



George "Buddy" Disch

December 17, 2025

It is with a heavy heart and profound sadness that we announce the passing of George

"Buddy" Disch on December 17, 2025

Buddy was born on April 12, 1967, in Queens NY. He was the beloved son of George and

Margina (deceased) and adored brother to Jodi. He attended P.S. 162, St Robert Bellarmine

School and St Francis Preparatory School. He was a natural athlete who played baseball and

football throughout his youth. He was a diehard NY Mets and NY Jets fan even though they

disappointed him year after year.

In the late 1980s Buddy started working as an apprentice in Ironworkers Union Local 361. He

became part of the elite and skilled crews known as "raising gangs" who erect steel structures

ultimately culminating in a photo op at the spires peak symbolizing project completion.

Reaching the top and installing the final piece is known as "topping out" which is a huge

milestone and symbol of pride. The raising gang often takes a commemorative photo at the

summit to celebrate their achievement and the project's success. It takes great skill and bravery to be a part of this tradition and Buddy was the epitome of a proud union Local 361 Ironworker.

Buddy left NYC for a quieter life in Copake Lake, NY. after an injury he suffered at work which resulted in multiple surgeries. Copake is a cherished place our parents discovered in 1970. We spent our summers and winters there boating, golfing, fishing, skiing and swimming in the lake and just being kids. It was a wonderful place for children to grow up. Buddy was determined to recover from his injuries and best known for "WALKING" and everyone knew and loved him.

He loved to kayak on the lake for hours on end. He loved to follow the many Eagles nests perched around the lake and he knew where and when Eaglets were born and watched as their parents taught them how to hunt and survive. He logged thousands of miles and knew the whole community. Everyone knew "George" as the guy who Walks! Buddy found joy in the simple things in life. He had a sharp witty sense of humor and an infectious laugh that lit up the room. He absolutely had a love of food, it didn't matter if it was a bagel with cream cheese for breakfast or a 5-star meal at the best restaurant. He was always looking forward to his next meal.

Buddy was a beloved son, brother, grandson, nephew, godfather, uncle, cousin and friend. His passing has left an immeasurable void in the hearts of those that knew and

loved him. He will be deeply missed and his many devastated family members and friends will carry his memory forward. We were raised in the Catholic church and Buddy really found God again in the last years of his life. He leaned into his faith and became a believer and found comfort in God. He will now forever be "Walking with God"

Visitation will be held at Roslyn Heights Funeral Home on Friday from 4-8PM. Funeral Mass to be held Saturday at 10:30AM at St. Robert Bellarmine. Cremation will be private.

Family & Friends Can Order Flowers by clicking on: <https://www.qgfloral.com/roslyn-heights-funeral-flowers/>

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **26**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Roslyn Heights Funeral Home
75 Mineola Ave
Roslyn Heights, NY 11577
(516) 621-4545
roslynheightsfh@gmail.com
<https://RoslynHeightsFH.com>

Funeral Mass

DEC **27**. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Robert Bellarmine
56-15 213 St.
Bayside, NY

Tribute Wall

TB

“ I just found out. I went to apprenticeship school with George and worked on some jobs with him over the years. Some good memories. RIP pal.

Ted Barnard - January 12 at 04:08 PM

GC

“ Gert and Cindy lit a candle in memory of George "Buddy" Disch



Gert and Cindy - December 28, 2025 at 01:23 PM

GB

“ Gert, Cindy and Bentley lit a candle in memory of George "Buddy" Disch



Gert, Cindy and Bentley - December 28, 2025 at 01:06 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Buddy



Melinda Matkowsky - December 26, 2025 at 10:08 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Buddy



Melinda Matkowsky - December 26, 2025 at 10:07 AM



“ Melinda Matkowsky lit a candle in memory of
George "Buddy" Disch



Melinda Matkowsky - December 25, 2025 at 03:57 PM



“ Dear Buddy,



You were a dear friend to me these last few years. I will always cherish our long talks and laughter over text and FaceTime— even from 6,000 miles away, it felt like you were right there with me in the living room, laughing so loud.

One of my most precious memories is you teaching me how to waterski at the lake. I never thought I could do it, but you knew I could. Failing was never an option—you kept encouraging me until I finally got up. Thank you for believing in me. You were the best teacher, and all you ever wanted was to share the lake with the people you loved.

Thank you for all the wonderful times we shared: Billy Joel and Elton John concerts, Long Beach bar days, Bell Blvd nights, countless incredible meals, holidays, and so many memories in between.

Sending all my love to Jodi and George during this incredibly difficult time.

*All My love,
Melinda*

Melinda Matkowsky - December 24, 2025 at 10:33 AM

KN

“ *I have so many funny memories of George. I will miss seeing him and laughing about the crazy things we have done, including "borrowing" golf carts for late night nights. George you have your peace. You will be missed. Kellie*

Kellie Nardin - December 24, 2025 at 07:28 AM

EG

“ *RIP Buddy enjoy your walks with God and your family and friends waiting to hug you*

Edward Georg - December 23, 2025 at 06:04 PM

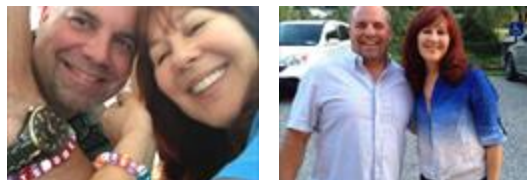


“ *We were heartbroken to hear hear about buddy. Roger has many more memories of him then myself. Every time I came to the lake he was always kind, generous and very very funny! I do remember several years ago when buddy was down in South Florida we took him to one of our favorite restaurants which at that time was The rustic inn. The three of us had a very memorable evening with Buddy! He also loved going fishing with Roger and I know his golf skills are much better than his fishing skills !He was a joy to be around and he will certainly be missed by us and anyone that knew him RIP my friend!*

Stacey Martin Ploneis - December 23, 2025 at 06:04 PM

PA

“ *Forever loved, deeply missed, and never forgotten. Buddy's spirit — and laughter — will always remain at Copake Lake.
I Love You, Pattie ❤️*



Patricia - December 23, 2025 at 02:58 PM

CH

“ So so sorry to hear of George's passing.....Peace and blessings to all the family!
He was a dear friend and said one of my biggest fans.
I knew George both from his love of food as you say.....as I not only served him, but we talked about food all the time at the Old Mill in Egremont MA, and Acqua al 2 more recently in W Stockbridge MA. And from his love of music. He used to come hear me sing whenever I was near by in Copake, Hillsdale, Millerton NY, or Great Barrington MA. Also, because we both liked to walk....him around the lake, and me with my dog.....
An infectious laugh and always a smile on his face despite his painful surgeries and all.....
I will miss his spirit, but carry his adventures with me!

all the best, Christina Dellea

Christina - December 23, 2025 at 11:31 AM

KW

So sad to hear the Bad news about George, He was a piece of work that I won't forget, God Bless his soul. K.Whalen Local 361

Kevin Whalen - December 24, 2025 at 10:57 PM

LG

“ *lisa Gambelunghi sent a virtual gift in memory of George "Buddy" Disch*



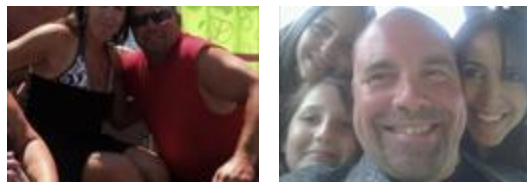
lisa Gambelunghi - December 22, 2025 at 09:21 PM

LG

“ *My dear old friend , Thank you for the friendship we shared. Thank you for taking my so Michael to his first football game. Thank you for letting my girls steer the boat. Thank you for taking us ice skating on the lake. Thank you for all our long walks and talks together . Thank you for being a part of my life. I will cherish our friendship . You will be truly missed . May you rest in eternal peace with our lord and savior.*

Love always

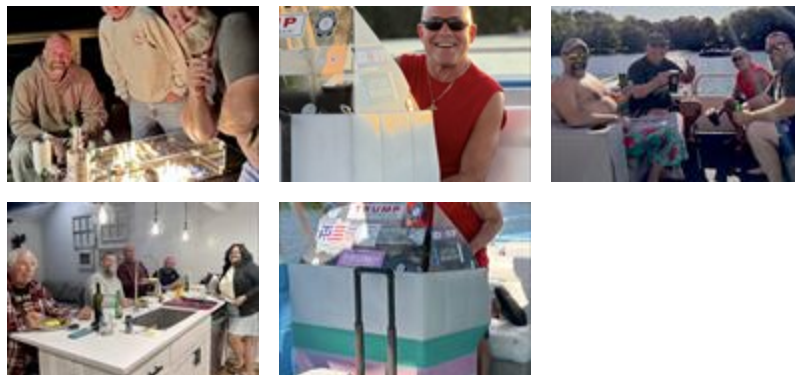
Lisa and kids



lisa Gambelunghi - December 22, 2025 at 07:00 PM

DG

“ *Had the pleasure of hanging out with Buddy up at the lake house this past summer. Grateful for that memory and a great time it was! RIP Buddy*



Dave G - December 22, 2025 at 06:58 PM

RC

Love you buddy you're always in our hearts and prayers

Robert Crocker - December 23, 2025 at 11:45 AM

MG

“ *Marladelari Grabsky lit a candle in memory of George "Buddy" Disch*



Marladelari Grabsky - December 22, 2025 at 06:08 PM

GG

“ *Gina Garges sent a virtual gift in memory of George "Buddy" Disch*



Gina Garges - December 22, 2025 at 06:01 PM

RO

“ *Rip Buddy , many memories*



Ron - December 22, 2025 at 05:32 PM

FA

“ *Frank & Angie lit a candle in memory of George "Buddy" Disch*



Frank & Angie - December 22, 2025 at 03:28 PM

ML

“ Micky Lanzetta lit a candle in memory of
George "Buddy" Disch



Micky Lanzetta - December 22, 2025 at 02:17 PM

ML

I will cherish the memories I have deep in my heart!!!❤️

Micky Lanzetta - December 23, 2025 at 01:57 AM