



## Ted (Edward Joseph) Burns, Jr.

May 28, 2023

Ted (Edward Joseph) Burns, Jr. passed away peacefully at home in Glocester, Rhode Island, with his wife and children lovingly by his side on Sunday, May 28, 2023 at the age of 69 after a courageous battle with cancer.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 41 years, Essie Zuraw Burns, and his children Cailie Burns and husband, Steve Munroe of Norwalk, Connecticut, and Colin Burns and his wife, Shamone, and his granddaughter, Savannah of Brockton, Massachusetts, and his canine companion, Luna.

Ted was born Edward Joseph Burns, Jr. on December 24, 1953 to Eleanor and Edward Burns, and from his earliest days was known as Teddy and later Ted, a nickname given by his father. He lived in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, throughout his childhood and attended Saint Raphael Academy and then the University of Rhode Island where he studied environmental science. He dedicated his career to serving the State of Rhode Island and the Department of Environmental Management, Office of Air Resources.

Early in his life, Ted discovered a love of being active outdoors. He enjoyed skiing, sailing in New England waters and the beautiful turquoise Caribbean Sea, playing tennis with his friends and Cailie, kayaking with Essie, hiking with friends, and fishing with his brothers.

Ted was strong-willed and stubborn at times, but he had an enormous heart and found joy in life. His bright blue eyes and megawatt smile would light up when surrounded by family and friends while enjoying a craft beer, a Patriots game or taking in a live concert. He was kind, clever, and had a fun spirited soul. Always loving a party and never needing an excuse to have a good time, Ted's stories are some of the most amazing most people would ever hear.

Travel was always an interest of his and he was fortunate to adventure with his family. He and Essie found a sense of peace when visiting Sedona, Arizona, and he rocked out to incredible playlists while driving the Pacific Highway from Washington State to San Diego, California. Visits to Vermont were some of his favorites, and most recently he saw orca whales while exploring Kenai Fjords National Park and served as co-pilot on a glacier landing flight in Denali National Park.

Ted cared so deeply for the people around him. From coaching recreational soccer and basketball to the Ponaganset High School women's tennis team for a decade, and watching Cailie and Colin succeed in their respective athletic endeavors, he was champion for so many. His pride shined brightly when sharing in the accomplishments of his children and his beloved granddaughter.

He will be remembered for all the heart which he shared with his friends and family.

Ted leaves his mother, Eleanor Burns of Dighton, Massachusetts. He also leaves his siblings: Alan Burns, David Burns, AnneMarie (Burns) Murphy, Suzanne (Burns) Connors, and Michael Burns; his Zuraw family in-law siblings, his Burns in-laws, and many cousins. He was predeceased by his father, Edward Joseph Burns.

The Burns family is deeply grateful for the kindness of friends near and far, and to HopeHealth for their care in his last weeks. The staff was incredible and Essie, Cailie and Colin are forever thankful.

Relatives and friends are invited to visiting hours on Wednesday, June 7 from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. at Winfield & Sons Funeral Home, 571 West Greenville Road, Scituate, RI 02857. Ted will be honored in a celebration of life on June 24.

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate gifts to support glioblastoma research through the Ted Burns Memorial Fund for Cancer Research (<https://go.brown.edu/TedBurnsMemorialGifts>) or HopeHealth Hospice & Palliative Care, 1085 North Main Street, Providence, RI 02904.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 7. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Winfield & Sons Funeral Home and Crematory  
571 West Greenville Road (Route 116)  
Scituate, RI 02857  
(401) 647-5421

# Tribute Wall

HM

“ My condolences to the family of Ted. We went to school together at St. Joseph’s grammar school and the University of Rhode Island. He was so full of life! The world will be poorer without him. I will keep you in my prayers.

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**Hope McKiernan** - June 12, 2023 at 08:03 PM

MM

“ Our sympathy to all the Burns family on the death of Ted. I do not recall him visiting his relatives in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, but we remember him from our visit to Pawtucket . We remember him as being a friendly and nice young fellow. After his suffering from cancer, we can all rest assured he is at peace now and will continue to care for you all from heaven.

*J.R. and Mary Mac Dougall*

*Nova Scotia*

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**mary macdougall** - June 08, 2023 at 02:54 PM

KT

“ Essie, Cailie and Colin: we are so sorry for your loss. We will cherish our memories of Teddy’s quick wit and great smile. He had us laughing so many times back in the day when we were new neighbors and new transplants from Pawtucket! Being long time family friends, we will always have our great memories! Love, Kevin & Doreen.

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**Kevin & Doreen Tracey** - June 07, 2023 at 08:00 PM

SG

“ I haven't seen the Burn's family in some time, but I remember Ted as upbeat, kind and witty. We sure shared some fun times together. I remember how attentive and loving he was to Essie, Cailie and Colin. My heartfelt condolences to all of his family. His passing is so sad, I am so sorry.  
Sue Geisser

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**Susan Geisser** - June 07, 2023 at 12:22 PM

RC

“ Esther and family, you are in my thoughts and prayers. I am so sorry for your loss.

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**Robin Crane** - June 07, 2023 at 10:39 AM

RH

“ Essie, Calie, Colon & family.  
Our deepest sympathy to you & your family.  
We had a lot of laughs with Ted. Cherish all the wonderful memories. He will be sadly missed.

*Roger & Cathy Harrington*



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**Roger & Cathy Harrington** - June 07, 2023 at 08:48 AM

JC

“ My condolences to the Burns family and sending prayers to all. Ted was a great friend over the past 30 + years at DEM. However, I first knew Alan first as we were botany lab partners at URI. We could never understand why the professor did not want to participate in the Friday noon club just outside our window. Essie, I came to learn from Ted that we are indirectly related from family in Ansonia, Connecticut. Paul "Butch" Schumacher Jr. was my Uncle and Marty Stahl a cousin by marriage. Prayers to you and the family.

*Jeff Crawford*

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**Jeff Crawford** - June 06, 2023 at 07:03 AM

AC

“ Too many laughs to count at Rally Point after tennis. He was a blast to hang out with after the match. So fun! My sincere condolences.  
*Alan A. Calci*

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**Alan A. Calci** - June 05, 2023 at 08:31 PM

PA

“ My sincerest condolences.

*I worked with Ted for many years at the RIDEM. He was a great worker and great person, and all of us at DEM are sad that he has passed.*

*Paul*

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**Paul** - June 05, 2023 at 09:36 AM

LC

“ To Suzanne and Family: Such fond memories of practically living at your house for years. I loved the chaos of your large family and always felt welcome by all. I am so sorry for Teddy's passing. Prayers to you and your family.

*Leslie J. Caron*

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**Leslie J. Caron** - June 05, 2023 at 07:44 AM

MA

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Marie** - June 04, 2023 at 06:20 PM

MT

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Marie and Tina** - June 04, 2023 at 06:18 PM

RS

“ I was fortunate to have played tennis with Ted at Rally Point and share a beer and great conversation post match. I'm sure his warm personality and sense of humor will be missed 🙏❤️

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**Rick Smith** - June 03, 2023 at 08:58 AM

SM

“ *Esther and Family,  
It hurts our hearts to hear of Ted's passing. We are so sorry and  
thinking of you during this difficult time.*

*Love,  
Dixie and Steven Marsella*

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**Steven Marsella** - June 03, 2023 at 08:15 AM

SD

“ *We sure had a lot of laughs, Ted. We love you and will miss you so  
much. ❤️❤️ RIP, Old friend. Love, Chet & Mo*



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**Stephen & Maureen Delaney** - June 02, 2023 at 07:20 PM

KT

“ *Esther and family...so sorry for you loss.💔🙏 Love, Karen Trudel*

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**Karen Trudel** - June 02, 2023 at 02:16 PM

KG

“ *He had a great spirit and was beloved by those who knew him. Best  
wishes to Ess and family. We're here for you now and in the future.*

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**Kai Goto** - June 02, 2023 at 02:15 PM