



Owen Clifford Wavrinek

October 7, 1943 - September 4, 2023

Owen Clifford Wavrinek, 79, writer and educational activist, of Aurora, passed away September 4, 2023.

Raised in Matteson, Illinois, Owen graduated from Rich Township High School, served in the U.S. Armed Forces, and studied Communication Arts at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY.

Owen worked as Copy Editor, and Late City Editor at The Post-Standard in Syracuse, N.Y. before beginning a long career at Amoco Corporation as a writer, editor, and photographer, eventually transitioning to freelance writer.

Wavrinek was the longest-serving member of Indian Prairie School District 204 Board of Education, having served for 21 years, with four of those as president.

Mr. Wavrinek was the namesake of Owen Elementary School in Naperville. When he learned of these plans in 2002, he asked that the district use his first name, "Owen," as it was also his mother's maiden name, and would then honor the educators on her side of the family.

Beloved husband of Luz Myriam Segura Wavrinek. Son of the late Clifford and Frances (nee Owen) Wavrinek. Cousin, friend, and colleague of many.

Owen's involvement with Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Metropolitan Chicago was very important to him. In 1977, he became "Big Brother" to 11-year-old Josh Barton. They (including now-grownup Josh's own family) remained close ever since.

Friends and family are gathering at 10:30am (service begins 11am) on Owen's 80th birthday, Saturday, October 7, Cantigny Park, 1 S.151 Winfield Rd, Wheaton, IL 60189. Those who are unable to attend in person, please view Owen's memorial service via this link: <https://www.asimplestreaming.com/ocwavrinek>

Burial of cremated remains with military honors 12noon, Sunday October 8, Wheatland Township Cemetery, Naperville.

In lieu of flowers, Owen requested that donations be made in his name to: Indian Prairie Educational Foundation, 780 Shoreline Dr. Aurora, IL 60504, <https://ipef204.org/donate-to-ipef/> or The Conservation Foundation, 10S404 Knoch Knolls Road, Naperville IL 60565, <https://www.theconservationfoundation.org/>.

Arrangements by Inclusive Funeral Care, 773-370-2959 or www.InclusiveFuneralCare.com.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

OCT 7. 10:30 AM - 2:30 PM (CT)

Cantigny Park
1 S. 151 Winfield Rd.
Wheaton, IL 60189
<https://cantigny.org/>

Doors open 10:30am, service begins 11am. Reception to follow.

Burial of cremated remains with military honors

OCT 8. 12:00 PM (CT)

Wheatland Township Cemetery
22440-22556 104th St
Naperville, IL 60565
<https://wheatlandtownship.com/cemetery-committee/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Inclusive Funeral Care created a Webcast in memory of Owen Clifford Wavrinek*



Team Inclusive Funeral Care - October 04, 2023 at 01:14 PM

PM

“ *Paul & Margaret lit a candle in memory of Owen Clifford Wavrinek*



Paul & Margaret - September 18, 2023 at 04:55 PM

CJ

“ *I went to school with Owen from Matteson elementary through high school at Rich East in Park Forest. Two memories that come to mind 1) playing LL baseball in Matteson (his dad was our coach) 2) collecting reptiles and amphibians with Owen and Henry Lehman. We spent many a day being amateur Herpatologists! Owen was simply a great buddy. 🙏*

Chuck Jeffrey Jr. - September 18, 2023 at 04:43 PM

LG

“ So sorry to hear of Owens passing away. My sympathies to Luz and family.

I went to school with Owen our entire childhood. We lived in different towns but spent school days together with friends . We were able to get together a few years ago and share some memories with some of our other school friends. It was so nice to see the few that were able to make it . His Mom was also one of my teachers in grade school , very nice teacher .

Owen did a lot in his life , so proud to have known him . Rest in peace my old friend. I'll see you on the other side someday- just not yet !

Lawrida Trenary Gilliam - September 18, 2023 at 04:06 PM