



Tom Karkau

February 1, 1948 - April 30, 2021

Tom Karkau passed away on Friday April 30, 2021 following a brief illness. He was born in North Tonawanda on February 1, 1948, the son of the late Donald and Betty (Turner) Karkau.

Tom was a graduate of Niagara University and worked for the Western New York Law Center.

He liked working with the latest technology, an amateur videographer, he created videos for NTHS Drama Club performances and the choral department's Cabarets. He always found working with the kids to be rewarding and fun.

Tom took pleasure in spending time with his wife, camping, walking, going out for dinner or just talking and sharing life's ups and downs. He adored his children and delighted in their accomplishments. He felt it was a blessing to spend time with his 5 granddaughters, taking them on adventures or just hanging out.

Beloved husband of Theresa (nee Wasieczko) Karkau; loving father of Sandra Karkau-Coffta and Andrew (Kristen) Karkau; devoted grandfather of Charlotte, Evelyn and Olivia Coffta, Norah, and Marie Karkau; brother of Jill Karkau; brother-in-law of Paul (Paula) Wasieczko, late George (Debbie) Wasieczko and Ann (Steve) Heuer; also survived by loving nieces, nephews and great-nephews.

Visitation will be on Saturday May 15th, 2021 in the WATTENGEL Funeral Home, 533 Meadow Drive, North Tonawanda from 11 am to 1 PM.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to Roswell Park Cancer Institute or the charity of one's choice.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 15. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Wattengel Funeral Home (Meadow Drive)

533 Meadow Drive

North Tonawanda, NY 14120

(716) 693-0440

wattengelfh@gmail.com

<https://www.wattengel.com>

Tribute Wall



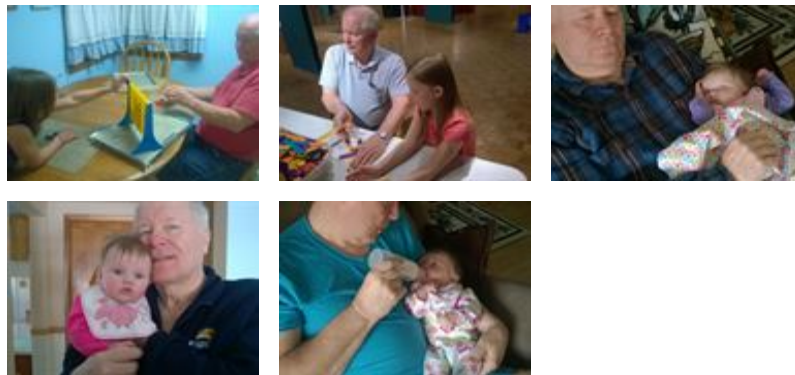
“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Tom Karkau.* ”



May 13, 2021 at 03:59 PM



“ *132 files added to the album Life Tributes* ”



Wattengel Funeral Home - May 13, 2021 at 03:19 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album* ”



Michele Parise - May 12, 2021 at 09:26 AM

DK

“ I remember Tom as a tremendously personable individual who liked to solve problems. The reports from his time tracking system were key to providing a level of stability to managing the finances, and I know the Law Center really appreciated that.

Tom definitely enjoyed working at the Law Center. Its mission spoke to him, and the people energized him. His Law Center family was the perfect complement to his already-terrific life.

Mostly though, he really loved his family. He spoke in such glowing terms of them in nearly every conversation I ever had with him; after awhile I felt fortunate enough to know them as well.

He will be missed.

-David Kraus, NuLevel Strategies

David J Kraus - May 11, 2021 at 01:59 PM



“ Tranquil Seas was purchased for the family of Tom Karkau.



May 05, 2021 at 02:12 PM

“ Western New York Law Center (WNYLC) remembering Tom at our Staff Meeting 5/4/2021

Some staff statements of remembrance of Tom:

- We took some time to remember Tom and share memories of him with the Law Center and be together in our remembrance of him.*
- Tom was officially Employee #2 of the Law Center and had a lot of dedication to the Law Center.*
- The TIME system that Tom built has been used by many states throughout the country.*
- Tom was happy being with us and working with us at the Law Center – He considered the Law Center as part of his extended family. He had a life well lived.*
- We wanted to celebrate his life because of his dedication, his thoughts of us as fellow employees, and the great memories that we all have of him and the ways he touched our lives.*
- He loved his family, and would try to bring his family and grand kids around the office and to the Law Center picnics, who would always bring joy and happiness to the gatherings. He loved others' kids that were in and involved in the office. He focused on family, and to him family was everything. He was incredibly devoted.*
- There were a lot of memories of his humor.*
- Tom was always full of encouragement for those around him, and always willing to help and support everyone.*
- Always wanted to support others, and help us realize that supporting others is something to be proud of.*
- The stories about Tom helped emphasize that he could make a connection with everyone. He was always willing to help.*
- Tom requested that, instead of flowers or anything else we would send him, we should make a donation to the Matt Urban Center – always looking out for and trying to help others above himself.*
- Tom's presence will be felt within the Law Center for a long time.*
- It will be difficult for us to continue working in the Law Center without his presence.*

We will miss him.

WNYLC

Joseph Kelemen - May 05, 2021 at 01:37 PM