



Martin (Marty) Puussaar

August 3, 1972 - January 29, 2023

Martin (Marty) Puussaar, 50, of Mentor passed away at MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland, on January 29, 2023, after a short illness he valiantly fought.

He was born August 3, 1972 in Cleveland and was a graduate of Eastern Michigan University.

Marty loved his family and had a great sense of humor, always observing what was ironic or comical in any situation. He was a true “Car Guy,” who had amazing knowledge of vehicles, especially his vintage 912 Porsche. Marty liked all things Estonian, a well pressed, button down shirt and old TV shows from the 70’s. He appreciated a well-cut lawn, was an avid camper and enjoyed sharing memes and arguing political stances with his friends on social media. Model boat building was one of his passions, and of the many boats he completed, his most impressive creation was his remote-controlled sailboat, the Fairwind. We will always remember Marty’s great heart, that he was a good friend and neighbor who was always willing to give an encouraging word or help anyone in need.

He is survived by son, Sam Puussaar; daughter, Elmiire “Emmi” Puussaar; mother, Erika Puussaar (nee: Kikut); longtime love, Lynn Lancy; ex-wife, Linda Baily; aunt and Godmother, Silva Butterer; uncle Aksi (Rene) Kikut; close friend, David Baily; faithful canine companion, Riley (Rilo P), and many other loving family members and friends.

Preceding Marty in death was his father, Aavo Puussaar, just this past December.

A Memorial Service to honor his life will be held at 11:00 am Saturday, February 4, 2023 at Faith Lutheran Church, 8125 Mentor Ave, Mentor, OH 44060, immediately followed by a Luncheon to share remembrances at the church social hall.

Memorial contributions may be made to Faith Lutheran Church, (at the address above), or to the Cleveland Estonian Cultural Garden, c/o Treasurer, T. Tubalkain, 4826 Canada Rd, Mantua, OH 44255

Arrangements entrusted to the Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home and Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave, Mentor, OH 44060

Send flowers and offer condolences at www.brunners.com

Previous Events

Memorial Service

FEB 4. 11:00 AM (ET)

Faith Lutheran Church
8125 Mentor Avenue
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 255-2229

Tribute Wall



“ I have so many things I want to say about Marty Puussaar.



I met him through mutual friends around 1995, and I was unsure about my direction. My future wife was going off to Bowling Green. My younger brother was going off to Ohio State. I was still attending Lakeland, taking classes, with no idea what to do next.

Marty is the person who convinced me to get a direction. He had gone off to a little school in Michigan, and said it was far enough way to get a fresh start, close enough to return. When I left Ohio, it was Marty who picked me up and took me to my new chapter.

At college, we explored the campus, and he was my guide then. We biked the campus and woods, we went to trendy college places, we drove back and forth to other cities. We kayaked at a cabin and once almost capsized into a frozen lake. I didn't have a jacket then, and he let me borrow an extra one.

Over the first year, when my girlfriend came to visit, we stayed at Marty's apartment. I couldn't have a car at campus, so he drove mine. I probably saw him every single day of those 2 school years, and he was a rock. This is how I remember Marty Puussaar - as a college kid from the mid-90s.

He was done a year before me and the last drive from college, I was traveling through Cleveland when it hit me — this was it, this was the end of our run together. I said so, and he looked at me and said, “We'll always be friends.”

We were both correct. He returned to Ohio, and I stayed in Michigan. I really only saw him a few more times afterward - in passing, at his wedding, and then at my wedding. We got jobs, then he had kids, then I had kids, and years passed. We kept in touch with phone calls at first, then email, and then suddenly, he popped up on social media.

It was great to hear from him again. We chatted about the old days and made plans to see each other again. I joked that I could finally return his jacket. I didn't know he was sick and was positive we had plenty of time. We did not.

25 years since college, I still play darts on a board Marty gave me. It's hanging next to a souvenir German license plate that Marty gave me. When I tell stories about my college days, it's the years with Marty. Oddly, his jacket is the first thing in my closet. I think about Marty all the time.

I'll really miss you, Marty.

SB

“ Our sincerest condolences to the Puussaar family. We have been, and will continue to keep each and every one of you in our thoughts and prayers during this time of loss. As you continue to heal, please feel free to reach out if we can help in any way at all.

Love,
Sherry and Ernie

Sherry Baker - February 04, 2023 at 10:43 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Martin (Marty) Puussaar.



February 03, 2023 at 05:58 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Martin (Marty) Puussaar.



February 03, 2023 at 03:30 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Martin (Marty) Puussaar.



February 02, 2023 at 05:59 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Martin (Marty) Puussaar.



February 02, 2023 at 05:24 PM

EC

“ *What can I say about Marty Puusaar? He is one of my oldest friends. We met when my parents moved to Mentor in 1976. I think I had just turned four, and he may have still been three. We played in the old neighborhood, were in many classes together at Bellflower, Ridge, and Mentor High School. After classes, we would drive around, and he would make me laugh so hard my stomach would sometimes hurt for days. In recent years, we often fought like cats and dogs over politics, but at the end of the day, he would send me a picture of some crazy old Cadillac he saw that day, or I would send him an article I saw about vintage Porsches, and we would end up chatting on messenger until well past bedtime for a couple of 50 year old guys on a school night. I will really miss him.*

Ed Chou - February 02, 2023 at 02:36 PM

DC

“ *Dear Sam and Emmi,
My deepest sympathy at the loss of your Dad. You are in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. God bless you both and keep your memories close to your hearts.
Love,
Denise Clayton*

Denise Clayton - February 02, 2023 at 12:47 PM

GK

“ *Even as a Bellflower Elementary student, Marty was proud of his Estonian history. I loved many days of shared laughter as Marty's teacher. He was a gift to my life, as well as to the rest of the class. We all will have so many fond memories of how Marty brought a great quality of life to us all.
~ Gail Keesecker*

Gail Keesecker - January 31, 2023 at 06:25 PM

DB

“ *David Baily lit a candle in memory of Martin (Marty) Puusaar*



David Baily - January 31, 2023 at 05:47 PM