



## Gregory James Van Pelt

April 5, 1947 - August 18, 2023

Gregory James Van Pelt passed away peacefully, on August 18, 2023, at his home in the Cleveland area.

Born April 5, 1947, Gregory grew up in Lyndhurst Ohio. Born to George William Van Pelt, and Mary Jane (née Carter) Van Pelt and older brother to Janet and Susan. As a child he was a voracious reader and loved caddying at Acacia Country Club, learning to golf and connecting with others.

Greg attended Ohio University aiming for a degree in journalism, and experienced the May 4, 1970 tragedy at Kent State University as both a writer and observer. The immorality of the war inspired him to become a frequent protester and conscientious objector.

While at OU, he met and married Pauline Lennon and they lived in Athens, Ohio.

In the mid 70's and 80's Greg and his second wife Cindy Volin, made their home in Sante Fe, New Mexico, along the Pecos River. While there, he worked as a reporter, honed his skills as a craftsman, and continued to develop his writer's voice.

In the late 80's he returned home to Cleveland to work with his father, and

care for his mother. In those years, he embraced his talent for writing and passion for justice as a labor arbitrator. Greg was a proud graduate of the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law and a member of the National Academy of Arbitrators. He also enjoyed teaching labor and employment as an adjunct professor at Cleveland State University.

Greg was described by his family, friends, and colleagues as adventurous, enthusiastic, empathetic, and kind. He loved to teach and he loved to learn. He is survived by his partner, Stephanie Cross; sisters, Janet Bannister, (Tom Bannister), and Susan Pearlman, (Eric Pearlman); beloved nieces, Sarah Jane Moreau Haunold (Rex Haunold), Allison Magill (Chris Magill), Jenny Bannister, grandniece, Alyssa Jane Drewlo; and his grandnephews, Carter Charles and Everett Thomas Magill.

Among his fondest memories were sailing on Lake Erie, skiing, golfing, and preparing and enjoying great food. He was an enthusiastic member of the Edgewater Yacht Club, where he shared his passion for sailing with many.

In recent years his love for his partner and his family shone through his extended illness. He was always appreciative of the care and love Stephanie provided.

Greg once wrote, "The great wealth of my life rests in all of you, for which I'm endlessly grateful." His legacy is indeed his love of family and friends, as he sails forever into the waters and the wind, able to sail again, fast and free.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Arrangements entrusted to the Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center, Mentor, OH. Offer condolences at [www.brunners.com](http://www.brunners.com).



# Tribute Wall

TL

“ Greg was an old friend of mine from our years in Santa Fe, NM. I remember when he moved back to Ohio to do something meaningful in his life for a career there. He always stayed in touch on FB after I moved to Florida in 2011. I noticed I hadn't seen his name on comments for a long time and just researched him to find this news. I am saddened to hear, he was such a great man.

Thia Luby - February 24, 2024 at 05:20 PM

SC

I remember Greg from our Brush High days as a member of our group called the Vigilantes which included Rick, Carl, Phil, Cheryl, Bonnie, Kathy and myself. We were known for our Friday night gatherings when we were in search of fun and 3.2 beer. 🍺 I will always remember our antics and Greg's sense of humor. Good to know he had such a full and meaningful life. Condolences to all.

Sally Caldwell - April 05 at 01:02 PM

HJ

“ I met Greg in 2016 at a challenging time in his life. He dealt with adversity in a pleasant and positive manner. He was a warm, energetic person who was happy to share his knowledge to help others. He will be missed.



Howard Kleckley Jr - November 01, 2023 at 07:57 AM