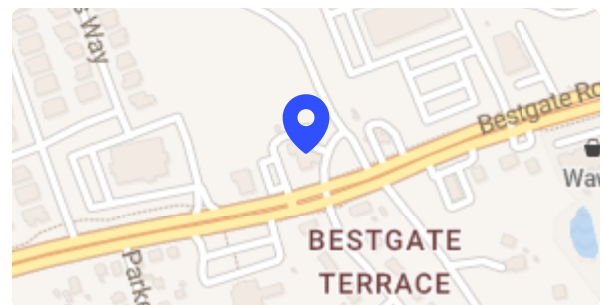
10:30 AM ET

St. John Neumann Catholic Church
620 N. Bestgate Road, Annapolis MD



Cemetery Details

Bestgate Memorial park
814 Bestgate Road, Annapolis MD 21401





Tribute Wall

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KC

Kaitlyn Coriell posted:

To the Puzak family- May Peace Be With You.Coach Puzak was my basketball coach in middle school with Julia. What a wonderful coach! He improved my skills taught us the meaning of teamwork and his motivation lead us to win championships. I will never forget these fun times that I had on his team. His memory will live on in our hearts. R.I.P Coach Puzak ~Kaitlyn Coriell

January 15 at 5:48 PM

DL

Debbie Laird posted:

So sorry to hear of your loss. I worked with Pete at the Health Department when he first started. I remember he was always sweet to me and we would make small talk about golf and the Redskins, probably the only two things we had in common. I was so sad to hear the news and my thoughts are with you and your family. Debbie Laird

January 11 at 1:31 PM

JS

J. Saunders posted:

I was walking back to West Hall from the Tiger's Lair when I heard a voice from above say "Hey." I looked up and there sat Zak, up in a tree with a drunken Cheshire Cat grin on his face. I asked him what the heck was he doing up there and he just shrugged. It was such a picture that I could point you the very tree to this day. I lost touch with Alpha for many years, but ever since returning to the fold I have asked about Zak. I learned that he and Tom Herbert golfed together and that he usually showed up at the Alpha Open. As I don't golf I haven't seen him in over 20 years, but as I sit here, I'm looking at a set of clubs I bought from a friend year before last. Zak was on my mind when I bought them. Sorry I'll never get to embarrass myself with my pledge brother. Alpha '72, Jeff Saunders

January 3 at 2:51 PM



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JM

J. McIntosh posted:

I felt bad that I was unable to be present at Zak's wake/funeral. My deepest sympathy goes out to Patty, his family, and all his friends from present and past. I knew Zak when we were kids and played Silver Hill Boys Club baseball and basketball but he was two years older so we mostly only played pick-up games with the guys in Hillcrest Hgts/Marlow Hgts. I felt great to just be playing with those guys at 11-12-13, Jimmy O'Neill, Jim Osbourne, the Bruders, the Cusatos, Mike Coughlin, and Mike Fedorko. My mom always marvelled when we went to the Boys Club banquets and she said that Peter Paul Patrick Puzak won ANOTHER award! He was a gifted athlete as a kid in baseball, basketball, and bowling. I really got to KNOW Zak at Towson when I pledged Alpha Fraternity when he lived with Lou D. and Bruce Coleman at Perring Manor Apts. We became friends and went to TSC/TSU functions, played frisbee, frat flag football, playing spades (going mellow!) and poker, and homecoming dances. I remember the car accident he was in and a brick came through the driver's window and hit him. Zak's mouth was wired shut for several weeks and he couldn't talk well. I called him Mumbles. After college, Zak and I actually bowled duckpins together out near Security Square Mall. We always dreamed of getting in the pro duckpin triples with Coleman but distance and circumstances never allowed it. Those were great times in our 20s during and after TSC/TSU. God Bless you Zak - be at peace! Jerry McIntosh

December 31 at 7:05 AM

CS

Carole Sanner posted:

I've known Pete for close to 30 years in his job at the Health Department. In all of those years, he could be gruff, tough, and no-nonsense - and underneath it all it was clear to me that I was dealing with a great guy. I had the pleasure of playing in a golf tournament or two with Pete in the foursome, (best ball) and he of course, saved our fannies around every turn. We talked about his daughters and that would always put a smile on his face. He was very proud of his family, and I know that this is a tremendous loss for them, and for all that were lucky enough to call Pete a friend. Carole Sanner

December 29 at 8:43 AM

LD

Lou Dollenger posted:

Zak was my Brother and roommate in those luxurious Dutch Village apartments and also in Cockeysville. We worked together and played together and even wound up in Key West once- briefly, so many years ago. He taught me to shoot pool (by beating me every day for a year.) He was superb at every sport he played, and could laugh and play cards all night. I knew his Dad- a great guy, who would be shocked at this way too early departure. Patty's truly a saint, and Zak loved his wife and daughters well. I will always remember him pushing his glasses back into the bridge of his nose, and his brash laugh.

December 29 at 5:58 AM



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LD

Lou Dollenger shared an album called **Peter Paul Patrick Puzak II.**



December 29 at 5:48 AM

TH

Thomas B. Herbert posted:

Like many of his friends I have known Pete for 40+ years. I was his "big brother" when he pledged our fraternity at Towson State College where he and I as well as an untold number of mutual friends "grew up". He was a truly unique individual who, as others have mentioned, was very comfortable in his persona. He was a very good golfer and having mentioned that I was on the wrong end of his "magic wand" way more times than I want to remember. He dearly loved his Redskins never, ever giving up on them despite their repeated poor performances over the past few years. Over the last 15 years or so he would visit me regularly at my office in Annapolis and we would talk about sports, politics, our families, our mutual friends or just "days gone by". As so many others have also noted Zak was incredibly proud of his daughters and constantly referring to Patty as "the best thing that ever happened to him". I WILL miss him and remember him always. Tom Herbert

December 29 at 5:43 AM

EG

Elizabeth Gibson lit a candle in honor of Peter.

God bless you Pete and your family always!!!!



December 29 at 5:22 AM

PR

Phil Reed posted:

I met Zak shortly after starting at Towson. As fellow pledges and brothers, his sense of humor, although unusual at times, and his personality is what drew people to him. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Family. Phil Reed

December 28 at 4:34 PM



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Bob Bergstrom posted:

Zak: You has a special vibrant personality. I enjoyed your die hard Redskin attitude and me being a New York Giant fan created alot of educational discussionsduring our college years. Good thing we did not discuss the Giants this year! I have fond memories of all of the late night, into the next day card games we played. You did not like to lose but when you won your trash talk would come fast & furious!!! You could really sling the HASH or was it SPAM! It was a Pleasure being your pledge master and I was honored that you were aa Alpha Brother. The1st frat Photo with all of us in coat & ties is on the wall in my office and I look at it everyday! You will not be forgotten and Towosn is a better College because of you and everyone one on the Alpha men.God Bless your Family in this time of sorrow.Your,Bob Bergstrom

December 28 at 10:43 AM



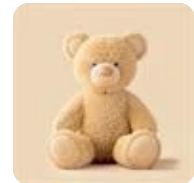
Joe Mc Gee posted:

Zak was the best, after reading the comments before mine, I realized we all felt the same way about Zak. He loved his family and of course Saint Patty. . I will miss him deeply. His telephone calls to see how I was doing as well as the rest of the family. We all will miss opinons and knowledge. I will still look in the pool and on the course to see where he is. Remember a lot of GREAT times together. Mr knucklehead.

December 28 at 9:25 AM



Joe Mc Gee sent a virtual gift in honor of Peter.



December 28 at 9:12 AM



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Mike King posted:

Zak was perhaps the most unique individual I've ever known. He was a true and honest friend. At times he was honest to a fault, if you didn't want to know what he truly thought then don't ask his opinion. Sometimes he gave you his opinion even if you weren't asking for it but it was always the truth as he saw it. One of his qualities I admired the most was how at ease he was with himself. He was comfortable with who he was and confident in his abilities. His confidence and natural skepticism meant he wasn't easily fooled or susceptible to BS. Patty I'm sure you know he's always loved you. I think he was always just biding his time until you two could be together. He once sat on the beach at Cape Hatteras for 3 days and slept in a mosquito infested tent just waiting until I could give him a ride to Chattanooga where you were playing in a softball tournament. That's when I realized how much he truly loved you. Mike King

December 27 at 4:48 PM



Mike Jones posted:

Pete..... in 60 plus years, I can truly say, I've never met anyone like you - and I don't expect again. The number of shared memories we have are way too many to count - and in reflecting back . . . most of them are actually pleasant ones. More than anyone I've ever met, you had an equal capacity to be the best friend in the world - and to tick off your best friends at some point. And many times, I truly believe that you didn't even know you were doing it. But then again . . . we all have some of that in us - some more than others. But what you really brought to the table of life was a straight-up, call-'em-like-you-see-'em guy . . . a guy who would do just about anything for a friend without their even asking. And never give it a thought. And someone who never tried overly much to impress. Never felt the need to. And you are to be admired as much as anything for being your own person, and for the respect you have rightly earned as a true friend, a dedicated professional in your career, as a dedicated and enthusiastic coach of young athletes, and most of all - as a loving husband and father. Sadly, we haven't been in touch as much the last few years, and I really do regret that - especially now. I've got a lot of memories running thru my mind right now - going wayyyyy back to Towson. Too many really, to sort out at this moment. Maybe I'll add more later. But I do want to close now with a few words to Patti and the girls . . . There is a joke that goes something like this: "Research has shown that overwhelmingly, husbands die before their wives do. Researchers just announced that they have now discovered the reason for that phenomenon: It's because they want to!" If you're wondering why I would include that joke here, it's for 2 reasons: #1 - because Zak always liked a good joke. And #2 - because if ever there was a husband who "didn't want to" . . . it was Pete. I'll go back again to my reference to 60+ years. In all of those years, I can unequivocally say that I've NEVER met a man who loved his wife - AND his children, any more than Zak did. I'm pretty sure you all know this without me telling you. But still, I feel compelled to say it. All of you girls defined who he became as a man, a husband and a dad. I spent a lot of time with him over the years in countless kinds of different situations. And he NEVER once uttered anything about any of you in anything other than glowing terms, and with unfettered pride in each one of you. I do miss him - but I know that in his passing, he would say that his single greatest source of pride and accomplishment in life is the fact that he married his true sweetheart, and that the two of them raised such fantastic daughters. All of us who have known this family for any length of time honor Zak and Patti, for their love and affection of each other and for the sacrifices they have made in raising such fantastic children. God Bless you all. I mean this from the heart. Know that a whole lot of us are sharing in your grief right now. We'll all miss his. Mike Jones (and Gail)

December 27 at 8:16 AM



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DB

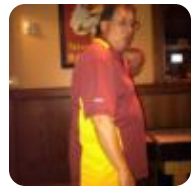
Dave Beachley posted:

As a fraternity brother at Towson State, I remember Zak's irrepressible smile and his endless good cheer. He always had a kind word, and a carefree manner. It was always a pleasure to see him. You should know that he will be missed. As I have not seen him since college, in my mind's eye, he will be forever young, forever vibrant, and forever smiling. You were lucky to have him, and to have shared your lives with him.

December 27 at 1:41 PM

TS

Tom Suit shared an album called **Peter Paul Puzak II**.



December 27 at 8:35 AM

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Tom Suit posted:

You have finished the back 9 and have made your final stop in the clubhouse! Rest in peace, my friend!

December 27 at 8:16 AM



Steve Willett December 28 at 7:05 AM

The last time I saw Zak was about 10 days ago. We had bumped into each other at the store and had about a 25 minute conversation. He was extremely happy with his place in life, talking about retirement and moving to the beach with Patty. Christine, Melissa and Julia were all doing great, everything was beautiful. It was a beautiful day and we had a good time catching up with each other. I remember walking away thinking how great it was to see him, how happy I was for him and how much it put me in the holiday spirit. I've know Zak since I was a freshman at Towson, so naturally I've got a lot of stories I could tell...or as Zak would loudly proclaim "whoa, whoa, whoa, I've got one for ya!" We certainly had many, many good times together. All of that aside, my most lasting impression of Zak is that of a great father who was extremely proud of his daughters and a loving, devoted husband to "Saint" Patty. He was a good guy and a good friend. I will miss him. Steve Willett



Media

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Lou Dollenger shared a photo to the **Peter Paul Patrick Puzak II** album.

December 29 at 5:48 AM



New Years Eve '84 Newtown, CT



Media

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Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Peter by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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