



## Jeffrey Russell Stafford

April 18, 1955 - February 25, 2013

Jeffrey Russell Stafford, 57, of West Hartford, passed peacefully at home on Monday, February 25, 2013, surrounded by his wife and children, after a twelve year battle with Multiple Myeloma. Jeff was born April 18, 1955 in Hartford and raised in Bloomfield and Groton Long Point. He graduated from the Kingswood School in 1973 and from Colby College in 1977 receiving Bachelors of Science in both Chemistry and Business. Jeff was an athlete at Kingswood playing football, riflery and lacrosse and went on to win three Varsity letters playing lacrosse at Colby. Jeff was the consummate salesman and took great pride in his work to promote the products of electronic manufacturers in Connecticut and throughout New England. He covered territories from New England to Florida before moving on to cover national sales. In September 1980, Jeff married Ellen McKone of West Hartford whom he leaves behind along with their four children Elizabeth Kurantowicz and her husband Greg of Fairfield, Julianne Stafford of Boston, Christopher Stafford of Norwalk and Courtney Stafford of New York City. He also leaves his dog Sophie whom he adored and a grandson to be born in April. Aside from being a loving husband and father, Jeff's greatest accomplishment was his battle against Multiple Myeloma. With the love, support, and care of his family, Dr. Reale and Dr. Dasanu along with his favorite nurses at Gothic Park, Jeff waged a battle that left most in awe. He became a fundraiser and advocate for the International Myeloma Foundation after his children started The Wamp Swim to raise funds to find a cure. Jeff's love of puns, the Red Sox, sailing,

jazz music, his International Scout, and a cold beer are just a few of the things he will be remembered for. Friends can pay their respects during calling hours on Friday, March 1 from 4-7 p.m. at the Molloy Funeral Home 906 Farmington Ave. West Hartford. A memorial service will be held at the Church of St. Timothy, 1116 N. Main St. West Hartford on Saturday, March 2 at 10 a.m. In lieu of flowers please make a donation in Jeff's name to the International Myeloma Foundation 12650 Riverside Drive, Suite 206 North Hollywood, CA 91607 [www.myeloma.org](http://www.myeloma.org).

# Cemetery Details

## Mount Saint Benedict

1 Cottage Grove Road  
Bloomfield, CT

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 1. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Molloy Funeral Home  
906 Farmington Ave  
West Hartford, CT 06119  
(860) 232-1322

## Service

MAR 2. 10:00 AM (ET)

Church of St. Timothy  
1116 North Main St  
West Hartford, CT 06117  
(860) 233-5131

# Tribute Wall

TR

“ *Ellen and family,  
Rick and I are so sorry to hear about Jeff 's passing. You and your entire family should be commend for the love and care you gave to him. My heart hurts for all of you but I know he is with Rita...enjoy a cocktail. We are sending all our love, strength and prayers to all of you during this time.  
All our love,  
Tara and Rick Rubino*

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**Tara Rubino** - March 03, 2013 at 02:16 PM

SO

“ *Dear Ellen, Liz & Greg, Jules, Chris, and Courtney -- We have been thinking of you (and Jeff) and are so sorry for your loss. Sending you lots of love today.*

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**Scott & Erin Olmstead** - March 02, 2013 at 05:34 PM

DW

“ *Ellen and family so sorry to hear about Jeff's passing. My heart and prayers go out to you and your family. Seems just like it was the other day we were all down in Dukes basement shooting pool.*

*Dwane*

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**Dwane** - March 01, 2013 at 10:26 PM

TO

“ Ellen, Liz, Jules, Chris, & Courtney - My condolences to you all. So sorry not to be there on Saturday. Jeff was really a part of my family and someone that I truly admired and looked up to. Please know that I have you in my thoughts and I am sending you all love and well wishes.

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**Todd Olmstead** - March 01, 2013 at 07:55 PM

RB

“ I had the pleasure and honor of being a colleague and more importantly a friend of Jeff's for the last 20 years. He was a true inspiration to me and I will miss his friendship and what we shared. Jeff you are irreplaceable; you made the world a better place to live in. My deepest condolences go out to all of Jeff's family at this most trying of times.

*Rick Barnett*

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**Rick Barnett** - March 01, 2013 at 06:51 PM

EL

“ Dear, dear Ellen and family, I was so sorry to hear about Jeff. He was such an incredible family man and the best neighbor anyone could ever want - always willing to lend a hand. I will miss his laugh, stories, great conversations, concern for others and his eternal good humor. He is in our prayers and surely in the arms of your parents and mine... probably telling them a joke. Love to you all, Elta & Jimmy Leonard

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**Elta-Jeanne Leonard** - March 01, 2013 at 04:19 PM

MD

“ Ellen and family.....Words fail me, the fight was incredible and feel I was with you all during it. I have wonderful memories of the funny man..he had to be to be married to you E..My love to you all, in hopes to see you all on Saturday..Love you Ellen...Marcia and the girls..

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**Marcia Dolan** - March 01, 2013 at 12:19 PM

VR

“ Louise, Lee and Bougie... I am so sorry about the passing of your brother Jeff...y'all are in my thoughts and prayers...I can't make it to the service but know that I am there for you in spirit...God Speed

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**Valerie Rocherolle Russell** - March 01, 2013 at 12:10 PM

BD

“ Betsy & Glenn Drake purchased the Cheryl's Sympathy Bundle for the family of Jeffrey Russell Stafford.



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**Betsy & Glenn Drake** - March 01, 2013 at 11:06 AM

KC

“ Dear Stafford and Malone families,

*Jeff's upbeat way of rolling with things in life and his easy going manner are among my fond memories of Colby. I remember his funny way of describing his roommate Rick's 'dry cleaning' in our freshman year when we were in Mariner, perhaps Dick may recall it too. He had me in stitches. His good humor and funny puns made it easier to get through our chem labs when spring (finally) came to Maine. I'll miss Jeff and will keep your families in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Kendrew Colton*

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**Ken Colton** - March 01, 2013 at 11:01 AM

JE

“ Jenna lit a candle in memory of Jeffrey  
Russell Stafford



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**Jenna** - March 01, 2013 at 08:15 AM

JE

*Liz, I am so sorry to hear about the loss of your dad. My thought & prayers are with you and your family.*

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**Jenna** - March 01, 2013 at 08:17 AM



“ *Sacred Garden Spray was purchased for the family of Jeffrey Russell Stafford.*



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March 01, 2013 at 07:24 AM



“ *Ellen and Family,*

*As you well know, Jeff was the best of men for you in the early years, the best of men for you and your family in the middle years, and the best of men in the recent years as the love of your lives and a leader and inspiration by example. His life was a blessing that will continue to give hope and courage to all of you through the ages. And Ellen, you are the equal to him in this courage, love, and partnership that created a very special and fortunate family.*

*Look into your family's eyes each day to see Jeff's shining example and ready smile.*

*Our love and support,*

*Mike and Aletta Waterhouse*

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**Mike Waterhouse** - February 28, 2013 at 10:12 PM

TF

“ Dear Stafford & McKone Family,

*Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Jeff was someone we always admired and we will miss him dearly. His fight with Multiple Myeloma inspired all around him. I always enjoyed stopping by for a cold beer as we sat and shared many good conversations and memories on your patio. He adored his family and he lives on in the four incredible children he raised. Ellen, we will continue our meetings on your patio on the hill and toast to what a fine husband, father and friend Jeff was. God Bless you all.*

*The Casey Family*

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**The Casey Family** - February 28, 2013 at 09:14 PM

DH

“ Lee, Kendall & Louise, my deepest sympathies to you girls on the loss of your brother. Just know he is in a better place and is now at peace. You are all in my thoughts and prayers and I'm sure you are proud of the fight Jeffrey fought for so many years. What an inspiration to us all. To quote Lee, "To Live in the Hearts of those you Love is not to die". My good bless you all and just know that your many friends are thinking of you.

*Debbie Holmes of Noank, CT*

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**Debbie Holmes** - February 28, 2013 at 02:33 PM

JC

“ Dear Ellen,Liz, Stafford Family, and McCone Family,  
I was deeply saddened to hear of Jeffs passing. The first words that come into my mind are " What a great guy !" His sense of humor and positive way of looking at all things in life were things that set him apart. In his days of involvement at Northwest Catholic he impressed me as a caring and loving parent who was willing to get involved in so many positive ways. I must say that his sense of humor and unselfish gifts of time and energy were very appreciated by myself and the entire Northwest athletic community and the school at large. He played no small part in helping many young men and women enjoy a most enriching experience at NWC. I know how he fought his illness with courage and how he refused to let it define the way he would live. All of us who knew him are far better for the experience. Sincerely,  
John Shukie Northwest Catholic Athletic Director-Retired Baltimore, MD.

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**John C.Shukie** - February 28, 2013 at 01:40 PM

CS

“ Calli, Martin, Sasha purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Jeffrey Russell Stafford.



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**Calli, Martin, Sasha** - February 28, 2013 at 11:22 AM

AP

“ Dear Ellen, Staffords, and McKones:  
I have so many fond memories of summers at the beach with  
"Uncle" Jeff. He was always positive, welcoming, fun, and willing to  
play! I know he maintained that spirit while fighting his courageous  
battle for so long. I'm so sorry for your loss and I know he'll be  
missed. You're in my thoughts and prayers.  
Amy Peltier

Amy peltier - February 28, 2013 at 09:54 AM



“ A New Sunrise Spray was purchased for the  
family of Jeffrey Russell Stafford.



February 28, 2013 at 09:31 AM



“ Secret Garden Basket was purchased for the  
family of Jeffrey Russell Stafford.



February 28, 2013 at 09:03 AM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the  
family of Jeffrey Russell Stafford.



February 28, 2013 at 08:48 AM

“ *Ellen and Family,*

*I was shocked to get the news about Jeff late yesterday. We had traded e-mails just over a month ago and although he indicated that the continuing treatment was slowing him down there was nothing in his tone to indicate that he wasn't continuing to fight the good fight and would do so for many years to come.*

*As you know, Jeff and I roomed together for 2 1/2 years at Colby, After Colby, he was gracious enough to be my Best Man at our wedding, I count him amongst the dearest of my life-long friends. I spent most of last evening paging through my old Colby yearbooks and reminiscing about Jeff and the years we spent together at Colby. If not for Jeff, I may never have made it past my Freshman year. He helped me engineer a room-mate swap half way through the year to get me out of a "party" room and moved in to the more steadfast (and sober) Jeff Stafford and Rick Healey room in Mariner dorm. It was through Jeff, that I joined the Tau Delta Phi frat with many of the other freshman in the dorm and that turned out to be a great decision for me.*

*I will remeber Jeff for this terrible puns, his infatuation over his International Scout (I got to ride in it a few times and I never understood what he saw in that beast!), his overall sense of humor, and his outgoing easy manner with people. He just seemed to go with the flow in life,.. Something I have never been able to master in spite of his good example. I also know how much he cherished you and the kids. His whole life revolved around his family and that in itself gaurantees that his was a life well lived and of great worth.*

*It still hasn't sunk in that he is gone, but for me he will never really be gone since he is such a fond part of my life's memeories.*

*Jeff, you, and the kids are in my prayers and thoughts and always will be. I hope that time will help heal some of the pain and grief you have now. I will be up to Hartford for the celebration of Jeff's life on Saturday.*

*With most fond thoughts of Jeff,*

*Dick Conant*

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**Dick Conant** - February 28, 2013 at 08:20 AM

BL

“ *Ellen & Family,*

*We are truly going to miss Jeff. He was one of a kind. He always had something positive to say about other people. His family was the most important thing in his life.*

*May GOD bless his soul*

*Bill & Lucy Little*

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**Bill Little** - February 28, 2013 at 08:16 AM

PL

“ *Pat Longo lit a candle in memory of Jeffrey Russell Stafford*



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**Pat Longo** - February 28, 2013 at 07:52 AM

SB

“ *You are in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. May God bless you all.*

*Your friends at St. Thomas the Apostle School, West Hartford, CT*

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**Sarah Blanchard** - February 28, 2013 at 07:41 AM

SP

“ *Ellen and Stafford Clan, Jeff will be sorely missed. He had enough fight in him for 1000 people and, although I never expressed it, I was in awe of his strength. I know you were all behind him in his long battle. There is a sense of peace that he's out of pain and discomfort but I will keep all you cousins in my thoughts and prayers. Lots of love, Susan Pease Gadoua*

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**SPG** - February 28, 2013 at 01:42 AM

JA

“ *Ellen and Family. I am so sorry to hear of Jeff's passing. Sending you prayers and hope that memories of him will keep you strong. Jutta Koenig Arena*

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**Jutta Koenig Arena** - February 27, 2013 at 07:52 PM

RW

“ *Ellen & Kids, we're missing Jeff greatly! One of my cohorts is gone. His jokes on a daily basis, even up until the end made my work weeks and constantly put a smile on my face. His strength and attitude throughout this horrible ordeal were unbelievable. Not many could handle it in this way.*

*Let's share the laughs and good times we had and celebrate his life in the way he would want. No looking back but let's move forward. You've got great kids and you'll all get through this.*

*Love,  
Ralph, Deb, Lindsey & Chad*

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**Ralph Waterhouse** - February 27, 2013 at 06:26 PM

BE

“ Sweet Ellen and family,

*So sorry for Jeff's passing. Loved him so much! I'll always remember him with our family gatherings and parties at '244 Firetown'; he was such a happy person and soooo fun to be around; kind of like you lady...*

*My Mother and Dad especially loved him so much; treated him like a son; he was a son to my folks and like a big brother to me too. Loved him so much!*

*Please call on us for anything. You and the family are in our prayers. Draw strength on your memories; your family will sustain you.*

*Love,  
Betsy and Glenn*



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**Betsy** - February 27, 2013 at 04:38 PM

FL

“ Dear Ellen and Family:

*We are so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you in this time of need.  
with heartfelt sympathy, Fayne & Mark Lewis, and John Duhaime*

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**Fayne Ann Lewis** - February 27, 2013 at 02:14 PM