



Robert James Masto

November 24, 1948 - December 25, 2023

Robert James Masto, born November 24, 1948, in Orange, N.J., passed away December 25, 2023. Devoted partner, loving brother, kind brother-in-law, treasured uncle, witty and joyful friend--he will be deeply missed and dearly remembered.

A joyful, loving, wise, and kind man, Robert never met a stranger. Robert's exuberance and life-affirming passion showed up in everything he did. He loved his wonderful friends at Unity of Nashville, Men's Group at Unity of Nashville, OLLI, and OLLI on the Move (Vanderbilt Osher Lifelong Learning and hiking group). He loved pickleball, birding, hiking, nature, learning, and volunteering. His passion for classical music, literature, animals, sports, and astronomy gave his life a richness. He especially loved delivering meals weekly to his Meals on Wheels friends, his cats, family, and his beloved partner, Gwyn. He radiated joy. Robert's special smile, the time he generously made for others, along with his kindness, wisdom, and joy for life touched everyone he met.

Robert is survived by his beloved and devoted partner, Gwyn Walters. He is also survived by his two sisters, Marilyn Manno of Nashville and Elaine Copeland of Flagstaff, Arizona. In addition, he leaves two brothers-in-law, Mike Manno and Rick Copeland, nephews Marcus Manno (Dana) and Dakota Copeland, nieces Kristen Varner (Blaine) and Grace Copeland, along with grandnieces, close friends, and neighbors in the community.

Burial services will be 11:00 am on Saturday, January 6th at Larkspur

Conservation Preserve in Westmoreland, TN. A celebration of Robert's life will be on Sunday, January 7th at 11 am at Unity Church of Nashville.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made in Robert's memory to Unity of Nashville, Osher Lifelong Learning at Vanderbilt (OLLI), Meals on Wheels of Middle Tennessee, and Larkspur Conservation, Nashville, TN.

What to expect at a Natural Burial:

We expect rain - umbrellas and ponchos will be on hand but no tent or shelter will be provided.

Dress for an outdoor hike and wear appropriate shoes.

Use the restroom before you arrive, there is no public toilet or running water.

Carpool if possible - parking is limited.

Plan to arrive at 10:45am.

Everyone will be welcomed at the trailhead by Larkspur staff.

- Robert will be placed at the graveside prior to the arrival of family and friends.

Everyone will hike up the hill into the nature preserve for the burial ceremony (we have a UTV for folks with mobility challenges).

Everyone will be invited to participate at their level of comfort.

With guidance soil will be placed into the grave until it is closed and covered with flowers.

Plan about 3 hours for ceremony and burial.

Cemetery Details

Larkspur Conservation

155 Bear Carr Road
Westmoreland, TN 37186
<https://larkspurconservation.org>

Previous Events

Natural Burial Service

JAN 6. 11:00 AM (CT)

Larkspur Conservation
155 Bear Carr Road
Westmoreland, TN 37186
<https://larkspurconservation.org>

Celebration

JAN 7. 11:00 AM (CT)

Unity Church Of Nashville
5125 Franklin Pike
Nashville, TN 37220

Tribute Wall

MM

“ 7 files added to the album *From Marcus*



Marcus Manno - January 03, 2024 at 03:21 PM