



DAVID PARRY

October 29, 1956 - June 17, 2020

Just days before his death on Wednesday morning, Dave Parry blasted Molly Hatchet through the speakers beside his bed. “Put on Flirtin’ with Disaster,” he directed his son Adam. The house shook.

Cancer wouldn’t get the last word. Dave would.

Dave was a fiercely independent rule breaker. He questioned authority, drove his car fast, and could tell you the right way to do anything, whether you asked for his advice or not.

He was born David Parry, the son of Helen and Gil, and brother to Linda and Mark, with whom he raised hell. He spent most of his life as a resident of Clifton, NJ, where he met his wife Doreen and raised two sons, Adam and Aaron.

Dave said he didn’t want to dilute the meaning of the words “I love you,” so he used them sparingly. But Dave wholeheartedly loved his family, including his grandkids—Landon and Jaxie—who spent summers splashing in the pool beside him.

Dave loved nature. He spent the last years of his life creating his dream home with Doreen on land they shared with bald eagles, nesting turtles, and bears lumbering across the backyard.

Dave loved his friends, who brought out the best in him, and he, in them.

He never realized the difference he made in so many of our lives. To Dave, it was just what you do. Be there. Show up for people. But in these final weeks, as his phone rang off the hook, and friend after friend appeared at his door (even a pandemic couldn’t keep them away), Dave started to see the impact he’d made.

He was a dedicated employee of the Port Authority of NJ for 30 years, a committed Scout leader for his sons and their friends, and a lifelong NY sports fan, especially the NY

Giants. He was an avid golfer, a fearless snowboarder, and a talented landscaper.

The world was more beautiful and exciting because he was in it.

Dave lives on in his wife, Doreen Verones-Parry; his sister, Linda Parry Carney; his adult sons, Adam Parry and Aaron Parry; his daughters-in-law, Maren Vespia and Amanda Parry; his grandkids, Landon and Jacqueline Parry; his sisters-in-law; nieces and nephews; and the countless plants he grew throughout his life.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to protect the people and places Dave loved:

The National Down Syndrome Society is the leading human rights organization for all individuals with Down syndrome.

This charity works to create a world in which all people with Down syndrome have the opportunity to enhance their quality of life, realize their life aspirations, and become valued members of welcoming communities.

Based in New York and founded in 1979, the National Down Syndrome Society's activities include shaping and advocating for improved public policy, increased public resources and services for people with Down syndrome; improving educational opportunities for individuals with Down syndrome; advancing basic, clinical and applied research; and raising public awareness.

A meaningful and smart investment: This charity receives the highest (four star) rating on Charity Navigator and GuideStar's Platinum Seal of Transparency.

New Jersey Conservation Foundation is on a mission to preserve land and natural resources throughout New Jersey for the benefit of all.

The foundation protects strategic lands, promotes strong land use policies, and forges partnerships through education and assistance programs to achieve conservation goals.

Since 1960, New Jersey Conservation Foundation has protected over 125,000 acres of natural areas and farmland in New Jersey – from the Highlands to the Pine Barrens to the Delaware Bay, from farms to forests to urban and suburban parks.

You can explore recent conservation projects in places you love.

Comments



“ Just heard of the passing of Dave. Please except my condolences . First time I met DAVE, was at Newark airport. He was working snow duty for the Port Authority. We had a lot in common. Dave was always a gentleman, & a caring man. I have some great fun stories while working with Dave at Port Newark to. I was so happy for him when he said, he was going to retire, & do whatever he wants to do. The family should know that we at the Port Authority loved your Husband / father / grandfather. We all miss you our brother Dave. RIP DAVE, & see you one day on the other side, or on the golf course or doing some gardening. PS: Never forget that corvette that he had. He loved it. Slainte!

Kevin Malter - August 18, 2020 at 12:51 PM



“ It's very difficult to find the right words to express how much Dave meant to us. He was a golf buddy if my husband's, a devoted husband to my dear, dear friend, the father of 2 boys he was so proud of and the grandpa to 2 adorable children and a loving father-in-law. But you know all that... What you might not know is how much he meant to us. He was always willing to support, listen, and help in any way he could. Dave was a true & loyal friend. We miss him... God bless you, Dave & God bless your beautiful family.
Carol & Ed Montague

Carol Montague - July 09, 2020 at 10:36 AM



“ Dave was a pleasure to work with and to know. He liked the people he worked with and loved his family. He loved to talk about snowboardi g with his boys and share his knowledge about landscaping. He will be sorely missed by all that knew him.

Chuck King - July 08, 2020 at 07:10 PM



“ Dave was one of the nicest people I ever met. I worked with him at Port Newark for a very long time. He was the kind of person you want in a fox hole with you. God Bless You Dave. Linda Hart Varady

Linda (Hart) Varady - July 05, 2020 at 11:39 AM



“ Linda (Hart) Varady lit a candle in memory of DAVID PARRY



Linda (Hart) Varady - July 05, 2020 at 11:36 AM



“ I met Dave in jr, high, he was always a fun guy and a gentleman. Later in life he was my sons scout leader, fond memories for my son and I, miss ya buddy. Love and peace to Doreen and the boys, Joe Radosti

joseph radosti - June 26, 2020 at 09:42 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Jim Komsa - June 22, 2020 at 10:32 PM



“ I will never forget you

Billy bag of donuts - June 25, 2020 at 10:35 PM



“ Rest easy Dave. You will be missed. My condolences to your family. ~Christie



christie - June 22, 2020 at 09:14 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



JAMES KOMSA - June 22, 2020 at 07:40 AM



“ Dave,
You were a mentor, father figure and brother all rolled up in one. I appreciate the time we spent with Troop 7, as both a snotty kid and then as a leader. You were funny, smart and defiant all in one. You always knew what to say with that grin afterwards. You will be missed. May your light shine on Doreen, Adam, Aaron, Maren, Amanda, Landon & Jacqueline.

Tim St. Clair - June 20, 2020 at 01:08 PM



“ Dear Parry Family,

I send my deepest condolences - Dave was an outstanding man who had so many excellent qualities. Chief among them was his desire and ability to help others. I am forever in his debt for all of the selfless assistance he has given me. Dave has been such a positive influence on so many of us, leading and living by example. Passing way too soon, but extremely grateful to have known him.

I am also very grateful to Doreen and Family for sharing Dave with so so many of us and I wish you peace and comfort during this very difficult time.

Fondly,
Maurice Linehan

Maurice Linehan - June 19, 2020 at 08:44 PM



“ I will miss David. I moved from Clifton to Wilmington NC around the same time Dave moved from Clifton. When I visited NJ about a year ago as I left the Allwood circle a car was on my tail horn beeping, lights flashing. What the hell, I pulled over and the driver jumped out It was Dave. Damn. He had a big grin on his face and his hand out. He recognized my car and chased me to a stop. We embraced and spent about 1/2 hour bringing each other up on what was going on in our lives, family etc. I left that impromptu meeting feeling on cloud 9 smiling, smiling and happy that I got stopped by a friend and reconnected once more with the better part of the human experience.
Tony O'Connor

Tony O'Connor - June 19, 2020 at 08:29 PM



“ Doreen and the boys, please know how sorry I am. Although it has been many years, Dave has always been an important part of my life. He gave me wisdom, strength and guidance at a time when it was most critical. He was a role model and a great confidant. He could communicate more with a nod than most people could in a paragraph. You are in my prayers.

Rob Moore - June 19, 2020 at 07:50 PM



“ Dave- After 40 years of knowing you, the memories are too numerous to write here. What I have learned from you is this: if more people acted like you, being selfless by helping others, being courteous, and showing respect to others, the world would be a better place.

There is a void in the world now that you are not in it. Your memory will live on in the actions of the legions of people who you have talked to, influenced, taught, befriended, and loved: family, friends and strangers.

Because of you, I will never refer to dirt as soil.
Take it slow Mary.

Scott Agnoli - June 19, 2020 at 07:27 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Jim Komsa - June 19, 2020 at 07:14 PM



“ We are so sorry to hear of Dave's passing. Mark and I always had a great time while in his company. Please except our condolences to you and the family.

Mark & Sharon Antola

Sharon Antola - June 19, 2020 at 06:56 PM



“ I worked with Dave for thirty years we played golf and had weekends in AC He was Life. I'll miss him.

Randy Gajdzis - June 19, 2020 at 05:39 PM



“ I am so sorry for the loss of your husband, father and brother. Dave was a very special person.

My earliest memories of Dave are of him and my brother Chris playing as little boys during their grade school days at St. Paul's. They stayed good friends over the years. A very caring and thoughtful person, he was always there for Chris during any of our family losses, so I saw him then and know what a wonderful guy he was as an adult. My deepest sympathies. May your favorite memories of him ease your pain. Prayers and peace.

Sharon Hoey Walton

Sharon Hoey Walton - June 19, 2020 at 02:54 PM