



Edward J. Szarek

October 5, 1962 - September 30, 2021

Edward J. Szarek, a retired firefighter/paramedic from Arlington Heights, Illinois, passed to eternal life on Thursday, September 30, 2021 at the age of 58 after a long, strong fought battle with pancreatic cancer. Ed was a current resident of Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin.

He is survived by his wife of 32 years, Donna Szarek (Holman); his children, Christopher Greg and Jonathon Edward Szarek and his grandson, Andrew Christopher Szarek.

Ed was born in Chicago on October 5, 1962 to Thaddeus and Jean Szarek. He was a firefighter/paramedic for most of his adult life. He was also an Air Force Veteran, being trained as a fireman during his military career. Ed went on to earn his Associates degree in Fire Science as a civilian.

Ed was a devoted father and husband, who loved fishing and being able to have his own special place in the Northwoods of Wisconsin. Ed enjoyed helping his friends and neighbors whenever he could and found it hard to say no to anyone who needed help. He loved to build and created a beautiful homestead for he and his wife over the years. Ed will be very deeply missed by family and those touched with his eagerness to help and his special humor that he attributed to his firefighting family.

Ed was given the most compassionate and loving care from family, friends and above all, nurses and doctors. As an expression of sympathy in lieu of flowers, Ed's family asks that you make a donation to your favorite charity or any organization that supports nursing and family care for cancer patients.

Visitation will be from 10:00 – 11:00 AM on Tuesday, October 5, 2021 at Bolger Funeral Home – Woodruff Chapel, followed by a Funeral Service at 11:00 AM.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 5. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Bolger Cremation & Funeral Services - Woodruff Chapel
1212 First Avenue
(mailing address P.O. Box 40, Woodruff WI 54568)
Woodruff, WI 54568
(715) 356-6006
bolgerfuneral@gmail.com
<https://www.bolgerfuneral.com>

Funeral Service

OCT 5. 11:00 AM (CT)

Bolger Cremation & Funeral Services - Woodruff Chapel
1212 First Avenue
(mailing address P.O. Box 40, Woodruff WI 54568)
Woodruff, WI 54568
(715) 356-6006
bolgerfuneral@gmail.com
<https://www.bolgerfuneral.com>

Tribute Wall

PB

“ Dear Donna, words are difficult at these times but know that we love you and your dear family. We wish for His peace to surround you and that your memories with your loving husband overtake your grief. We are so blessed to be your neighbors and always enjoy spending time with you playing games and sitting by the lake. Ed's smile and willingness to help are things we will always remember and treasure. We love you and will continue to lift you and your family to Lord. I enclosed two photos from this summer when you spent time with your grandson Andrew.

God Bless,
Paul & Donna Bratonja



Paul Bratonja - October 05, 2021 at 04:15 PM

TS

“ I am truly saddened by this news. I enjoyed the time working with Ed in the last few years. A wonderful person to get to know. The epitome of a class act!

Tim & Tracey Schuetz

Tim Schuetz - October 05, 2021 at 08:44 AM

TW

“ To Donna, family and friends,

Having had the privilege to work side by side with Eddie for over twenty years, few will ever know the impact made on others by him, a friend, a firefighter and a leader. Eddie, your humor will not ever be forgotten, as well as your dedication to those who knew you best. Our hearts are broken by your journey completed, but we will always carry you in our memories until we meet again...

*Tom & Suse Whitt
Hayward, WI*

Thomas J Whitt - October 04, 2021 at 05:35 PM

HF

“ *Ed is my uncle whom I certainly did not get to know well enough. Being so close in age, the times my husband and I did have the pleasure to share with him and Donna we enjoyed and will cherish. Ed was always light hearted, witty and kind but most of all was so very in love with his wife, (my Aunt Donna), and his family and never did I hear him say a harsh word about anyone or anything.*

God has called him home to do his good works, live in peace and pain free. We will miss you.

*Love
Hope and Thomas Fleuter*

Hope Fleuter - October 04, 2021 at 10:58 AM



“ *Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Edward J. Szarek.*



October 04, 2021 at 10:48 AM

“ Dear Donna, Christopher, Jonathon, and Antoinette,

As the Director of Alumni Relations Emeritus at Saint Viator High School, I offer you the sympathy and prayers of the Saint Viator/Sacred Heart of Mary community. Our hearts go out to you as you move through your journey of grief. You are in our prayers as you share the stories, laugh and cry, and find ways to celebrate Ed's life and the love you shared.

We are certainly proud to “claim” Ed, a “devoted father and husband....who enjoyed helping his friends and neighbors,” and who served his country in the Air Force and his community as a firefighter/paramedic, as an alumnus. I am reminded of a reading from the Book of Sirach.

*Let us praise an illustrious man,
faithful to his family and friends, strong in his love.
At peace in his heart and his world,
he has left us his good name, and we recount his life of
praiseworthy deeds.*

*A generous man his good works will never be forgotten.
Among his family and friends remains a rich inheritance born of
him....*

His name lives on from generation to generation.

We gather to sing his praises.

We proclaim his wisdom and love of life all our days.

We want you to know that Saint Viator will remember Ed and celebrate the fact that Ed continues to be a member of our community. In October we will send you information about our annual Alumni Memorial Mass, which will be celebrated on Sunday, November 7, hopefully in person at Saint Viator. Either this October, or in 2022, a small plaque with Ed's name will be placed on our wall in the chapel along with the names of other deceased alumni from Saint Viator and Sacred Heart of Mary. Also, Ed's name will be listed in the "In Memoriam" section of the winter issue of our news

magazine, A Lion for Life.

*May memories of Ed and the love you shared comfort you!
May the knowledge that Ed lives on in your goodness give you
peace and hope!*

*Take care and God bless you with those gifts you most need!
Judith*

*Judith Wampach Amberg
Saint Viator High School Director of Alumni Relations Emeritus*

Judith Amberg - October 03, 2021 at 07:56 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the
family of Edward J. Szarek.*

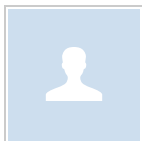


October 03, 2021 at 07:30 PM



“ *My heartfelt sorrow to Ed's family and friends.
The heavens have gained a wonderful soul.*

Amelia Ohl - October 02, 2021 at 06:02 PM



“ *Celestial Love was purchased for the family of
Edward J. Szarek.*



October 01, 2021 at 04:23 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Edward J. Szarek.



October 01, 2021 at 01:38 PM