



## Paul F. Hilgendorff

November 1, 1948 - January 2, 2022

Please note: UPDATED OBITUARY ON PAUL FREDERICK HILGENDORFF SERVICES HAVE BEEN POSTPONED AND WILL BE ANNOUNCED.

Paul Frederick Hilgendorff went off to the toy store in the sky on January 2, 2022, after 73 years of living a life full of family adventures, toy collecting and getting the most out of the time he was given. He was born November 1, 1948, in Mineola, NY. Even as a young boy, he was an entrepreneur at heart, pulling a wagon collecting old newspapers to resell and recycle. His family often vacationed in Round Top, NY, loving it so much that they eventually moved here in 1958. It was a good thing, because the place he loved led to the love of his life. Paul met Susan Whitcomb at Cairo High School where he graduated in 1966. They were eventually married on June 24, 1972. He often said that he strove every day to get Sue to look at him like she did on their wedding day. Paul and Sue have three boys, Justin, Todd, and Tim. You could not find a father prouder of his kids.

Professionally, Paul worked as a surveyor, including helping to construct the Empire State Plaza in Albany. He then started and ran his own excavating business, Hilgendorff Trucking Company, for more than two decades while also working in the family business operating Winter Clove Inn. But he always had a side hustle. He bottled his own maple syrup and honey that he peddled at Winter Clove or out of his truck. He collected and sold LC Smith shotguns in his younger years and turned his attention to buying and selling antique toy trucks later in life. He was known across the country as an expert on Smith-Millers, Buddy L and other diecast and press steel toys.

Paul, or Pepe as the grandkids call him, was truly an expert on family time. He and Sue would load up the kids for cross country adventures, hitting national parks, canoeing America's waterways, and finding the best, fresh seafood. His favorite spots couldn't be more far apart. Alaska and Maine brought him joy, just looking at the seashore and taking in what life was really all about. His other passions included his pet malamutes, eating hot soup at a good diner, bargaining for an even better deal, and telling the best stories, even to those who didn't care to listen.

Paul was a giver, finding enjoyment in sharing what he had with others. He was confident and resourceful, and often a jokester, rarely taking a picture without his tongue out and

middle finger up. And he was probably the only one who looked forward to buying a new vehicle from a car salesman. Again, he loved to bargain, and always came out the winner...Just like he did in life.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Lillian (Hedler) Hilgendorff. He is survived by his beloved wife Sue; children Justin (Gloria), Todd (Steve Ammerman), and Tim, all of Round Top, NY. Four grandchildren Tristan, Austin, Juliette, and Parker. His brother Richard Hilgendorff, his sister Nancy Hilgendorff (Jim Graf), and numerous nieces and nephews.

\*\*\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE THAT SERVICES THAT WERE SCHEDULED FOR OUR DEAR PAUL HAVE BEEN POSTPONED AND WILL BE ANNOUNCED.\*\*\*\*\*

In lieu of flowers, the family is asking for donations to be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 2 Pine West Plaza, # 202, Albany, New York, 12205 or Make-a-Wish Foundation, 3 Washington Square, Albany, New York, 12205.

Condolences may be made at [www.richardsfuneralhomeinc.net](http://www.richardsfuneralhomeinc.net).

# Comments

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“ Frank Dobert And Family lit a candle in memory of Paul F. Hilgendorff



Frank Dobert and Family - February 06 at 01:32 PM

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“ Paul was a great guy and will be missed. He was one of the original “ Round Toppers”. Always very nice and decent to my Brother Dennis and I. Rest In Peace, Brother!

Chris Kovacs - January 10 at 08:26 PM

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“ Wonderful memories of Paul...making honey, owning the Mack, and most of all, loving Sue.

Randy Fix - January 09 at 08:02 PM

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“ Thoughts and Prayers to All of Pauls Family and Friends. I'll always remember him as a gentle soul . RIP



Nancy Erceg Karklin - January 07 at 05:53 PM



“ My Condolences and prayers to Pauls family and friends. It has been an honor to have Paul and Sue as a client and a friend. May you rest in perfect peace.

Teresa Scicchitano - January 17 at 11:34 PM



“ Good friend and neighbor for all these decades. He and his whole family helped me and many others. Very sad to see him pass but I saw a neurosurgeon Dr. Mary Neal who drowned and was brought back to life after 30 minutes and described passing to the other side. She was on Dr Oz and has videos of her experience. Watching one of those you will know Paul is in peace no pain and being loved by many



**H. Fox** - January 06 at 07:07 PM

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“ My deepest condolences go out to the Hilgendorff family. I am so sorry for your loss .

**natasha helmedach** - January 06 at 03:21 PM

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“ My heart is with you all today. Take comfort in the love Paul shared with all of you. It never feels like enough time but you were all loved fiercely, Claudia

**Claudia Zucker** - January 06 at 09:46 AM

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“ Dawn, Bill And Ethan-The Rems-Rogers Fam lit a candle in memory of Paul F. Hilgendorff



**Dawn, Bill and Ethan-The Rems-Rogers fam** - January 06 at 09:24 AM

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“ Dear Todd,

Please accept my deepest condolences on your loss and know that you are in our prayers.

Hugs,  
Tracy Young



**Tracy Young** - January 05 at 09:35 PM

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“ Connie Donahue lit a candle in memory of Paul F. Hilgendorff



**Connie Donahue** - January 05 at 09:32 PM

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“ Todd, so sorry to hear of your loss. Keeping you and your family in our thoughts and prayers.

Alison and Brian Thela

**Alison Thela** - January 05 at 07:36 PM

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“ Sharon Vaughn lit a candle in memory of Paul F. Hilgendorff



**Sharon Vaughn** - January 05 at 05:27 PM

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“ My deepest sympathies Sue. I will keep you and the boys in my prayers.  
Doug Weiss

**douglas weiss** - January 05 at 05:23 PM

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“ Rest in Peace Paul Sue,Justin,Todd & Tim, You & Your Entire Family are in My  
Thoughts & Prayers

**Mike Heinz** - January 05 at 01:14 PM

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“ Our deepest sympathy goes out to the entire Hilgendorf family. May the Lord God be  
your strength and comfort, not only at this difficult time, but always and forever. Your  
friends, Charlie and Michele Interrante

**Charlie Michele Inerrante** - January 05 at 10:53 AM

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“ From your Kansas family, our prayers and thoughts will be with you on Thursday and  
continue. We only got to meet Paul and Sue the one time, but felt instantly kindred  
spirits. Sorry we weren't able to get together again. What a beautiful testimony this  
obituary is.  
Love you forever Hobie and Gail Ammerman and family

**Hobie and Gail Ammerman** - January 05 at 10:51 AM

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“ Todd,  
You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers - Faith & Bobby Bowers

**Faith Bowers** - January 05 at 09:53 AM

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“ Our prayers to you Todd, and your family - Mary Beth & Bo Favicchio

**Mary Beth** - January 05 at 09:02 AM

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“ So many times together, sharing stories and experiences. I will miss them so much. He made everyday an adventure and a fond remembrance.



**Doug Spencer** - January 05 at 08:23 AM

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“ Paul was a blessed man to have you all as family and you were blessed to have him for those 73 years. What a wonderful obituary honoring the wonderful life he lived. Our love, sympathy and prayers are with you all at this difficult time. RIP Paul.



**Janet & Erik Nelson Jr** - January 04 at 10:20 PM

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“ Marlo Parker lit a candle in memory of Paul F. Hilgendorff



Marlo Parker - January 04 at 03:41 PM

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“ Condolences from Ella and I. So sorry to hear of your loss. What a great life he had.  
- Jon and Ella Kerner

jon K - January 04 at 03:32 PM

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“ Barbara Spohler lit a candle in memory of Paul F. Hilgendorff



Barbara Spohler - January 04 at 02:37 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album MEMORIES OF PAUL FREDERICK HILGENDORFF



Richards Funeral Home of the Mid Hudson Valley Inc. - January 04 at 11:02 AM



“ Sue & family, So sorry for your loss. Nicole (Fix) Relyea and family

Nicole Relyea - January 08 at 07:46 AM