



Mr. Roger J. Nilan Jr.

June 17, 1950 - January 15, 2017

Mr. Roger J. Nilan, Jr., 66, of Sampson Pkwy, passed away peacefully at home on Sunday, January 15, 2017, after a long illness, with his brother, Cliff, and close friends by his side. Born in Pittsfield on June 17, 1950, the son of Roger Sr. and Rita Murphy Nilan, he was a 1968 graduate of Pittsfield High School. Following high school, he received a Bachelor's Degree in Education from North Adams State College.

While attending North Adams State College, he began working part time at the Dwyer Funeral Home. He later enrolled in embalming school and was a 1973 graduate of the New England Institute of Anatomy with a degree in Sanitary Science, Embalming and Funeral Directing. During his funeral directing career, he also attended St. John's Seminary in Brighton, MA. Roger had a forty-seven-year career at the Dwyer Funeral Home during which he became part of the Dwyer family. After Roger lost his father at a young age, Mr. Dwyer became a second father to him, and the two became inseparable, working side by side all these years. He would also babysit the four Dwyer children and later worked with Dan and Rob. He also enjoyed spending time with his nieces and nephew. He truly cared for the people around him and the many families he served over the years. He had a kind heart and was willing to help anyone in need. He will be forever missed by all who knew him.

He is survived by his brother, Clifford Nilan and his wife Lynne of Pittsfield and their children, Meredith, Kara and her husband, Kevin Raymond, and Jimmy;

cousins, Dominic and Dorothy Dascani, Michael and his wife Heather and Nancy Dascani. He also leaves his two very close friends Christine Mullaney and Sandra Spaniol, as well as many other friends and extended family. He was predeceased by his very close cousin, Robert Dascani, who passed away in 2015.

Funeral Notice:

Funeral services for Mr. Roger J. Nilan, Jr. will be Saturday, January 21, 2017, at 9 a.m. from the Dwyer Funeral Home, 776 North St., Pittsfield MA with a Liturgy of Christian Burial at 9:30 a.m. at St. Charles Church celebrated by Rev. A. Peter Gregory, pastor. Burial alongside his parents, will follow in St. Joseph Cemetery. Calling hours at the Dwyer Funeral Home will be Friday evening, January 20, 2017, from 4 to 7 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to the St. Charles Church Food Pantry or the St. Joseph Church Food Pantry, in care of the Dwyer Funeral Home.

DONATIONS CANNOT BE MADE ONLINE, but may be made through the Dwyer Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

St. Joseph Cemetery

222 Peck's Rd.
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 20. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Dwyer Family Funeral Home
776 North Street
Pittsfield, MA 01201
(413) 442-5094
info@dwyerfuneral.com
<https://www.dwyerfuneral.com/>

Service

JAN 21. 9:30 AM (ET)

St. Charles Church
89 Briggs Ave.
Pittsfield, MA 01201
<http://stcharlespittsfield.org/>

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Dwyer Funeral Home Inc. - January 23, 2017 at 04:21 PM

MJ

“ *Dear Nilans and Dwyers. I was very sorry to hear of Roger's passing. He was an extraordinary friend to my parents Mike and Judy and a great presence through their loss to our family and friends. Our thoughts are with you and with Roger, at peace now. We are happy he was a man of such strong belief and know because of that, he is in a better place. Sincerely, Mark Joyce*

Mark Joyce - January 22, 2017 at 02:51 PM

MK

“ *So very sorry to hear of Roger's passing. He was truly a kind person and an exemplary professional in the funeral industry and will be missed by so many.*

Meghan Griswold Kirby - January 22, 2017 at 12:01 AM



“ 45 files added to the album LifeTributes



Dwyer Funeral Home Inc. - January 20, 2017 at 02:05 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Roger J. Nilan Jr..



January 19, 2017 at 10:09 PM



“ Nilan and Dwyer families: I was very sad to hear of Roger's passing. He was such a caring and genuinely nice person. His professional career with the Dwyer family was extraordinary in so many ways; a vital part of a great family team. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him. Take comfort that he is now with our Lord in Heaven.



Dick Pizzuto, North Adams, MA - January 19, 2017 at 03:09 PM

CC

“ We are so sorry to have learned of Roger's passing. He was a generous and caring person. We always loved visiting with him when we came back to Pittsfield to visit our folks. Many a good times with him his Mom on Glen Drive at Sue's Mom's house. He will be genuinely missed.

Craig & Sue (Wooliver) Coppola - January 19, 2017 at 07:04 AM

MC

“ My deepest Condolences To the Nilan and Dwyer family for the loss of Roger Nilan.
Roger always had a smile on his face and kind word to say. I appreciated Roger
The Colvin family used Dwyer for the passing of our loved ones. He saw us alot.

Roger was kind to us. Especially to my Mom Evelyn. Roger would take the time with her. Always made sure she had enough time. At times my mom who say something inappropriate, Roger would come back with a come back. It would be all quiet then a big laughing sound. There would be mom and Roger in the corner. Roger would never rush us, Always had smile , a joke and a kind word. Yes at times a drink and had one with my mom. Like my sister said she would say You act like someone died. Cheer up, it will be alright hun.

Roger will be missed and How we loved him. I am hoping he is with my family (with my mom) having drink , laughing and talking about us.

With much love and respect.
Mary Colvin

Mary Colvin - January 19, 2017 at 05:56 AM



Darlene
Gregory

“ I only knew Roger through Dwyer, but he was the perfect kind of person to work there. He knew when it was time to break the solemnity with a joke and when it was time to say what you need to hear. I'm so sorry to hear about his passing. My thoughts go out to his friends and family.

Darlene Gregory - January 19, 2017 at 03:18 AM

CH

“ I want to express my heartfelt condolences to Roger's entire family. I remember Roger from attending various schools together in Pittsfield and being the younger brother of Cliffy, whom I graduated with. About seven years ago, when my dear mother passed away, Roger took care of all her arrangements at Dwyer. He treated us with such personal care and compassion. He was the epitome of professionalism and we reminisced about growing up in Pittsfield, as I live now in Long Island, NY. Again my sincerest thoughts and prayers to Cliffy and the rest of Roger's family.

Carol Travers Hoyda

Carol Travers Hoyda - January 18, 2017 at 05:40 PM

AK

“ So sorry to hear of Rogers passing. A good man who will be greatly missed.

Ann Murray Kamienski - January 18, 2017 at 03:05 PM

WV

“ My father, John Esposito worked very closely with Roger and the Dwyer's when he was in the funeral business. When both he and my mom died Roger was there and shared many stories about my dad. He was a wonderful man who had the perfect personality to be in the business he was in. My prayers go out to his family as well as the Dwyer's.

Wendy VanDyke - January 18, 2017 at 02:34 PM

BK

“ My condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of Roger. He was a very calming and professional presence at Dwyer's during some trying times in my life. I am sorry to learn of his untimely journey to the next world.

Brian Killion - January 18, 2017 at 01:44 PM

NV

“ Words do not soften our pain.

Love, Nancy and Peter Vosburgh

Nancy and Peter Vosburgh - January 18, 2017 at 11:05 AM

MM

“ Thinking of you, Cliff.
Maureen Mooney-Howard

Maureen Mooney-Howard - January 18, 2017 at 09:59 AM

NC

“ Nilan and Dwyer Family and Friends, I was shocked and saddened to read of Rogers passing. He was always a kind and gentle man, soft spoken and real. You could feel his comfort and kindness while going through the process of the loss of a loved one. The Colvin family also loved and respected Roger. My mother, Evelyn, would always tell Roger to "Lighten up Rog, you'd think someone died" he would remain somber and after a few deaths he finally cracked a smile when my mom told him to lighten up. Every time we had to bury another family member, my mother would always tell Roger what she wanted to wear when she passed on, and when that day finally came he knew just what she wanted and he didn't forget her glow-in-the-dark Rosary Beads. Along with Roger and the Dwyer family I don't think my family would have had such a good time at Funerals. Roger is Walking in the Sunlight with the Spirit. Rest in Peace Roger Nilan, Rest in Peace

Nancy Colvin - January 18, 2017 at 09:54 AM

NP

“ A dear high school friend who always provided a ready smile, infectious laughter, and a helping hand whenever needed. We enjoyed some great times...Cliff, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family...
Nancy Curley Peterson

Nancy Peterson - January 18, 2017 at 08:33 AM

PB

“ Clifford,

Words can not express how deeply sorry our entire family is at Roger's passing. It seems like only yesterday when all of us were playing together in the neighborhood. We are sure God has a plan for Roger and he was needed there. We loved him and he was always there for us.

Charlie, Pam, Tom Beuth & Joan Dafarra

Pam Beuth - January 18, 2017 at 05:31 AM

JA

“ Roger will be missed by so many people. He was a joy to know and be in his company. Prayers of comfort to Cliff and family.



Joyce Armstrong - January 18, 2017 at 12:23 AM



“ Roger was a neighbor of ours on Sampson Pkwy. Sorry to hear of his passing. Steve and I are in Florida for the winter and wanted to send our sympathy to his family.

Sincerely, Steve and Marcia Durfee

Marcia Durfee - January 17, 2017 at 08:47 PM

MM

“ Thoughts and prayers to Clifford and family on the passing of Roger.

Mike McMahon

Michael McMahon - January 17, 2017 at 08:13 PM

PS

“ I will be forever grateful for having known such an amazing person. Roger was a dear friend and made so many memories with our family, he will be missed forever. I am so sorry for your loss Clifford and the loss to your family. May he rest in peace, again, so very sorry. Thanks for the memories Roger! Patty Smith

Patty Smith - January 17, 2017 at 07:51 PM

DL

“ I remember Roger as being one of the best friends of my ex in law's. A very nice gentleman. Always at the family holidays. RIP Roger. 👍 👍 👍 👍 👍

Debbie Laframboise - January 17, 2017 at 06:43 PM

MB

“ So sorry for your loss to the Nilan and the Dwyer familys. Roger was a kind and wonderful man who helped our family through some very difficult times. The Amuso family will always be great full for the opportunity to have known Roger.

Michele Barnard - January 17, 2017 at 06:38 PM

LF

“ Our most heartfelt sympathy to the nilan family,Roger was an amazing person funny, sincere and was a great support to our family when we needed it the most.Rest in peace. The Ferris family.

Linda Ferris and family - January 17, 2017 at 06:31 PM

DR

“ Roger was a wonderful man who had a great sense of humor. He was always very caring and helpful in our saddest times and will be greatly missed.

Donna Rouette - January 17, 2017 at 06:22 PM

JE

“ *Cliff,
Our deepest sympathy. Roger was a terrific
guy. He will truly be missed. So sorry for your
loss. Know you and your family are in our
thoughts and prayers.*



Fondly, Galo & Jo-Ann Emerson

Jo-Ann & Galo Emerson - January 17, 2017 at 05:46 PM

JW

“ *Dear Cliff and family,
Michael and I are so very sorry to hear and
read about the loss of your brother. He has
gone to a better place.
God bless you and your family today and
everyday*



julie and michsel Warrington - January 17, 2017 at 05:36 PM

TM

“ *I am forever grateful for all that Roger has done for myself and my
family. He was such a gentleman. Hugs up, Trish McCarron*

Trish McCarron - January 17, 2017 at 05:26 PM

RI

“ Thank you Roger, for not only being a mentor, but more importantly, being a friend to Becky and I. I will forever cherish all the memories I have of you, and I am truly honored to have been able to know you, and have the privilege of being able to work alongside of you. You were a support system when I needed it, and were able to supply me with a laugh when I needed it. Rest In Peace my friend... We will always love you and remember you.



Ricky Nicholas III - January 17, 2017 at 04:55 PM