



Bart Raymond Saunders

November 29, 1964 - June 3, 2024

Bart Raymond Saunders, aged 59, of Orlando, Florida and Ellicottville, New York, passed away peacefully at home on June 3rd. He was born on November 29th, 1964 in Ridgewood, New Jersey to Mary Jo and Raymond Saunders. At the age of five, he moved to Bradford, Pennsylvania, where he spent his childhood and later graduated from Bradford Area High School in 1982.

Bart pursued higher education at Rollins College in Winter Park, Florida, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in 1986. He was a member of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity where he made many close life-long friends. He went on to obtain his Masters in Public Administration from the University of Central Florida in 1989. Bart's passion for law led him to attend Barry University, where he graduated with a Juris Doctorate cum laude in 2000. During his time at Barry University, he served as an Executive Editor of the Barry Law Review. He became a member of The Florida Bar and was also a member of the Attorneys Title Fund. Bart had a successful career practicing residential and commercial real estate law, handling business disputes and probate cases. He established his own law office, Saunders & Saunders P.A. and made many close friends during his career.

Bart's love story began when he met his wife, Lisa Saunders (née Mancini), at a luncheon in Orlando. Interestingly, fate brought them together again two

months later when they coincidentally dined at the same restaurant. This encounter sparked their relationship, and they were married on November 13, 1993, at the Grand Floridian Resort in Walt Disney World. The location held special significance for both Bart and Lisa, as well as their families. They were married for 30 years and spent many wonderful times together. Together, they had three children: Alexis Grace Saunders, Haley Elizabeth Germain (Kyle), and Sydney Faith Saunders. Bart adored his daughters and cherished the time spent with "his girls", as well as his family and friends.

In his leisure time, Bart enjoyed sailing in the Tampa Bay Area in Florida and on Lake Chautauqua in New York. He also had a passion for skiing and took pride in watching his daughters compete in skiing and snowboarding events along the East Coast. Additionally, Bart loved spending time outside and with his dogs, Olaf and Sven. He also had great musical talents and found joy in playing the piano and guitar and enjoyed sharing music with others.

Above all else, Bart's proudest accomplishment in life was the love he had for his family and friends. He was a loving husband, father, son, brother, uncle, and friend to many. Bart is preceded in death by his parents, Raymond and Mary Jo Saunders (Long). He is survived by his wife, three daughters, brother Robert Saunders (Duane), sister Susan Saunders, and nieces and nephews.

A private graveside interment will take place at Oak Hill Cemetery in Bradford, Pennsylvania, followed by a Celebration of Life to honor Bart's memory in the coming weeks. In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made in any way chosen and are all equally welcome.

Tribute Wall

JE

“ *Joanna and Craig Evans sent a virtual gift in memory of Bart Saunders* ”



Joanna and Craig Evans - June 21, 2024 at 07:46 AM

LP

“ *This beautiful family is near and dear to our hearts. We are thinking of you at this heartbreaking time. Sending love to all LynnCarol and Bob Pannell* ”



LynnCarol Pannell - June 11, 2024 at 06:28 PM

BA

“ Bart had many passions. He surely loved the outdoors. I knew Bart as a skier, originally from Northern PA close to the NY border – which gave him quick access to the slopes here in Ellicottville. He shared this passion with Lisa and all three of his girls. I was lucky enough to spend time with them on the ski hill as a coach at Holiday Valley.

Bart and Lisa chose to emphasize the importance of this part of their lives and move to Ellicottville permanently. Who else is crazy enough to live with their family in (2) separate places in Snow Pine village? One for the parents and one for the girls.....I know the kids loved it 😊

He was passionate about living in the Ellicottville community. He and Lisa bought an old home in need of restoration in the heart of town. It needed a lot of love and vision. Bart and Lisa had both. They turned an old house into a home with a soul, fit for a family, even including a custom nook for the four-legged family members. The place came with an old garage that was really only used by the squirrels for walnut storage. Bart remodeled this into a mancave filled with the fuels for his passions, including a complete sound studio, built perfectly for jamb sessions with his friends. A great place where we could share a drink and more than a few stories. I consider myself lucky to have known both Bart and Lisa, and the girls as they have grown. Rest in Peace Bart, you will always be a part of what makes Ellicottville what it is.

With Love, Barney - HVFT, Sophie and Sarah.

Barney - June 09, 2024 at 09:11 PM

RF

“ Was a fraternity brother of Bart's at Rollins College. He was a senior my freshman year. Wonderful soul. Miss him greatly.

ron falconer - June 08, 2024 at 10:47 PM

MC

“ I met Bart in 2002 when I moved to Orlando; we spent many a night jamming in my studio. He was a great friend who passed way too early.

Mark Compton - June 08, 2024 at 07:42 PM

MC

“ I met Bart in late 2002 when I moved to Orlando; we spent many a night jamming in my studio. Bart was a great friend, who passed way to early. Keep a stool warm for me Bart; I'll be there eventually and we can jam again.

Mark Compton - June 08, 2024 at 07:40 PM

MB

“ BART was a really great spirit. Strong and smart, very well spoken. I Enjoyed being friends with him for the past couple of years since I met him. I will remember him and the fun times hanging out on his boat or watching football with his Doodles. RIP Bart. Hope you are playing the keys and singing some Elton for everyone upstairs.

Mike Brindle - June 08, 2024 at 10:11 AM

JD

“ I remember many years ago when Bart got stuck in the mud in his driveway in Ellicottville and I think Haley, called Zach, our grandson, who came right away and pulled Bart out with his truck. When graduation time approached and there was the breakfast for seniors and their families at St. Paul's church, we went there with Zach and his mom. Bart was there and looked at Zach with surprise and said....you are only a senior? I thought you were about 22 years old! We all got a chuckle out of that.

joann and bob duke - June 07, 2024 at 08:32 PM

JD

“ *joann and bob duke lit a candle in memory of Bart Saunders*



joann and bob duke - June 07, 2024 at 08:23 PM

C(

Six months ago I remember that I never knew anything else about the Saunders family since 1968 when I lived with them in Brussels. I was Bart' s babysitter. I decided to look for the family Saunders and I discovered that Mr Saunders an his wife had already passed away some time ago, but I found Bart's address and contacted him. I sent him some pictures I had taken when he was 3 years old and lived with them for one year. Today I decided to send him some more pictures when I read that he had passed away! I'm just horrified! I just can't believe! I' m 80 now and am ok and he left us so young! I hope his brother Bob can read my message as I know Bart showed him the pictures I had sent him in last March. My sincere condolences to the whole family, specially to Bob ,Sue and his wife. Célia, from Portugal

Célia Pereira. (Portugal) - August 10, 2024 at 01:32 PM