



Christian Nobile Dickson

March 22, 1969 - April 24, 2026

Christian Nobile Dickson—Chris—passed peacefully on April 24, 2026, in Branford, Connecticut, at the age of 57, following a sudden decline in his health.

Born on March 22, 1969, in Belleville, New Jersey, Chris moved through the world with a rare combination of sensitivity, curiosity, and creative force. He was known not only for his love toward others, but for his ability to awaken that feeling in them. To know him was to feel more alive, more seen, more at ease, and more yourself.

His love of art began in early childhood. He would spend hours sketching the world around him. A turning point came when a perceptive art teacher, Doug Castellano, recognized his talent and encouraged him to pursue it more seriously. Chris entered the Art in the Park Festival in Hazlet, New Jersey, and won second place.

What began to emerge in him then was more than skill, it was a way of seeing. He was beginning to understand that the same sensitivity that allowed him to perceive people so deeply also allowed him to perceive space: to imagine how something could feel, how it could hold life within it. That early encouragement gave him permission to trust that vision; to believe that his perception, his intuition, and his creativity were not only real, but meaningful. It

was this insight and confidence that led him to apply to The Cooper Union.

He studied architecture at The Cooper Union in New York City, where his mind and spirit found their natural expression. There, he learned to give form to his ideas through drawing and design, earning the respect of his peers and professors. In recorded critiques of his student work, architect John Hejduk spoke of Chris's drawings in striking terms, describing them as possessing a rare clarity and insight, an attempt to grasp something fundamental, even "how God thinks." It was a reflection of the depth, detail, and originality that would define his work.

After graduation, Chris began his professional life with a quiet confidence that would define his career. Through his work at Alex Gorlin Architects, Brian O'Keefe Architect PC, and Robert A.M. Stern Architects, LLP, he brought a steady brilliance to everything he touched. He helped shape spaces that felt both ordered and alive, contributing to projects such as the East Hampton Town Hall on Long Island, and leaving his mark on New York's cultural landscape through the design of Bar Veloce.

In the wake of COVID in 2020, he and his wife, Mary, made a home in West Hartford, Connecticut, where he founded Christian Dickson Architecture. His work was never just about buildings, it was about people. He listened deeply, designed thoughtfully, and believed that a space should reflect, and even lift, those who inhabit it. His work was, in every sense, an extension of his way of being in the world.

In his personal life, Chris understood that connection is the purest form of love. He gave his full attention, without judgment, without hurry. He moved through museums and sculpture gardens in conversation, not just observation. He shared music, food, ideas, and laughter, always with intention, always with joy. He had a gift for presence. He could sit with you in

silence over coffee, or talk for hours about what mattered most. He reminded us that life is not something to rush through, but something to inhabit.

Chris shared a profound and enduring love with his wife, Mary. Together, they built a life of creativity, partnership, and deep understanding. She was his home, his advocate, and his constant. Their bond was unmistakable and unwavering.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Badon; his parents, Terry and Barry Dickson; his sister, Anne Dickson; his brother-in-law Tony Botzas; his nieces and goddaughters, Hannah and Ellie; his mother-in-law, Boguslawa Badon; his brother and sister-in-law, Sebastian Badon and Elena Klonoski; and a wide and devoted circle of family and friends who will carry him forward in countless ways.

A Celebration of Life will be held at LiteBox Studios Collaborative Event Space (1429 Park St, Hartford, CT) on Friday, May 1 from 6:00–8:00 PM. All are welcome to come and have coffee with Chris one last time.

A Funeral Service will be held at St. James's Episcopal Church (1018 Farmington Ave, West Hartford, CT) on Saturday, May 2 at 10:00 AM, followed by a repast. All are welcome.

Chris's spirit continues, in the spaces he shaped, in the people he loved, and in the moments he taught us to slow down and truly see.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY 1. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Litebox Studios Collaborative Event Space
1429 Park Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Parking available in large lot on Bartholomew Ave Please enter through side entrance marked by stairs/ramp with green railing

Funeral Service

MAY 2. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. James's Episcopal Church Chapel
1018 Farmington Ave.
West Hartford, CT

Tribute Wall



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Christian Nobile Dickson.

May 01 at 12:25 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Christian Nobile Dickson.



May 01 at 12:25 PM



“ Jeff and Kerstin and Kayleigh and Alia purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Christian Nobile Dickson.



Jeff and Kerstin and Kayleigh and Alia - April 30 at 08:08 PM