



Paul B. Montana

March 3, 1947 - May 7, 2020

Stratham - Paul B. Montana, 73, passed away on Thursday, May 7, 2020, holding hands with his loving wife, at their home in Stratham. He succumbed after a long and courageous fight with metastatic prostate cancer. He was the son of Paul R. and Louise A. Montana of Claverack, NY.

In addition to his beloved wife, Carol (DeAngelo) Montana, Paul leaves behind son Thomas H. Montana of Lee, FL, (Layla Bakehorn) and their children, Kane and Kameron; a daughter Sarah Jane Elizabeth Montana (Allyson) of Cumberland, RI and their children, River Wolf and Jovie Moon and a son Joseph P. Montana of Oakland, CA.

Before moving to New Hampshire, he and his family lived on the waterfront in Rockport, MA and in upstate NY.

He graduated from Berkshire School in Sheffield, MA and Utica College of Syracuse University, where he then worked as Assistant Director of Admissions and Director of Alumni Relations. Later he moved to Columbia Greene Community College in Hudson, NY, filling various positions including Director of College Services and Executive Assistant to the President.

His next career was as president of the family business Valley Oil in Claverack, NY which he transformed from a small fuel oil company into a

multi-million dollar company building 15 convenience stores throughout the Hudson Valley. Selling Mobil, Citgo and Shell products he served on many industry and civic advisory boards and panels. During that time he was a partner (with Lance Wheeler) in the regional advertising agency The Creative Team which specialized in political and tourism accounts. After selling those businesses he ran the Cameo Talent Agency in Boston before returning to the petroleum business as a consultant.

Although his success as a businessman was of great pleasure, it was his service to the community and others that gave him his greatest joy. A volunteer fireman, a youth baseball coach, president of the Chamber of Commerce, a republican state committeeman and Chairman of the Columbia Greene Community Foundation were some of the positions he filled.

Perhaps most fulfilling was his service to the less fortunate over 20 years and in three conferences of St. Vincent de Paul in Rockport, MA, Exeter and Hampton, NH. Founding advocacy programs, he also served various board positions and on special committees while continuing to volunteer at the food pantries and other functions. (Matthew 25:40).

During the last years of his service he was Chairman of the Raymond Simon Institute for Public Relations and Journalism at Utica College, an alumni board that funded 27 scholarships and awards and presented educational forums for students and recent graduates. He was awarded the college's Key Award for his service in 2019.

One of his proudest accomplishments was "Forever & Always" the romantic novel he wrote about a nurse in San Francisco, selling over 1000 paperback and kindle versions.

Paul was a passionate and dedicated man, whose loyalty to family, friends

and causes was in a class of its own. He carried every endeavor to its rightful conclusion, no matter the difficulty. A man of confidence and conviction, always ready to move in the right direction for the good of others.

In addition to his family Paul leaves behind good friends Gerry Maturi, James Champion, Joan Kowweek, Andrea Renz, Tony Concra, Wayne LaMalva and more.

Due to the recent pandemic, all services will be private. In lieu of flowers Paul, requested donations to St. Vincent de Paul of Hampton (<https://svdphampton.com/donate/>) 289 Lafayette Rd., Hampton, NH 03842 or the V Foundation for Cancer Research (<https://www.v.org/ways-to-give/giving-options/>).

Tribute Wall



“ *Paul B. Montana*

September 18, 2022 at 12:49 AM



“ *Happy 51st Anniversary Sweetheart - March 13 th, 2022*



Carol Montana - March 13, 2022 at 03:47 PM



“ *Please offer my condolences to Buf's wife and family. My husband David Maddisons father, Jim Maddison and Bufs father Paul along with Mike Ewasick were the original partners to establish Valley Oil, now Valley Energy. Jim was the 1st president. My family owned a local restaurant so I grew up knowing the Montana family as they were steady customers. When my husband passed almost 13 years ago, Buf was one of only 4 people who honored my request to make a donation to the national scoliosis foundation of which Dave was born with a severe case. Along with a nice note offering condolences. Their families often travelled to Florida for a few years. It was so nice to hear from him after having not been in contact for many years. Again I'm so sorry to hear of his passing. Sincerely Carol Maddison*

Carol Maddison - May 19, 2020 at 05:06 PM

AS

“ To Paul’s friends and family, I am so sorry to hear the loss of Paul. I always enjoyed waiting on him at the Hampton Post Office. He will be missed. Sending my condolences. Alycia Shah

alycia shah - May 15, 2020 at 08:02 PM

RN

Was your father's restaurant "Moxie's"? Or the wonderful restaurant "downtown" where we would meet Johnnie Sharp and Roger Minor? Gosh, those were great times with Buf and his Dad as "Kingmakers". Richard Novak. P.S. So very sorry for Paul's passing -- he is with us, I believe, in so many ways through his "teachings".

Richard Novak - December 12, 2020 at 03:45 PM



“ I worked in Mr. Montana's Claverack store when I was in college and I have always remembered him fondly. I am so sorry to hear of his passing.

Rebecca Alamillo - May 13, 2020 at 07:23 PM

MP

“ So sorry to hear of Paul's passing. I was his Secretary at Valley Oil from late 70's to early 80's. He was a great boss and friend. Sincere sympathy to the family. Mikki Paolino.

Mikki Paolino - May 13, 2020 at 03:38 PM

JH

“ Paul and his Dad were my mentors years ago and helped launch my professional and political careers. He was a good friend over the years and I am very sad to hear of his passing. I have many good memories of Paul, from our trips to Rangers games in NYC, to Columbia County Association in NYC meetings at Gallagher's, and he always called me a "big Turkey", which I quickly learned was a term of endearment.

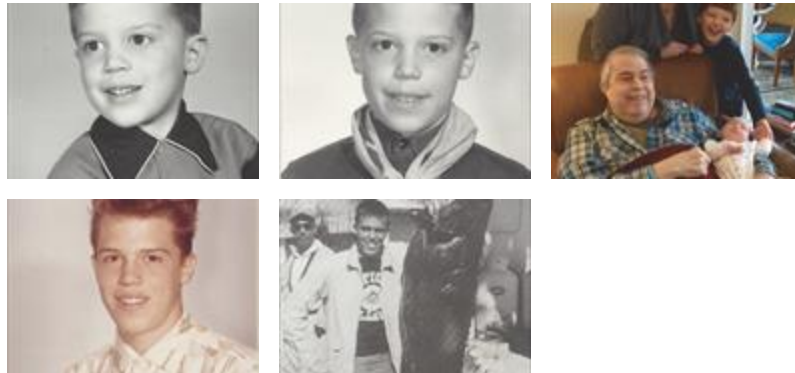
Columbia County was a better place because of Paul and my sympathies go out to Carol and family. Rest in peace, my friend.

*John Hilliard
Hillsdale, NY*

John Hilliard - May 13, 2020 at 10:10 AM

JM

“ 105 files added to the album *Memories of Family & Friends*



Joe Montana - May 10, 2020 at 03:48 PM

SF

“ Dear Carol,
We are so sorry to hear about Paul. He definitely gave a good fight and always remained positive. I am so glad to have met Paul through OLMM and SVDP. He was always so kind and generous. I will say he became such a mentor to my boys. What a blessing to my kids to have had a chance to become friends with him. He will be dearly missed. You and your family are in our prayers. Please let us know if you need anything. Paul was lucky to have you by his side.



Susan Filteau - May 09, 2020 at 09:45 PM



“ Paul Montana has been a friend of my family's for quite some time now. He was always very kind to us, and I developed a friendship with him rather quickly. He was full of wisdom to share and kindness as well. Paul will be very sorely missed, but it is comforting to know that his pain has ended. Sending love to all his friends and family.

Jacob Filteau - May 09, 2020 at 03:03 PM

PJ

“ We bought the house across the street from the Montanas just a little over a year go. Paul came out to introduce himself and gave us many useful tips about the area and made us feel very welcome. We were hoping to develop a good friendship over time, but due to Paul's illness, that was not meant to be. Our condolences to Carol and family.

Paul and Donna Jalbert - May 09, 2020 at 01:44 PM

JC

“ Paul was my mentor and good friend. He hired me and started my career at the college. Our families had many, many great times together over the years. We will all miss “Uncle Paul.”

Jim Campion, President Emeritus, Columbia-Greene Community College



Jim Campion - May 09, 2020 at 12:27 PM

RN

Dear Jim, I'm sorry to hear recently (Dec. 11,2020) of Paul's passing. I have in my wallet the shared "token" you gave Paul and I, so we would be able to "recognize" each other before, during or after "passings". It always symbolized much more than the "token" it is. Memories of the generous goodness that both you and Paul shared with this "very imperfect, damaged Philosopher" Pollock, whether at C-GCC, or 9H softball games, or "consulting" with the NYS Secretary of Education in D.C., or "Mantras" over lunch in Manhattan, or enjoying your guitar "seminars", are part of a long list of "passings". I believe, we were happy to enjoy. Paul's "wellllllll" statements, dinner's with Paul's parents, and Moxie, and Johnnie Sharp, and "Olana" visits, and being sent on "Young Republican" speaking missions for Roger Minor/Paul, were all goodness "experiences" with which Paul/Buf taught/mentored us. rick@novak-associates.com,

Richard Novak - December 14, 2020 at 07:12 AM

DR

“ I fist met Paul when I was 18 and asked to continue operating a busy service station for Valley Oil on the Taconic State Parkway between leases. Over the six or so months I worked for him, he would stop in just to talk and see how things were going. Since I knew he was the CEO, this impressed me immensely. Little did I know until I began with the Sheriff's Office at 21 years old, how large a part of Columbia County Paul was. He was well respected, easy to talk to and had core values important to most people who lived in our county back then, ... regardless of political affiliation. Occasionally, over the years we spoke by phone (and email) and I always enjoyed our conversations. Paul will always be with those of us who knew him. My condolences to his family.

David Harrison Jr (Sheriff, Ret.) - May 09, 2020 at 11:02 AM

PM

“ Paul was a great friend and client. He was one of the most resourceful people I ever met. He responded to every call and demonstrated a tremendous respect for family, community and politics with his unique small town charm and bright city lights solutions. He provided me with sage advise over the years and his inevitable “well” was always followed with his politely stated opposing view. Rockefeller Republicans lost their remaining champion. I am thankful for all the fond memories we have to look back on and remember him by.

Paul F. Murphy, Esq.
Boston, MA

Paul Murphy - May 09, 2020 at 09:18 AM

AR

“ A great friend and advocacy partner, a man of his word, determined and dedicated to helping others. He will be sorely missed by all. ❤️



Andrea Renz - May 08, 2020 at 06:04 PM

JP

Dear Carol,
I am going to miss him! He was a good mentor and teacher. He gave me the opportunity to progress in the Sales Business after I left CMH after a long tenure! I worked for your husband for 5 years and one of the most unique recollections I had was his compassion to do so much for the MDA (Muscular Dystrophy Association). His eagerness to do well with raising money! Soooo I remember the day well when he said to me that I needed to be the lead for the fundraiser so we could do better then previous years! Well after that Montana Pep Talk I agreed. That year was a record! Over \$5,000 which he was so pleased! That was a lot of money back then! Instead of him going to the telethon to accept the award he sent me! He was in my opinion a humble man as President of a successful Oil, Gas, Nice & Easy Stores Company! Loved that man! Carol please take care of yourself and the family!
John J Porreca

John J Porreca - May 14, 2020 at 04:35 PM

GL

Paul was a tremendous asset to Utica College for many years as a student, staff member and as a dedicated, passionate alumni volunteer. All of us who knew him from Utica College will always remember his cheerful personality and enthusiasm for our beloved school. He will be remember forever and greatly missed.

Gary LaBella - May 17, 2020 at 10:44 AM

BF

Dear Carol, Tom, Sarah , Joe and families,

First of all and most importantly we were very sad to hear of Buff's passing. It's hard to call him Paul as you were our first friends in 1973 when we moved to Claverack. We still remember your apartment on 9H and what a nice time we had. You never forget special friends. We will always think of you fondly as Buff and Carol, Tommy ,Sarah and Joe.

*God bless you both and the entire extended family.
Love, your friends, Barb and Ben Funk*

Barbara Funk - May 17, 2020 at 02:01 PM