



Martin Alexander Pilat

JAN 26, 1947 - JUN 9, 2024



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Hamlin & Hilbish
Funeral Directors

Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 5
Media	Page 10



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Martin A. Pilat, 77, of Grand Island Florida, passed away on June 9th, 2024.

He was born on January 26, 1947 in Cortland NY, a son of the late Margaret Helen Pilat (Holland) and Alexander Jack Pilat. He was born and raised in Groton, NY and resided in Locke, NY for 40 years where he created a beautifully landscaped and crafted home for his 2 children and wife.

Martin graduated from Groton High School during 1965 in NY, earned his associate's degree from SUNY Broome Community college during 1967, then Bachelor of Arts in English from SUNY Oswego and a Public-School Teacher Certificate in 1979.

He was drafted into the US Army during 1970-1976, and was awarded various medals, including the purple heart.

He was rewarded an assistantship through SUNY Oswego where he taught freshman English and worked toward his master's degree. He then taught at Groton High School then English at Moravia Central high school in NY for 30 years where he retired after 35 years of teaching. During his years at MCS he was involved in several high school theater productions by building sets and supporting the actors in public speaking skills. Martin was respected, fun and enthusiastic while teaching literature, public speaking and college freshman English through Syracuse University. He was a master storyteller with an engaging voice and laugh that would permeate throughout the school. He was admired by hundreds of students because he met them where they were, and then empowered them to grow beyond their expectations.

His talents and hobbies extended far beyond the classroom. He was a master craftsman with fine woodworking, gardening, caring for 30 bonsai trees, journaling, reading, fishing, bowling, golfing, dancing, laughing and camping with his family and friends. He and his wife Pauline knew how to celebrate! During the holidays they shared their enthusiasm with the neighborhood by meticulously decorating and wearing costumes. Halloween was a time to scare, while Christmas



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was a time to delight with beautiful Christmas lights at the Pilat's house! Marty was also a member of a local investment club.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Pauline A. (Bush) Pilat; daughter, Kelly L. (Pilat) Hargett, [Will Hargett]; son, Martin J. Pilat; grandchildren Alisha Pilat, Ciara Pilat, Alec Hargett, Jeremy Hargett, Samuel Hargett and Arthur Hargett; 1.5 great-grandchildren Oakley Pilat with a 2nd due in October. His nieces Andrea McGlynn, Kristy Casson, Megan Sostre, Brandi Buggs, Addy Fetterly and nephews Tom Benedict, Chad Wood, Jon Shufelt.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his sister, Judith Anne (Pilat) Benedict.

Services will be held at Sunlake Estates, FL Fall of 2024 and Groton, NY summer of 2024.

Memorial donations may be made to:

Gerties Small Dog Rescue. <https://gertiessmalldogrescue.org>.

Check can be made to Gerties Small Dog Rescue C/O Linda Fadden 60 South Granby Rd. Fulton, NY 13069. "In Memory of Martin A. Pilat"

or

Powers Moravia Library. <https://powerslibraryny.org>. Check can be made to . Powers Library 29 Church St P.O. Box 71 Moravia, NY 13118. "In Memory of Martin A. Pilat"

Condolences, memories and photos may be shared on the tribute wall.



Tribute Wall

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JB

Jeremy Bowen posted:

Marty was an incredible teacher and an all around wonderful human being. He was incredibly kind and always had an open mind and open heart. I was always fascinated by him as he always seemed to have a child-like wonder about the world around him. I, like everyone who was lucky enough to know him, will always remember his loud and contagious laugh; reminding us to never take life too seriously. He taught me to always think outside the box and look at the world from a different perspective. High School was a difficult time for me but he created a safe space for me to be myself. He taught me to not be afraid of my uniqueness but instead to embrace it and all the things that make me different. I carry the life lessons he taught me like precious treasures. These lessons truly impacted my life in all the best possible ways. I am humbled and honored to have had him as a teacher, mentor and friend. Rest peacefully, Marty. Much love to you and your family as you navigate this next chapter.

June 16 at 7:25 AM

JO

John Oleyourryk posted:

Best of friends for over 56 years! From Oswego college days, working at the IGA store, picnics at Fair Haven, camping and fishing with our families. Never forget Marty's laugh! May he rest in peace. Pauli, you are in our thoughts and prayers. John, Louise and Joe Oleyourryk

June 13 at 3:45 AM

RC

Rachel Clark sent a Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Lavender and White to the Pilat family.



June 12 at 5:54 PM

MP

Marguerite Pierce posted:

Mr Pilat was an inspiration to me while in MCS. He was always smiling. I will always have fond memories of him. Prayers for the family.

June 12 at 4:54 PM



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MC

Marni Christopher posted:

Pauline, Jim and I are so sorry to hear about your tremendous loss! We always enjoyed seeing you and Marty at reunions. Sending our love, hugs, and prayers for comfort for you and your family. Marni and Jim.

June 12 at 8:35 AM

DM

Diana Ussery-Moore posted:

My sincerest condolences to the family. Marty Pilat was on of the best teachers I had at Moravia Jr High School. I was a "troubled student with a lot of potential, "

June 12 at 6:40 AM

DM

Diana Ussery-Moore lit a candle in honor of Martin.

Diana Ussery-Moore lit a candle in memory of Martin Pilat

June 12 at 6:35 AM



DJ

Donnie And Sue Jayne posted:

Pauline - We are so sorry to hear of Marty's passing. He was great fun and we enjoyed him. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. Donnie and Sue Jayne

June 11 at 7:31 PM



Tracy Voorheis posted:

My deepest respect as one of the AMAZING Class of 1980 that never had the privilege of having him for teacher. I was voted most artistic talented senior which included taking all the art classes, not the literature. He and Mr. Pinella (meditation & mime) were real treasures at MCS.

June 11 at 4:19 PM

DT

Dorinda Trumble posted:

He was an extraordinary teacher and mentor. Moravia was truly fortunate and blessed to have him for so long. The legacy he leaves behind is immeasurable.

June 11 at 3:42 PM



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Pat Bowen posted:

Condolences to Pauline and family. A wonderful man and family. May he rest in peace he brought much joy and greatness to the Moravia Central School and the Moravia area.

June 11 at 2:55 PM



Matt And Tracee Starner posted:

Kelly, Will and family, we are so very sorry. May his memory be a blessing.

June 11 at 2:37 PM



Jacque Alldaffer posted:

Pauline and Family, I am so sorry to hear of Marty's passing. He was a Gentle Man who will be missed by all here at Sun Lake. Rest in God's Loving Arms Marty.

June 11 at 2:11 PM



Connie (Dellow,) Reed posted:

Dear Pauline and Family. How very sad to learn of Marty's passing. He was a guy with a huge personality and heart as big and wide as his smile! I am so very sorry, prayers for u all during this difficult time. Connie (Dellow) Reed

June 11 at 1:57 PM



Natalie Scavone shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Time spent in Mr. Pilat's class and editorial the 1980 yearbook left indelible memories in my heart. These pictures capture the essence of a man who was loved by many. His light burns brightly in the hearts of many students whose lives and hearts he touched.



June 11 at 1:50 PM



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Karen Nast Pauer posted:

Marty not only was my favorite teacher but had a huge impact on my life even after I graduated. He encouraged me to believe in myself and gave me confidence in tackling life's challenges. I will never forget what he taught in those high school years. He will be missed but his impact will live on. My condolences to his family.

June 11 at 1:39 PM



Love, Andrea, Tom, Caitlin And Alicia sent a Healing Tears - Blue and White to the Pilat family.



June 11 at 1:04 PM



Love, Andrea, Tom, Caitlin And Alicia planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Martin.



June 11 at 1:04 PM



Anonymous sent a Shades of Purple to the Pilat family.



June 11 at 12:53 PM



Michael Hill posted:

There are few days when I do not think of Marty. He helped instill a real love of learning in me which I cherish and nurture to this day.

June 11 at 12:37 PM



Gerry Snd Ginny Sharpstenn posted:

The Memories of Marty goes on endlessly. A great neighbor . Wonderful person to know and honor to be his friend. One thing for sure Marty, when you entered the pearly gates, they know who u are with your laughter .

June 11 at 12:04 PM



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Willis Bennett posted:

I will always remember Marty as a great friend and fellow teacher. We spent many years playing fantasy football in our Moravia league. I am so sorry to hear of his passing.

June 11 at 11:48 AM



Anita Digiacomo posted:

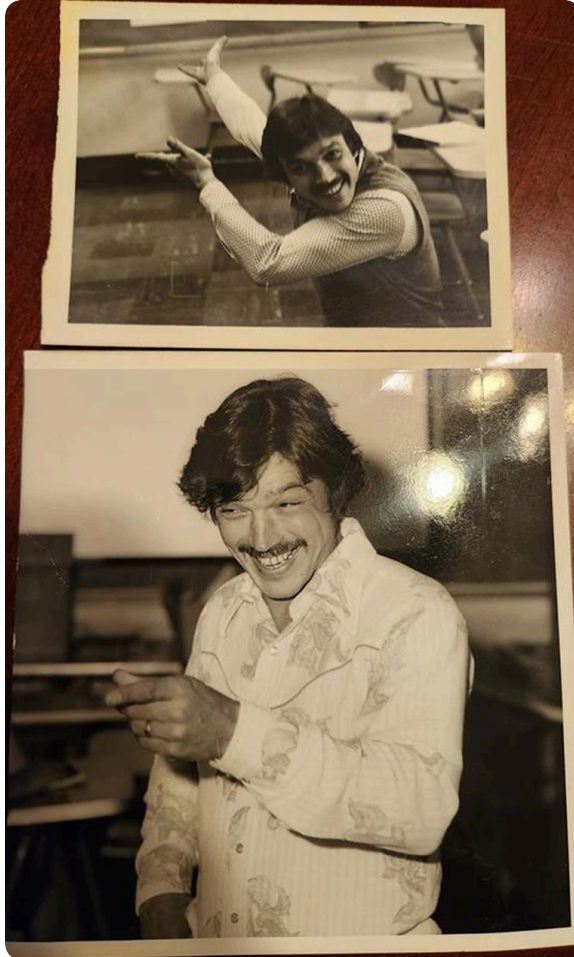
Pauline. So sorry for the loss of Marty. He was such a great guy. We remember all the great times bowling and getting together when you lived in Locke. Hugs and love to you and your family.

June 11 at 11:33 AM



Natalie Scavone shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

June 11 at 1:50 PM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Martin by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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