



Gregory B. Russ

July 14, 1970 - July 5, 2025

Gregory Brian Russ, 54, passed away suddenly on Saturday, July 5, 2025, at Advocate Condell Medical Center in Libertyville, Illinois. He was born July 14, 1970, in Chicago Heights, Illinois, and was a long-time resident of Mundelein. A 1988 graduate of Mundelein High School, he played on the tennis and golf teams. Greg was a proud member of the Alpha Delta Phi fraternity at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, where he received his bachelor's degree in marketing in 1992. In his younger years, Greg competed in competitive waterskiing tournaments and won first place in the 1991 Illinois Men's novice ski jumping competition. After college, he held a variety of sales positions in California, Colorado, and Illinois. Most recently, he was a sales representative at Service Experts, a beloved bartender at Downing's Tavern in Libertyville, and a lector at St. Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Parish in Mundelein. Proud dad that he was, Greg will be remembered as the most wonderful and involved father, rarely missing a game, and coaching all the sports that he could for his children's teams, including T-ball, soccer, basketball, and lacrosse. He enjoyed golfing, trivia, audio books, cooking, entertaining, and laughing at his own dad jokes. A true Chicago sports fan, he endured many long seasons, rooting for the Sox and Da Bears. He will be dearly missed by his family and by all who knew him.

Greg is survived by his loving wife of 22 years, Colleen (nee Downing) Russ; adoring children, Margaret "Maggie," Thomas "Tom," and Bridget Russ; parents, Steve and Kathy Russ; a sister, Diane (Bryan McGlothlin) Cato, and

by numerous brothers- and sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, dear friends, and devoted family dog, Josie. He was preceded in death by his parents-in-law, Ann and Russ Downing.

A visitation will be held from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, July 10, 2025, at Burnett-Dane Funeral Home, 120 W. Park Ave. (Rt. 176, one block west of Milwaukee Ave.) in Libertyville. A visitation will also be held Saturday, July 12, 2025, at St. Mary of the Annunciation Church, 22333 Erhart Rd. in Mundelein at 9:00 a.m., followed by mass at 11:00 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial donation made out to Colleen Russ to be used as an education fund for his children. For more information on the donation process, please call 847-362-3009. You may share a memory at www.burnettdane.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 10. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Burnett-Dane Funeral Home
120 West Park Avenue
Libertyville, IL 60048
(847) 362-3009

Visitation

JUL 12. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary of the Annunciation
22333 W. Erhart Raod
Mundelein, IL 60060
<http://stmaryfc.org>

Funeral Mass

JUL 12. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary of the Annunciation
22333 W. Erhart Raod
Mundelein, IL 60060
<http://stmaryfc.org>

Tribute Wall

JH

“ We met many years ago when our kids attended the Prairie Crossing Charter school located in the neighborhood that our family resides. Sherry befriended Colleen and she kept telling me that we should get together with the Russes. She thought Greg and I had a lot in common and would get along well. For years I'd jokingly told her, I had enough friends already and was always skeptical of her 'friends' suggestions despite her having a pretty good track record in that department.

I still remember the first night we all got together. We ended up back at our house and played some darts in the basement.

Within 2 minutes, Colleen had put a couple darts into the drywall. Greg razzed her and I was dying as I would have done the same to Sherry.

Over the course of the evening Colleen and Sherry probably put 8 darts in the wall. The banter was priceless and I knew we had friends for life that evening.

As the friendship grew, our families started going on yearly camping trips together. At one point we were doing as many as 4 trips per summer along with our friends the Gilberts and the Fullertons. We always looked forward to these trips and reveled in how jealous other campers were of our group t shirts. Long live S'more Stupidity!

Our destinations were always different but the playbook was always the same...

Jon & Greg would always get super aggravated setting up their respective tents and most likely yell at their kids (about nothing in particular)

Greg would snore so loud at night that he'd keep the entire campground awake and then tell us he slept like a baby in the morning.

We'd go on a long hikes and someone would end up in tears - thus

the slogan "It's not a hike until somebody cries"

...and it would always rain on the last day so everything would get soaking wet just in time to go home.

We always questioned why we kept doing this to ourselves, but deep down we knew that the fun FAR outweighed the bad and we couldn't wait to do it all over again next year.

Well our kids grew up and those trips became few and far between. So many incredible memories that I , and my family, will cherish forever.

As a guy indifferent on making new friends, Greg quickly became one of my best.

I admired him so much for his dedication to his incredible family, Colleen, Maggie, Tom, and Bridget. He was so proud of you all and he truly set the bar high for husbands/fathers. I love all of you and am so grateful that our families were able to grow up together.

I sure will miss laughing with Greg over a couple beers, texting ridiculous memes back and forth during the middle of a random workday, and getting together to watch my Hoosiers destroy his Illini.

I'm pretty sure he knows how much I loved him. I just wish I had one more chance to let him know. I sure will miss you buddy. I'll see you again someday. Get the dartboard ready.

I love you Greg.

Jon (and the rest of the Halvos)

Jon Halvorsen - July 14, 2025 at 02:55 PM

BF

“ *Bailee & Taiylor Egbert & family purchased the "God Has You" 21" Sonnet Chime for the family of Gregory B. Russ.*



Bailee & Taiylor Egbert & family - July 11, 2025 at 06:32 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Gregory B. Russ.*



July 11, 2025 at 01:43 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gregory B. Russ.*

July 11, 2025 at 01:43 PM

TJ

“ *Tricia J. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Gregory B. Russ.*



Tricia J. - July 11, 2025 at 01:42 PM

RK

“ Rich Hlava and Jeanine Klaus purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Gregory B. Russ.



Rich Hlava and Jeanine Klaus - July 10, 2025 at 04:47 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Gregory B. Russ.



July 10, 2025 at 03:20 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gregory B. Russ.

July 10, 2025 at 03:20 PM

MA

“ Mary Ellen, MiMi & Mary Ann planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gregory B. Russ.

Mary Ellen, MiMi & Mary Ann - July 10, 2025 at 12:15 PM

MF

“ I am so sorry to hear about Greg's passing. He was a great fraternity brother. I think about him with fondness. What I remember the most about him - he was always smiling. The smile came with genuine kindness. Praying for your family.

Matt Fagin - July 10, 2025 at 08:42 AM

MD

“ Man-this is a tough one. So shocked to hear about Greg. He was the ultimate gentleman-I will forever cherish our Diamond lake day skiing well after dark and hanging out way too late on weekday evenings! Miss those laughs and will miss Greg!

Mike David - July 09, 2025 at 10:50 PM

DB

“ Don, Bobbi & Family; Darren, Sandy, Bria purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Gregory B. Russ.



Don, Bobbi & Family; Darren, Sandy, Bria - July 09, 2025 at 10:40 PM

DB

“ Don, Bobbi & Family; Darren, Sandy, Bria planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gregory B. Russ.

Don, Bobbi & Family; Darren, Sandy, Bria - July 09, 2025 at 10:40 PM

JE

“ Jean E. purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Gregory B. Russ.



Jean E. - July 09, 2025 at 05:12 PM

JE

“ Jean E. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gregory B. Russ.

Jean E. - July 09, 2025 at 05:12 PM

MA

“ Mary A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gregory B. Russ.

Mary A. - July 09, 2025 at 03:58 PM

TP

“ Greg will be missed. I always enjoyed catching up with him whenever I saw him throughout the years. I can still picture him flying off the jump ramp in his water skis and graduation cap and gown. My heart goes out to the entire family.

Tom P - July 09, 2025 at 02:43 PM

TB

“ We only knew Greg as a kid from our experiences at Diamond Lake gatherings. Greg must have been only 12-13 years old, but he was a friendly, outgoing kid. And unlike other kids his age he took hosting duties seriously, making sure everyone had whatever they needed. I recall Jan and I talking on the way home about “Steve and Kathy’s amazing kids”. We feel like we did get to know him as an adult and family man through regular updates whenever we’d get together with you guys. The world is a better place for having him during his too-brief 54 years. We wish we’d have had a chance to get to know him better.

Please know our thoughts are with you and Kathy during this difficult time.

Tom and Jan

Tom Braakman - July 09, 2025 at 11:56 AM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Gregory B. Russ.*



July 09, 2025 at 11:23 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gregory B. Russ.*



July 09, 2025 at 10:39 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gregory B. Russ.

July 09, 2025 at 10:39 AM



“ Love, Morgan Stoffel purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Gregory B. Russ.



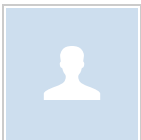
Love, Morgan Stoffel - July 08, 2025 at 07:29 PM



“ My sincere condolences to the entire Russ family. I knew Greg through his sister Diane and his FB page. He always struck me as a kind, funny, and loyal man. You could tell how proud he was of his family in every post he made. May your memories bring you comfort.

-Betsy Westover

Betsy L Westover - July 08, 2025 at 07:27 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gregory B. Russ.



July 08, 2025 at 03:02 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gregory B. Russ.

July 08, 2025 at 03:02 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gregory B. Russ.



July 08, 2025 at 02:08 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gregory B. Russ.

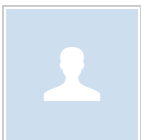
July 08, 2025 at 09:50 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Gregory B. Russ.



July 07, 2025 at 07:18 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gregory B. Russ.

July 07, 2025 at 07:18 PM