



Michael William O'Shaughnessy

February 19, 1961 - September 08, 2025

Michael William O'Shaughnessy, 64 of Sea Girt, NJ and Juno Beach, FL, passed away peacefully at home on the morning of September 8th after a brief but courageous battle with linitis plastica, a rare form of gastric cancer.

Michael was born in Brooklyn, the oldest child of Michael 'Buddy' and Elizabeth 'Betty' O'Shaughnessy. Michael, along with his two younger sisters, was raised in Belle Harbor, NY. He was a graduate of St. Francis de Sales and attended Archbishop Molloy as a freshman, before the family moved to Howell in 1976. Michael then attended Christian Brothers Academy where he excelled on the hardwood and played a pivotal role in the Colts' 1979 basketball state championship. He was a proud alum of Upsala College class of 1983. After a year in Manhattan, he joined his father Buddy at Urner Barry Publications in Toms River. With Buddy as his mentor, Michael became well-versed in the protein markets while specializing in poultry. During his 30 plus years at Urner Barry, Michael rose in the ranks from a market reporter to Senior Vice President before retiring in 2018. He was revered by many in the industry and truly valued the relationships he forged with his esteemed colleagues and clients.

Michael met his wife Kara of nearly 32 years at Bar Anticipation on a Sunday afternoon in April of 1991. Their two families bonded as quickly as they did and they were married in 1993 at St. Catharine Church. Together they raised their three children with the same deeply held values by which they were taught - faith, respect, integrity and love for one another. Michael treasured coaching his sons in little league and basketball, while he was his daughter's number one fan on the soccer sidelines and supporter of her art. He always stressed to them the importance of not wasting their God given abilities. Many hours were spent being both a loyal fan and outspoken critic of his beloved sports teams - the Yankees, Knicks, and Giants. Despite their often-abysmal performance, he was a longtime NYG season ticket-holder and slowly learned to accept that the tailgate may be the best part of the game. After all, he was a New Yorker at heart, but one who was elated to have ended up at the Jersey Shore. Like many of his Irish relatives, Michael was a great storyteller, even if some stories did not warrant repeating. Those who knew him well and in the right atmosphere also knew he could surprise you with his dance moves.

Retirement offered Michael more time to do the things he loved. Not one for elaborate trips, attire or affairs, Michael preferred the simpler things in life. Some of his happiest days were spent on the water, reeling in a fish or cruising on the Ava K or Burette. He was a member of Manasquan River Golf Club and recently became a member at Tequesta Country Club. Over the years, he strengthened his golf game, enjoying the opportunity to connect with both new friends and old. He answered to many nicknames - O'Sh, Porgy, Miguel, Chicken Man and his most recent moniker, Batman. An early riser turned stay-at-home dog dad, Michael was often accompanied by his two beloved pups, Dublin and Seamus. Michael relished time with his family and friends with all his heart. He always penciled in the dates for his CBA and Upsala reunions. Like his visits up to Brooklyn and Breezy Point, the laughter was endless, and the memories were

legendary.

Michael's strong Catholic faith and trust in God carried him through life. He was an active parishioner at St. Catharine Church in Spring Lake as well as St. Patrick's in Palm Beach Gardens. Throughout his battle with cancer, Michael held an unwavering faith in God's plan. Both he and his family found great peace in the promise of eternal life. To Michael, spending time with his family and friends brought him utmost joy. He will be remembered most as a devoted husband, father, brother, uncle, cousin and friend – never without his quick wit and baby blue eyes.

Michael was predeceased by his parents, Betty and Buddy, and his nephew Declan Cuozzo. He is survived by his wife Kara, his son Luke & fiancé Danielle Gardner, Michael Xavier "Max", and daughter Ava Kathryn; his sisters Joanne O'Shaughnessy (husband Matt Lewis) and Elizabeth Cuozzo, and his nephews Liam & Finn Cuozzo and Liam Lewis; as well as many dear relatives and countless friends who were like family.

Relatives and friends are invited to a Visitation at O'Brien Funeral Home, Wall, on Sunday, September 14th from 1-5pm. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at St. Catharine's Church, Spring Lake, on Monday, September 15th at 10am, with burial to follow at St. Catharine's Cemetery, Sea Girt.

In lieu of flowers, please donate in Michael's name to either: Tunnels to Towers or Joan Dancy & PALS.