



Neal Ludeke

June 28, 1958 - October 31, 2019

Neal Ludeke, 61 years old, of Stamford, CT passed away peacefully on October 31, 2019. Neal started his life's journey in the Bronx, NY with two loving parents, Frances and Ernest Ludeke (deceased), as well as three siblings Walter, Karen and Linda. At the age of six Neal and his family moved to Old Bridge, NJ and that is where he made many notable friendships and memories. Neal valued education immensely. He graduated from Madison Township High School, earned his Associates Degree from Middlesex County College and his Bachelor's Degree from Ramapo College.

Neal loved any time he got to spend with his kids Michael and Shannon. He shared his love of sports with them, whether it would be coaching, 6:00 am practices, or driving up to 8 hours just to cheer them on from the sidelines. Traveling to Lake George as a family was the highlight of almost every summer of their childhoods. Together they would enjoy time spent at Six Flags Great Escape, Saratoga racetrack, playing mini golf and spending long days on the lake tubing, and just enjoying each other's company. In most recent times, the family just enjoyed purely spending time together, watching a movie or time spent around the dinner table. Neal would always go above and beyond for his children; to him there was no other option. Michael and Shannon felt his love through every decision he made. His children will always remember him for his kind heart, love of pranks, sideline coaching, impeccable air guitar moves, valuable advice and corny dad jokes.

It's almost impossible to speak of Neal without mentioning his profound love of music. Having gone to over 1000 concerts, he appreciated art in the way many people couldn't - through pure synthesis. One of his favorite places to go was a record shop in New Jersey called Vintage Vinyl; and while to his children it felt like never-ending, to Neal it was an endless treasure trove. Neal could endlessly search for new gems to add to his vast collection of CDs and records. Some of his favorite artists were Ian Hunter, and Stevie Ray Vaughn, but most notably Todd Rundgren. Neal shared his love for the musical genius of Todd Rundgren with many people including his children, siblings, and friends. One of his favorite times was going to celebrate Todd Rundgren's birthday with him in Hawaii, a memory that he cherished and spoke of often.

Neal thought and displayed that love is shown through action and intent. From being a CFO to a coach on the athletic field to mentoring people in life Neal felt a responsibility to many people in his life. He was often described as a guru or a teacher by his friends. As an amazing conversationalist, Neal had the ability to relate to everyone he met. While many people thought of Neal as an amazing teacher, he saw himself as was a student of life. He would often talk for hours with people whom he didn't know well just to help a person with the simplest of problems. As a student of life, he truly believed that anyone was capable of learning something new or putting in the work to better themselves as well as their community.

Neal was an exceptional person. He created many technologies, cultivated a plethora of relationships, and sparked the imagination of many. Neal could easily be identified by his go to uniform: khakis and a blue button down, by his quick-witted humor, or his infectious and boisterous laugh that could be heard from a football field away. While Neal spent much of his life and career known as a CFO, his friends and family knew him for his creativity. Much of Neal's time had recently been dedicated to his creative writing endeavors: from stage

and screenplays to short stories and children's novels. Neal loved to tell stories. To those who knew him well this is how he will be remembered: as someone who could talk for hours on any subject, who loved sharing his time with others, who prioritized others before himself, a loving man with a gentle smile and a kind heart, and an amazing son, brother, dad and friend.

To honor Neal's memory family will receive relatives and friends on Friday, November 22nd from 4:00pm to 7:00pm with a prayer service at 7pm at Bosak Funeral Home, Stamford, CT. A 'Celebration of Life' will be celebrated on Saturday November 23rd at the Knights of Columbus, 507 Shippan Ave, Stamford, CT from 12pm to 4pm, to honor, reminisce and commiserate.

The family has entrusted the funeral arrangements for Neal to Bosak Funeral Home, 453 Shippan Avenue, in Stamford. If you would like to leave an online condolence message for the family visit the family guestbook on bosakfuneralhome.com or on Facebook at facebook.com/bosakfuneralhome.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **22**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

Prayer Service

NOV **22**. 7:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall

JF

“ To Michael and Shannon whom I never met. I am so sorry for your loss. Your father was one of the best guys I ever known. He was my neighbor growing up in Old Bridge and I remember him like it was yesterday. I was a bit younger than Neal but anytime I saw him outside, he always joked around and found the time just to say hello. I used to call him Neal "pepperoni" and he would call me "cheese". I unfortunately did not keep in touch with Neal. Reading his life story and accomplishments, he was a true winner his entire life.

Jonathan Frost - September 11, 2020 at 11:40 AM

ML

“ So sorry to hear about Neal passing. Had so many great times with him. The laughter, music, kindness and wisdom! I will be forever grateful for having known him.

Mary Jean Lacidonia - December 20, 2019 at 08:34 AM

ES

“ Michael and Shannon - very sorry to hear about the passing of your father. Although we had gone our separate ways from the days of Roxbury Nursery School and Roxbury Swim Club (we are now living down in South Carolina), we always enjoyed spending time with Neal and will miss him. Please let us know if there are any donations that have been established in his name. Take care. Ed & Nancy Sinick

Edward Sinick - December 04, 2019 at 10:23 AM

JL

“ I am so sorry. Got to know Neal while both our families attended Hyde Woodstock. He was very authentic and told what he believed and felt. He held me accountable to go after my bets. I know he helped many parents working with their kids and was always trying to be a better person for his daughter.

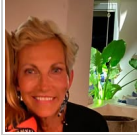
Jeff Lund - November 22, 2019 at 12:37 PM

PC

“ P.j. Carragher lit a candle in memory of Neal Ludeke



P.j. Carragher - November 20, 2019 at 10:50 PM



“ Dear Shannon and Michael,

I was so sad hearing about the sudden passing of your dad. Your hearts must be broken not to mention the shock you are feeling. I am so so sorry...

Although I didn't know him all that well, I know he cared very much for the two of you and only wanted the best for you. I know his commitment to that included involving the family in HYDE which speaks volumes. His participation in family weekends/regional meetings and how he paid it forward will not be forgotten in the school community. He lived his life with integrity and resolve and truly cared for others.

I remember your dad being one of the first neighbors after Sandi hit to come by the house and offer his help. Yes, always willing to help others....

If you ever want to talk, I am minutes away and unfortunately I know what is like to loose someone this dear to you...

Sincerely,

Jamie Delaney

Xoxo

Jamie Delaney - November 20, 2019 at 08:45 AM

JP

“ Beautiful smile and heart! You will be missed!

jackie picone - November 20, 2019 at 07:22 AM

CW

“ It's hard to realize that Neal is gone at such a young age when he still had so much life ahead of him. Over the last two decades we saw far too little of each other. I am happy that I convinced him to drive down to our last class get together a few years ago and it was great to see him.

Neal & I share many memories from high school and together with Brian had many escapades over the years of our young lives. He provided me with much inspiration during a tough time in college and guided me in my career, leaving me with the direction I needed to succeed.

I truly wish we were able to spend more time together as we grew older. His effusive laughter will be missed.....Neal knew how to laugh and inspire all around him to laugh too. He had a huge bag of tricks to bring out a smile and a laugh in any situation.

I shared some very special years with Neal, his family and all his friends who gradually became my friends. For that I will be forever grateful....

Save me a seat at the poker table and watch out for me until I finally get there.

Rest in peace, my old friend.

Carl Wischmann - November 19, 2019 at 09:51 PM

DW

“ *It is with sadness I read the wonderful tribute to Neal.*

The last time we talked, he shared about his working on multiple novels, with many alternate endings. He traveled, that night, from his Connecticut home to Wall, New Jersey to share an evening of "Reflections, Recollections and Rememberances" for classmates present and those who left us too young.



We'll toast you my friend, before each TODD show we attend. RIP

Douglas wilson - November 19, 2019 at 05:58 PM

BD

“ *Neal and I were great friends as kids. I would spend time at my Aunt and Uncles every summer. Neal was my best friend friend those days. We did a lot together in the days when Gramercy Rd was a new development. Playing in the sand dunes behind the houses. Playing Stat- O - Matic baseball. We list touch over the years but I will never forget those days when we were younger. Gods Speed my friend and you'll be missed. I'll always remember those great times...*

Bruce Dziedzic - November 19, 2019 at 12:51 PM