



Mark Wathen

February 17, 1970 - April 7, 2023

Mr. Mark Wathen, age 53, passed away April 7, 2023. He was born in Chamblee, Georgia to Patrick Wathen, Sr. and Doris (Bitsy) Huber Wathen. Mark graduated from Marist High School and earned his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering at Georgia Tech. During his time at Georgia Tech, he worked in the Registrar's Office and probably understood, better than most, how the "T" on the Tech Tower came up missing on occasion. Following his graduation, Mark worked at Full Circle Lighting as a lighting designer and project manager. In 2001, Full Circle Lighting became HiTech Rentals and Mark stayed on when it became PRG (Production Resource Group) where he continued as a project manager. His role expanded into overseeing all aspects of event production. Mark was the "go-to" lighting and sound guy on many notable productions including TedTalks, EAA AirVenture OshKosh, and the International Poultry Production and Processing Show among others. He regaled his family with stories of the famous people he met: Bill Gates is a really nice guy. A famous TV psychologist- not so much.

Outside of work, Mark was a member of the Knights of Columbus at St. Matthew Catholic Church and was tapped to stream Mass online during the pandemic and until his illness made it too difficult. Mark was the Cubmaster for Pack 373 at St. Matthew and an Assistant Scoutmaster for BSA Troop 79 at Hopewell United Methodist Church, seeing many young men through the rank of Eagle Scout including his son, Alex. He was the consummate stagehand dad for his daughters, Claire and Cate, and their many theatrical

performances. Mark loved nothing more than seeing his children grow into adulthood as kind, caring, and smart individuals who are ready to take on the world. Mark saved his greatest love for his wife, Leila, whom he met at the Georgia Tech First Center during one of her performances with the Southeastern Savoyards. They married nearly 25 years ago and to say it was an adventure would be a vast understatement. Mark enjoyed camping, hiking and all things outdoors. He loved a fun game night and any and every family vacation whether it was at the beach or in the mountains. He never met a stranger and whether you were young or old, he wanted to know you and your story. His love of life was contagious and you couldn't help but laugh whenever he was nearby. Mark was a force for good and touched the lives of so many people. He truly made the world a better place.

Mark is survived by his loving wife, Leila Kay Wathen; his three children, Alex Wathen, Claire Wathen, and Cate Wathen; his mother, Doris; his brothers, Patrick Wathen, Jr. and his wife, Paula, David Wathen and his wife, Elizabeth; his parents-in-law, Marc and Jerry Bramblett; sisters in-law, Marci Edge and her husband, Michael, Amy Weaver and her husband, John; brothers in-law, Marc Bramblett, Jr and his wife, Kelly, Matthew Bramblett and his wife, Sandi. In addition, he leaves numerous special nieces and nephews with whom he enjoyed fun adventures and relentless teasing. He was preceded in death by his father, Patrick Wathen, Sr., his sister, Ann, and his sister in-law, Gwen Bramblett. He will also be missed by his pets, Mo and Sebastian, who found a way into Mark's heart despite his assertion that he's not an animal guy. A funeral Mass will be held Saturday, April 15, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Matthew Catholic Church, Tyrone, GA. The family will receive friends Friday evening from 5:00 until 8:00 p.m. with a vigil service at 7:30 p.m. at Parrott Funeral Home & Crematory, Fairburn, Georgia, 770-964-4800. . In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the American Cancer Society at www.cancer.org. Condolence messages can be sent to lmwathen@gmail.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **14.** 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Parrott Funeral Home & Crematory
8355 Senoia Road
Fairburn, GA 30213
(770) 964-4800
info@parrottfuneralhome.com
<https://www.parrottfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral Service

APR **15.** 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Matthew Catholic Church
215 Kirkley Road
Tyrone, GA 30290

Tribute Wall



“ *Parrott Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Mark Wathen*



Parrott Funeral Home - April 14, 2023 at 04:51 PM



“ *Parrott Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mark Wathen*



Parrott Funeral Home - April 13, 2023 at 01:42 PM

CG

“ Leila and family; Sending you our deepest sympathy & prayers for Peace & healing in your loss of Mark! He was an AMAZING MAN and will be dearly missed by so many of us! My fondest memory of Mark is when we first came to St Mathews and we would sit up front, I would always see him with his arms around the girls in the pew and helping them & Alex in a loving way if needed! I will never forget that sweet memory of this loving dad❤️ May God grant you all peace knowing that Mark is no longer in pain and is watching and loving us all from above!!! Please let me know if you need anything at all.

Sincerely, Cathy Garger & family

Cathy Garger - April 16, 2023 at 11:38 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mark Wathen.



April 14, 2023 at 09:32 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mark Wathen.



April 14, 2023 at 07:26 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mark Wathen.* ”



April 14, 2023 at 07:26 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mark Wathen.* ”



April 13, 2023 at 04:02 PM



“ *I am deeply saddened to hear this news. Mark was an excellent human in every way, and I am grateful that we shared so many years of friendship in high school and college. My thoughts are with all of you as you endure this loss.* ”

Mignon Duffy - April 13, 2023 at 03:13 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mark Wathen.* ”



April 13, 2023 at 02:28 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mark Wathen.



April 13, 2023 at 02:11 PM



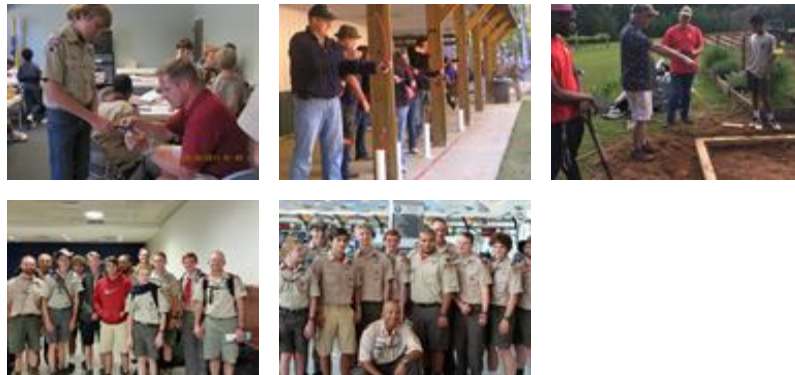
“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mark Wathen.



April 13, 2023 at 02:01 PM



“ 85 files added to the album Life Tributes



Parrott Funeral Home - April 13, 2023 at 01:38 PM

RW

“ *My sincere condolences go out to Mark's family. Mark was one of the most caring and genuine people I've known. He was a loyal and dedicated friend who was loved by all. What I remember most about Mark, besides the egg in the microwave of course, is that he was a proud and dedicated husband and father. He will be sorely missed. R.I.P my friend.*

Rick Welch - April 12, 2023 at 09:00 AM



“ *Wings of a Dove Tribute Blanket was purchased for the family of Mark Wathen.*



April 11, 2023 at 07:44 PM



“ *Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Mark Wathen.*



April 11, 2023 at 02:39 PM

CS

“ *Mark was always such a fun, positive hard working man. When I was a Project Manager many years ago, he always had great advice for me and was so positive and supportive. This is a huge loss for us all, and he touched so many lives. He is truly missed.*

Christine Selig - April 11, 2023 at 11:41 AM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray* was purchased for the family of Mark Wathen.



April 11, 2023 at 11:30 AM



“ *Serene Reflections Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Mark Wathen.



April 11, 2023 at 11:28 AM



“ *Beautiful Dreams* was purchased for the family of Mark Wathen.



April 11, 2023 at 07:23 AM

JA

“ I am still in shock over this. I knew and considered Mark a friend for over 25 years. As I told Bill Tipton, Mark was always so full of life, and full of pranks, it is difficult for me to imagine, him sick, let alone gone from us. I wish I could be there in person Friday and Saturday but I will be there in spirit. I will hold my memories of Mark close to my heart for the rest of my life.

I want to share two memories from the old Hi-Tech days. First, as a new employee, driving home from the office one night, I accidentally butt-dialed the owner's wife, and when she called me back to see who it was calling her, I answered the phone without looking at who was calling, because at that time of night, it could only be my wife... I said, "Hey Baby". I of course was horrified when I found out who it was I was actually talking to. The next morning, thinking I was going to get fired from my new job, I told Mark about what happened, and he being who he was, yelled across the office, "Hey Lovell, I understand your wife has a new secret admirer". I felt 2" tall at the time, but ever since then, I laugh out loud every time I tell the story.

The second memory I have of Mark was about a time when Mark blew up the microwave in the break room trying to cook an egg. While he was on his next out-of-town gig, we, his fellow Hi-Tech workers, purchased every egg-related item we could find and filled up his cubicle office floor to "ceiling" to the point where he couldn't even open the door. Mark in his typical good humor, had a good laugh, (no anger) over us doing that... That is Mark to me!!!

My condolences to his family whom I know he loved with all his heart.

Mark will be missed!

John Acton - April 10, 2023 at 07:15 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Mark Wathen.



April 10, 2023 at 05:53 PM



“ *Tina and Grady Boggs purchased the Divine Light* for the family of Mark Wathen.



Tina and Grady Boggs - April 10, 2023 at 05:48 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of Mark Wathen.



April 10, 2023 at 05:31 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Mark Wathen.



April 10, 2023 at 05:24 PM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Mark Wathen.*



April 10, 2023 at 05:21 PM



“ *Elizabeth A. Mcleod purchased the Divine Light for the family of Mark Wathen.*



Elizabeth A. Mcleod - April 10, 2023 at 03:16 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Mark Wathen.*



April 10, 2023 at 02:31 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mark Wathen.*



April 10, 2023 at 01:58 PM

PP

“ *Pete & Anne Portley purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mark Wathen.*



Pete & Anne Portley - April 10, 2023 at 11:12 AM