



# Buzz Gildea

APR 19, 1942 - FEB 7, 2023



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## **Buzz Gildea**

APR 19, 1942 - FEB 7, 2023

**B**uzz Gildea, age 80 of Lewes, DE, formerly of Wilmington, passed away after a courageous battle with cancer, on Tuesday, February 7, 2023, at Beebe Healthcare. He was born on April 19, 1942, in Wilmington, DE, son of the late Francis and Catherine Gildea.

Buzz proudly retired from the Air National Guard and a career firefighter, retiring after 42 years as Battalion Chief with the City of Wilmington Fire Department. His hard work and dedication earned him the respect of not only his peers, but those who ranked above and below him throughout his tenure.

Buzz was a man of many interests. His hobbies ranged from home repair to ballroom dancing, and he enjoyed working outdoors and had a fascination with trains. Buzz caught a travel bug, and he loved visiting new destinations, both in the US and abroad. Above all, he was a family man. Buzz cherished time spent with those he held most dear. He was a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, and friend. Loved by many, he will be deeply and genuinely missed by all who had the good fortune to know him.

In addition to his parents, Buzz was preceded in death by his brother, James Gildea. He is survived by his beloved wife of 15 years, Carolyn Gildea; his children: Carol-Anne, Jim, Ken, Cyndie, and Matt; his step-children: Andy, Mike, Lyn, Dee, Jenni and Steven; his grandchildren: Jimmy, Nick, Kevin, Sarah, Zach, Leah, Jude, Megan, Ethan, Craig, Kiley, Maddie, Zoe, Leah, Camryn, Abi, Bryce, Mia, Will, Noah, Cali, Romy, and Drew.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at 12:00 noon, at St. Jude the Apostle Church, 152 Tulip Drive, Lewes, DE, where friends may call beginning at 10:00 AM. Interment will be held the following day, Wednesday, February 15, 2023, at 11:00 AM, at Holy Cross Cemetery, N. New Street, Dover, DE.



## Obituary

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In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions in Buzz's memory to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105, or [www.stjude.org/donate](http://www.stjude.org/donate).

The family also asks that you remember Buzz by performing a random act of kindness for someone in need this week.

Please sign the virtual guestbook located on the tribute page.

FLORIST NOTE: PLEASE DELIVER ALL ARRANGEMENTS BY 3PM MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2023, TO OUR LEWES LOCATION.






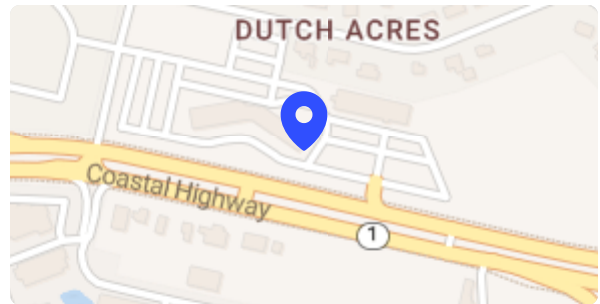
# Events

**Buzz Gildea**




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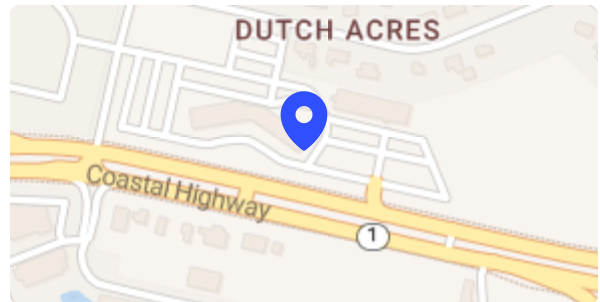
## Viewing

-  **Tuesday**, February 14, 2023
-  10:00 AM - 12:00 PM ET
-  **St. Jude The Apostle Catholic Church**  
152 Tulip Drive, Lewes DE 19958






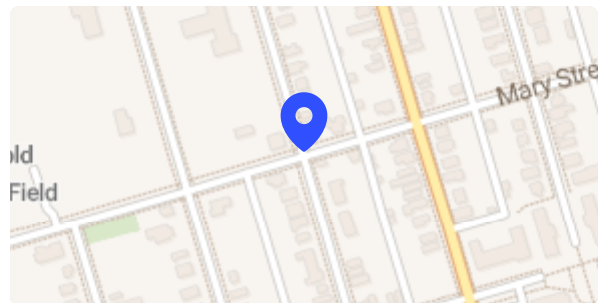
## Mass of Christian Burial

-  **Tuesday**, February 14, 2023
-  12:00 PM ET
-  **St. Jude The Apostle Catholic Church**  
152 Tulip Drive, Lewes DE 19958



## Burial

-  **Wednesday**, February 15, 2023
-  11:00 AM ET
-  **Holy Cross Cemetery**  
North New Street, Dover DE 19904





## Tribute Wall

**Buzz Gildea**

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**Jennifer Carle** posted:

Rest in peace Buzz ❤️🙏

February 16 at 7:30 AM



**Vicki Borbash** posted:

We are so very sorry for your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Vicki and Jan Borbash

February 15 at 4:54 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Celestial Love to the Gildea family.



February 14 at 8:59 AM



**Patty And Steve** posted:

Dear Carolyn and Family, It truly was our pleasure and good fortune having known this incredible man we call our friend. We have many happy memories we will hold in our hearts. He truly was a gentleman and one of the kindest men we know. Thoughts and prayers will continue for you all.  
XXXXXX

February 14 at 5:13 AM



**Grace Donovan-O'Donnell** posted:

Remembering Buzz as fellow Sacristan at St. Jude's, his smiling face and warmth, always willing to help those in need. His devotion and faith were a great example to all who knew him. May he rest in peace and may the family find comfort in a life well lived. With deepest sympathy, Grace Donovan-O'Donnell.

February 11 at 5:52 PM



# Tribute Wall

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**Jim Berrigan** posted:

I met Buzzy in Wilmington years ago in the St Paul's school area. Then I lost track of him until I met him at a Meals on Wheel's luncheon a couple of years ago. He was a friendly and easy-going guy who I admired. Resest in peace Buzzy. I'll always remember you. Jim berrigan,Lewes and Wilmington

February 11 at 10:00 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Gildea family.



February 11 at 5:59 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Country Basket Blooms to the Gildea family.



February 11 at 4:21 AM



**Kathy Hughes** posted:

Ed and I have so many wonderful memories with Buzzy Bear and Carolyn. Adventures included a horrendous, but funny and memorable train raid across the United States. Another was driving from San Francisco to Portland, Oregon with a ATV ride up a mountain of dunes near Florence, Oregon Everyone had a great time but me, barely keeping lunch down until we came to the end Fantastic time in Napa and on the Wine Train. Paris with Buzzy charging ahead and us following behind like little ducklings. He had no regard if anyone was behind him or where we were. Wonderful time in Tuscany villa with all kinds of wonderful side trips to Florence, Pisa and small towns. And let us not forget Sanibel when he walked right into the pool. No idea it was there but we have had so many laughs over this And all the times we spent with our framily. And Buzzy would come for dinner and his booming voice would scare the dogs. Love you all, especially my bro Buzzy Bear and BFF Carolyn Ed and Buzzy were comrades in arms and had a misspent youth at Sallie's although both were altar boys if you can believe that. We hold all of you in our hearts forever. We are family. Ed and Kathy

February 10 at 4:23 PM



**Ken Gildea** posted:

May you rest in peace. Love you, dad.

February 10 at 3:02 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Edward R Hughes** posted:

Buzz, Your friendship, especially over the last twelve years, has truly been a blessing to me and Kathy.. Love and sympathy to all the family members.Ed and Kathy Hughes

February 10 at 7:27 AM



**Sandy Evans** posted:

Such a pleasure to have known you. A truly wonderful person. May God bless you

February 10 at 6:06 AM



**Anonymous** sent an Emerald Garden Basket to the Gildea family.



February 10 at 2:58 AM



**Joseph Kalinowski** posted:

A true professional. Cared about members of his company. Respected by all who worked with Buzz on the Wilmington Fire Dept. My friend forever.

February 9 at 3:29 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Gildea family.



February 9 at 11:19 AM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Buzz by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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