



John Russell Bateman III

December 7, 1958 - October 3, 2020

John Russell Bateman III, better known as Russell, passed on Saturday, October 3, 2020 after a valiant battle with a sudden critical illness. I never thought I would be writing my husband's obituary, yet here I am overwhelmed at the task of trying to convey his life in a few short sentences and put into words how much we will miss him.

Russell was born in Brooklyn, NY on December 7, 1958, and grew up amongst his maternal grandparents, aunts, uncles and many cousins. Russell's fondest memories are of his times in New York and Sunday dinners. Russell's family moved to Norwalk, CT in the early sixties where he began to learn the difference between city and country life. He would laugh at how he could fall asleep to the noise of the L trains, but the sound of chirping crickets would keep him up all night.

After high school, Russell worked for the Laborers Union and later joined the BAC Local 1 in both Connecticut and New York. In between Union jobs he worked mainly in the construction field and became diverse in many facets of the trades. Some of the companies Russell worked for were Firing Circuits, Home Depot, St. Giorgio's Studio, and Balco Design where he made many lasting friendships.

In his twenties, Russell learned the art of ornamental plastering, decorative

molding, restoration and historical preservation from his mentor and dear friend, Valentino Ciccone. These skills earned Russell the opportunity to restore and work on museums, churches, post offices, prestigious hotels and theaters in NYC, celebrities' homes, the libraries of Yale University and Stamford Ferguson, the Palace and Hartman theaters and the mansions of prominent people. His nickname became the Master Plasterer.

In February of 1985, Russell came to a crossroad in his life and gave his heart to the Lord. Later that spring, Russell prayed for a faith filled wife and that April at a prayer meeting in Stamford he met the second love of his life. They dated and married in October of 1989.

After Jesus, Jet, family and friends, Russell's next love was sweets. Ice cream, pastries, cookies, pie, you name it. No candy dish was safe within his reach. I am sure I will find some of his hidden treats in the days to come.

Russell was a good man. He was a dedicated husband, son, brother, nephew, uncle, cousin, brother-in-law, and friend. He had a tremendous heart and loved to make people happy. There wasn't anyone of our friends and family that didn't know they could call on him for anything.

He enjoyed cooking, and he was a great sous chef when needed. Russell loved history, watching documentaries, football and horror movies. He liked to travel and delighted in the trips we took to the islands.

Russell had the gift of gab and he was known for his long, entertaining, sometimes exaggerated and often repeated stories. He liked to discuss world history and he was an encyclopedia on how famous sayings got started. He was a lifelong New York Yankees and New York Giants fan. He was also an active member of Bethany Church.

His nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews loved him deeply and often

described him as a big Teddy bear. In their book, nobody made better hot buttered popcorn, gave better back massages or initiated better laughs on Facebook. They joke about Uncle Russell's "boot camp" and calling him Uncle "Wrestle" in the earlier days. They reminisce about some of the places he took them, the movies, amusement parks, monster truck shows, the Empire State building and the Statue of Liberty. As they continue to grow up, whether close by or as far as Italy, Russell enjoyed talking and catching up with them; he celebrated their achievements, and prayed for them daily. Since we did not have children, each of them is like our own.

Russell is survived by his beloved wife, Georgette "Jet" Bateman of Stamford, his devoted Mother, Gaetana Bateman of Norwalk, two sisters, Debra Manfredi from Port Richey, FL and Susan Bateman-Schnegg of Rutland, VT; a brother, William "Billy" Bateman and his fiancée Denise Ek of Norwalk, CT; an aunt, Clara Grimaldi of Brooklyn, NY; two godchildren, Erin Bateman and Siobhan Lopez; and by a host of loving in-laws, many cherished nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews, cousins, church family and amazing friends.

Russell was preceded in death by his father, John R. Bateman, Jr., his loving nephew Joseph A. (Jay) Bateman, his best friend, James (Jimmy) Ezzo, Sr. and his beloved pets, Autumn (Fat Girl) and Mischief (Nut Girl).

Our time together may have been cut short, but the times we shared together, will last a lifetime. I will mourn the loss of my dear husband, but I will find comfort in the knowledge that he loves me to no end. Russell, thank you for loving me.

Russell will be dearly missed and remain forever in our hearts. I know he would want to give us a great big hug and he would echo the words of his Savior, from John 16:22 "So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you."

Memorial donations can be made in Russell's honor to: Bethany Church, 2 Scofieldtown Road, Stamford, CT 06903.

Family will receive relatives and friends on Tuesday, October 13th, from 4pm to 8pm, at the Bosak Funeral Home, 453 Shippan Avenue, in Stamford, CT. The funeral service will be held on Wednesday, October 14th at 11:00am at Bosak Funeral Home, 453 Shippan Avenue, Stamford, CT. His funeral service will be live streamed to start at 11am, for family, relatives and friends to be able to join in his service virtually. To attend, please select "webcast video" on Russell's obituary on the funeral home website at www.bosakfuneralhome.com. His burial will follow at Queen of Peace Cemetery, 124 Rock Rimmon Road, in Stamford, CT.

In compliance with state mandates and the safety of all those attending the services, it is mandatory to wear face coverings and maintain social distancing, while attending all funeral services.

If you would like to leave a condolence message online please visit the family guestbook to share memories: www.bosakfuneralhome.com or www.facebook.com/bosakfuneralhome.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 13. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Bosak Funeral Home
453 Shippan Avenue
Stamford, CT 06902
(203) 325-9300
<https://www.bosakfuneralhome.com/>

Prayer Service (Live Streamed)

OCT 14. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bosak Funeral Home
453 Shippan Avenue
Stamford, CT 06902
(203) 325-9300
<https://www.bosakfuneralhome.com/>

Burial

OCT 14 (ET)

Queen of Peace Cemetery
Rock Rimmon Road
STAMFORD, CT 06904
(203) 322-0455

Tribute Wall



“ *Bosak Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of John Russell Bateman III*



Bosak Funeral Home - October 10, 2020 at 03:58 PM

BL

Jet, Bill and I send our deepest condolences to you and the family. We pray for Gods strength and peace to you all!

Bill and Elisabeth Lopez - October 12, 2020 at 10:09 AM

LP

Jet I know that words won't replace what you lost, but thank God for the many memories that you have with Russell. The last time I saw Russell was at Randy Sci's funeral. Russell was playing the guitar quietly in the other room. Russell was always so friendly and lovable. Heartbreaking!

Lillian C Potter - October 12, 2020 at 10:20 AM

LP

Guy, losing a son has to be the hardest thing to ever have to go through. I was so sorry to hear of Russell's passing.

Lillian C Potter - October 12, 2020 at 10:26 AM

LG

Beautiful service. Will miss you greatly Russell, Jacob and Tommy send their love and condolences. Thank you for all you have done for my family, rise high my friend.

*Love,
Laurie, Tommy, Jacob and Taylor*

Laurie Greene - October 14, 2020 at 11:49 AM

BL

Beautiful service! Our prayers will continue for the family.

Bill & Elisabeth Lopez - October 14, 2020 at 11:59 AM

MP

*Jet, Guy, Debbie, Susie, Billy and their families.....
I'm so sorry for your great loss. Russ was a real fun guy. He used to
hung around with my brother Michael all the time with other neighbor
kids. Sometimes I hung out with them as well as with Debbie and
Susie.*

*I know it's hard. I'm comforted that Russ is going to join Michael and
their dads and have a ball together. We all miss them.*

Love you all. Again, my sympathies.

Michelle (Levay) Passeck

Michelle Passeck - October 14, 2020 at 10:39 PM

DT

*Jet, although I didn't hear about the services until today, my heart has
been with you since I heard of Russel's passing. Angie and I express
our deep thoughts and prayers to you. I will never forget how you and
Barbara came down when my mom passed away and I was planning
on coming to Russels's service if I had known. You have always been a
thoughtful, loving person whose friendship I cherish. I know I'll be
seeing you in the not too distant future. Love, Dom and Angie Turdo*

Dominick Turdo - October 15, 2020 at 12:31 PM

SD

Love n prayers to y'all. RIP Russel

Sandy dickerson - October 17, 2020 at 11:57 AM

BE

“ *Barbara Ek lit a candle in memory of John
Russell Bateman III*



Barbara Ek - October 13, 2020 at 07:12 PM

BE

Dear Jet and Family, I am so sorry to hear of the passing of your husband. He will surely be missed by all who knew him. I will always remember the kindness You and Russell shared with my family. My Thoughts and Prayers will always be with you.

*Sincerely,
Barbara Ek*

Barbara Ek - October 13, 2020 at 07:22 PM

MT

“ *I didn't know Russell very well, but anytime I was around him he made me feel welcomed. He told many funny stories about family and his trips. Everyone that knew him knew how much he loved family and his faith.*

My heart aches for all those left behind. Praying for you all to find peace in all the beautiful memories you shared.

*Your loving cousins,
MaryAnn, Pat, Denise and Sandi*

maryann tarnowski - October 13, 2020 at 03:02 PM

TH

“ *Ibel and I were moved by the news of Russell's passing. We are praying for the comfort only God can give for you Jet and the rest of the family and friends. It is wonderful to know that his first love is Jesus and that you will see him again for eternity. The LORD bless you all.*

Ted & Ibel Hartlett - October 13, 2020 at 11:59 AM

SH

“ *Jet, I'm so sorry to hear about Russell! You and your family will be in my prayers!*

Love, Sandy Hartlett

sandra hartlett - October 13, 2020 at 10:13 AM

JK

“ Dear Jet. I am so sorry to hear the passing of Russell. He was your love and happiness in your life. I know the pain you feel must be unbearable but know your family and friends are always here for you. Love you and hope he is at peace and no longer in pain God bless you. May our thoughts and prayers Help comfort you at this difficult time. Love Joanne and Rich Kulis.



Joanne Kulis - October 11, 2020 at 06:23 PM

SF

Jet
We are so sorry for your loss - Russel was an awesome man.
We appreciate the many years of his friendship and times we were able to spend together. We pray that God gives you His peace and comfort at this time 💕
Love Donny and Sheila

Sheila Freitag - October 24, 2020 at 07:46 PM

DC

“ May care and love of those around you provide comfort and peace to get you through the days ahead. My most sincere condolences.

Dennis Cottrell

Dennis Cottrell - October 10, 2020 at 06:09 PM

SS

“ I am saddened so saddened by my too soon passing of my brother. My love, thoughts and prayers go out to his beloved wife Jet and her loving family. I'll never forget when he came on after meeting you. We were renting together in East norwalk. He knew he had met the love of his life. His eyes twinkle with hope of his forever love. I pray the memory of that love gives you spice when the grief gets hard. All my love sempre

Susan Bateman Schnegg - October 10, 2020 at 11:36 AM

BE

Dear Jet and Family, I am so sorry to hear of the passing of your husband, he will surely be missed by all who knew him. I will always remember the kindness You and Russell shared with my family. My thoughts and prayers are with you always.
Barbara Ek

Barbara Ek - October 13, 2020 at 07:04 PM

BP

“ Jet so sorry for your loss , I and my children have been good friends with the Bateman family since they were children , Russell was always a sweet wonderful boy and followed him through to a man , he will be missed and my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family , that was a beautiful obituary and said it all . Find peace in knowing he's at peace . Love you Russ RIP .

Betty BJ Parisi - October 10, 2020 at 09:47 AM

RT

“ Unfortunately, I never had the opportunity to meet Russell. However, per his wife's moving obituary, he was evidently an exceptional human with many admirable traits, talents and achievements. My condolences to his family and friends who will, understandably, miss him. Wishing you all the best.

Rob Trout (Grew up in Stamford in the 50's/60's)

Robert Trout - October 09, 2020 at 08:13 PM

NP

“ Jet, I was so so sorry to hear of your loss. Russell was always such a kind and fun man. He will be truly missed by all who knew him. May God keep you and your family in his comforting arms while you mourn this terrible loss. Thinking of all of you at this sad time and keeping you in my prayers.

Nancy Patterson

Nancy M Patterson - October 09, 2020 at 02:38 PM