



Mitchell P. Reff

February 17, 2025

February 17, 2025, Suddenly at age 65. He is survived by his loving wife of 42 years Margaret M. Reff and his family. Daughters, Danielle (Tom) Sedor, Haley (Nick) Griffith, Rachel (Calvin) Lin, his grandchildren; Sebastian, Evie, Forrest, Finnegan and Knox. He is also survived by his brothers, Michael (Diane) Reff, Martin, and many nieces and nephews. As well as his Aunt Betsy Beckman, Aunt Ginny Beckman, and his Uncle Mark (Pam) Beckman. On February 17, 2025, Mitchell Paul Reff passed from this world onto heaven. He leaves behind a legacy to his family, & friends and will be forever remembered for his larger-than-life personality, his love for the outdoors, passion for cooking, and his endless hobbies.

Mitch was born in the small town of Sunbury, PA, and grew up next to the Priestly house. He loved visiting the priestly house and was fascinated by the laboratory where he first created oxygen. In those early years living at his grandmother's home, his fond memories were times he spent with his Uncle Mark. The house on Water Street had many nooks and crannies where Mark would either hide him in a small cubby, play games or he just let Mitch tag along with him. Mark was the older brother Mitch never had; he held a special place in his heart for him. Then his family moved to Carthage where he was able to spend more time with his father's family and to spend more time outside or hang at his Uncle Bob's farm. His father was offered a position with Eastman Kodak, and the family moved to Rochester thereafter. Mitch attended Gates Chili High School, where he graduated with honors

(Salutatorian), and held several records in track and field. He attended Clarkson University, where he joined Delta Upsilon and became the President of the Fraternity for his last year. During this time, he also climbed Mt. Marcy with some of his college friends. Later he pursued a career in the auto industry where he turned his passion for cars into a lifelong career where he achieved a Master Technician Status. In the last twenty years of his career, he worked for Chrysler as an Instructor. The passion for cars led him to build several engines for family and friends and allowed him to rebuild a 65 Mustang and his last vehicle was his 1972 Chevy truck that he cherished. He would take the time to make that truck shine!

In his early years, Mitch found a passion for the great outdoors. His fond memories were hunting and fishing all around the greater New York area. Each season held different opportunities not only for the sport itself, but he learned to call Turkeys, Ducks, Owls, and much more. He went on to win several Duck Calling contests, and belonged to several clubs along the way, always perfecting his craft, and bringing others along the way. Each of his children and grandchildren learned the Duck, Turkey, and Owl calls at an early age. Everyone had to know how to call those birds in! With each season, Mitch and his buddies would gear up. Fall was Duck season, as well as deer. Pheasants were spring and fall, along with Turkeys. Winter brought the ice-fishing experience, tents, auger, and tip-ups! Spring brought trout fishing at Oatka Creek, and you never missed opening day. Summer started with Bass, Croppies and so much more. He joined the Flower City Fisherman Club and spent many years traipsing around NY for the tournaments. Mitch viewed every tournament as an adventure, he would plan, overpack, and bring everything he could think of to make sure the adventure was awesome. One event Mitch particularly enjoyed was hosting the Veterans from the Canandaigua VA for a day of fishing. They would make an entire day for these retired veterans, and not only did they take them fishing, but they hosted a huge picnic event. Beyond Bass fishing, he spent many years with his brother Mike heading to Boca Grande to fish for Tarpon, and his last fishing adventure

took him south for RedFish with his best buddy, Jim Mason.

His love of the water moved us to purchase our dream Lake House on Honeoye Lake. In this venue, Mitch would watch the beautiful sunsets, toss a line from the shore, or hop on the boat for that last-minute topwater fishing. He was happy to share his love for fishing with family, friends, and any visitor who visited the lake. Mitch would share the little tips and tricks, good places to fish, and those to stay away from. This past Christmas we spent New Year's at the lake and watched all the ice fishermen from the house. His greatest joy was seeing his grandchildren fish from the docks. The excitement on their face when they caught a fish gave him such joy. This past summer he was so happy to teach his oldest grandson, Sebastian to Topwater fish.

Since his retirement, Mitch expanded his many interests beyond the great outdoors. He was always experimenting and learning something new. He continued to make his wood carvings, and this past Christmas he made three little chickadees for our Christmas tree. His love for cooking expanded over his lifetime to every type of cuisine. There was always a new cooking gadget, spices, recipe that had to be tried. From picking wild ramps, to using his Sous Vide, or his Blackstone there was always a delicious meal. Every holiday was a new adventure, from his cookie trays to homemade maple syrup, there wasn't anything he couldn't master. In recent years, he began making soap, beeswax candles, and revived his knife-making skills. His soap making and candles became a passion that he shared with others. He would make his own molds and pour the soaps to make the most unique creations. He even made molds of seashells. His favorite candles were the Bayberry as it reminded him of his mother and the tradition of burning those at Christmas time. His last two knives were finished right before passing. The one knife he dedicated to his brother Mike, as it was to be his Christmas gift. He and his brothers share a passion for cooking, and all have excellent culinary skills and tools.

Mitch's passing leaves a large hole in our family, and he brought so much life

to every holiday, and every event. Mitch's family came first, and he loved to share his culinary prowess, successes, and challenges with us. A day didn't go by where you didn't receive a photo of his current project, his newest culinary dish, or his determination to make a good loaf of bread. From his pickles, sauerkraut, jams, and meats, he was always up to something. His thirst for knowledge and to become a better person is what he strived for every day. He had a strong faith and believed in the phrase "you reap what you sow." In all his actions he thought of others and would want to be remembered for the things he shared with each person while he was here. His gift to make everyone laugh is one that we will all cherish. Each story, whether it was about his jokes, "whities" or those that belonged to the "Mel" club hold a special place in our hearts.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Flower City Sportsmen; 35 Wood Lawn Street, Rochester, New York 14607, or Rochester Ecology Partners, 224 Mount Hope Avenue, Rochester, NY 14620.

Family and friends may call at Leo M. Bean and sons Funeral Home on Sunday, March 2nd from 12-3, with a funeral mass on Monday, March 3rd at 10 a.m. at Saint Pius Tenth Church, 3000 Chili Avenue

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 2. 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Leo M Bean and Sons Funeral Home
2771 Chili Avenue
Rochester, NY 14624
(585) 426-7830
beanfuneralhome@rochester.rr.com
<http://www.beanandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

Service

MAR 3. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Pius Tenth Church
3000 Chili Ave
Rochester, NY 14624

Tribute Wall

MC

“ Makensi C. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mitchell P. Reff.

Makensi C. - March 05, 2025 at 01:05 PM

MM

“ Michele M. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mitchell P. Reff.

Michele M. - March 02, 2025 at 06:19 PM

LB

“ Leslie B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mitchell P. Reff.

Leslie B. - March 01, 2025 at 09:30 PM

SH

“ May the good memories see you through this difficult time ahead. Thoughts and prayers with you and the family. Steve & Liz Herpich

Stephen Herpich - March 01, 2025 at 05:57 PM

SH

“ Stephen H. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mitchell P. Reff.

Stephen H. - March 01, 2025 at 05:51 PM



“ A grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mitchell P. Reff.

February 28, 2025 at 08:28 PM



“ Sofie, Natalie, Ge, and Hisa Zhu purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mitchell P. Reff.



Sofie, Natalie, Ge, and Hisa Zhu - February 28, 2025 at 06:34 PM



“ Your friends from AmTrust purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mitchell P. Reff.



Your friends from AmTrust - February 27, 2025 at 04:52 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mitchell P. Reff.



February 27, 2025 at 09:38 AM

FS

“ From Flower City Sportsmen purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Mitchell P. Reff.



From Flower City Sportsmen - February 26, 2025 at 07:05 PM



“ Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Mitchell P. Reff.



February 26, 2025 at 10:26 AM

JM

“ Thanks for all of the great memories. You are a great friend who will be missed. Love ya, Mel Mason

Jim Mason - February 26, 2025 at 08:53 AM

JP

“ James P. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mitchell P. Reff.

James P. - February 26, 2025 at 08:44 AM



“ Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Mitchell P. Reff.



February 26, 2025 at 07:57 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mitchell P. Reff.

February 26, 2025 at 07:57 AM



“ Maggie, we are so sorry to hear this news. We are thinking of you and sending you lots of love and the biggest hug! ~Rob and Krissy Parsons

Krissy Parsons - February 25, 2025 at 12:03 PM



“ I taught with Mitch at Chrysler for a number of years. He was a great mentor and friend. We laughed together and enjoyed doing what we loved, teaching. I'm sad to hear you left us Mitch, but I know the good lord has you and you're enjoying a whole new adventure.

Aaron Domuracki - February 25, 2025 at 08:00 AM



“ My condolences to the family. I had the opportunity to work with Mitch for many years at Chrysler. He always made me laugh with everything we went through good times and bad. I regret not getting up to the lake to see him. I will cherish my memories. RIP my friend! Rob Dunion

Rob Dunion - February 25, 2025 at 12:13 AM

RD

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Rob Dunion - February 25, 2025 at 12:05 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mitchell P. Reff.



February 24, 2025 at 01:55 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mitchell P. Reff.



February 24, 2025 at 12:00 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mitchell P. Reff.

February 24, 2025 at 12:00 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mitchell P. Reff.*



February 23, 2025 at 08:18 PM



“ *Maggie,*

Sending heartfelt condolences to you and your family for your loss.

Lauree Smith (Montagna....Paychex

lauree - February 23, 2025 at 08:09 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mitchell P. Reff.*



February 22, 2025 at 02:50 PM



“ *Sending our love and hugs to all your family. So sorry for your loss.
Wendy and Carol*

Wendy Cornell - February 22, 2025 at 07:29 AM

NB

“ *Nikhil Bhatia planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mitchell P. Reff.*

Nikhil Bhatia - February 21, 2025 at 11:21 PM

NB

“ *Nikhil Bhatia purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mitchell P. Reff.*



Nikhil Bhatia - February 21, 2025 at 11:21 PM

VA

“ *Valeria purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mitchell P. Reff.*



Valeria - February 21, 2025 at 11:20 PM

MG

“ *Maggie and family, my condolences to you during this very difficult time. It is evident Mitch lived a vibrant life filled with love and laughter. His heart and generosity will live on in each of you. May Mitch rest in peace.*

Marina Greek - February 21, 2025 at 02:09 PM

MG

“ *Marina G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mitchell P. Reff.*

Marina G. - February 21, 2025 at 01:43 PM

CG

“ Remembering our dear friend-RIP Mitch



Cinthia Garcia - February 21, 2025 at 01:35 PM

RF

“ Roberto Pinto & Familiy planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mitchell P. Reff.

Roberto Pinto & Familiy - February 21, 2025 at 10:45 AM

RF

“ Roberto Pinto & Familiy purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mitchell P. Reff.



Roberto Pinto & Familiy - February 21, 2025 at 10:45 AM

DH

“ David Hall purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mitchell P. Reff.



David Hall - February 21, 2025 at 10:16 AM

DH

“ Maggie,

I was heartbroken to learn of Mitch’s passing. Knowing you, of course he would be an amazing man. And you both have built a legacy to be proud of. My sincere condolences to you and your family. Don’t hesitate to reach out if I can be of any help – you’ve been there for so many people around you, and we are here to support you in turn when you need it.

David Hall

David Hall - February 21, 2025 at 10:08 AM

BT

“ *Brenda & Penny and the JAX Aon team. purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mitchell P. Reff.*



Brenda & Penny and the JAX Aon team. - February 21, 2025 at 08:51 AM

KW

“ *Dear Margaret, What a beautiful tribute to Mitch! It seems he lived a wonderful life filled with the love of his beautiful and beloved wife, treasured daughters, cherished grandchildren and many, many friends. May you all be comforted by memories of his zest for living. Sending much love - Kate Whalen*

Kate Whalen - February 21, 2025 at 12:04 AM

SD

“ Margaret, Tom and I are so sorry to hear of Mitch’s passing. Sending love and prayers to you and your family. 🌸

Sue Dimino - February 20, 2025 at 10:46 PM

CH

“ Maggie and Family,
I am so sorry for your loss. Mitch sounds like such a wonderful person who brought joy to all of those around him. May those precious memories provide you with comfort during this difficult time. Thoughts and prayers being sent!

Casey Heitkamp - February 20, 2025 at 08:16 PM

KS

“ May Mitch rest in peace.
Maggie. I’m so sorry for your loss. Wishing sincere condolences to you and your family. Please know you are in the thoughts and prayers of all your Aon and CoverWallet extended family colleagues. Be strong as you always are.



Kieran Stack - February 20, 2025 at 03:16 PM

TF

“ The Renaud and Tartaglia Families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mitchell P. Reff.

The Renaud and Tartaglia Families - February 20, 2025 at 03:02 PM

TF

“ *The Renaud and Tartaglia Families purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mitchell P. Reff.*



The Renaud and Tartaglia Families - February 20, 2025 at 03:02 PM

SO

“ *Stephanie O. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mitchell P. Reff.*

Stephanie O. - February 20, 2025 at 02:50 PM

SF

“ *Schmitz Family purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Mitchell P. Reff.*



Schmitz Family - February 20, 2025 at 01:53 PM

PE

“ *Well Mitch, I don't know who is going to tease me any more. What will I ever do. We always had good laughs. PA*

Pat Ensman - February 20, 2025 at 12:59 PM

JA

“ *Jim A. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mitchell P. Reff.*

Jim A. - February 20, 2025 at 12:56 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mitchell P. Reff.*



February 20, 2025 at 08:14 AM



“ *My heart breaks to hear/see this news. My deepest condolences to you and your family. May God provide strength, hope, and unlimited support through these difficult times. So sorry, Maggie!*

February 19, 2025 at 09:31 PM



- Dan Wahl

February 19, 2025 at 09:33 PM



“ *Maggie, so very sorry to hear the news. My condolences to you and your family during this time. Thinking of you.*

April Roland - February 19, 2025 at 08:21 PM



“ *I am grateful to have known Mitch for the last five years as I worked for Maggie.*

He was kind, caring and we just clicked...chatting away at events we were all at. Like a concerned dad, he looked at my car a few times, giving me his recommendation. He will be missed...

My thoughts and prayers are with you Maggie and family. 🙏

Maggie, always here for you...

Anna DiBari - February 19, 2025 at 07:14 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mitchell P. Reff.



February 19, 2025 at 07:01 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mitchell P. Reff.

February 19, 2025 at 07:01 PM



“ Sending love and condolences from the Wyffels Family.

Barbara Wyffels - February 19, 2025 at 06:32 PM



Margaret and family- Our heartfelt thoughts and prayers are with you all. Katie and PJ

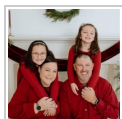
Katherine McGuire - February 19, 2025 at 06:44 PM



To Maggie and and the entire Reff Family,

My Sincerest condolences, thoughts and prayers to you all during this difficult time!

Eugene Bryant - CW - February 20, 2025 at 02:31 PM



Mitch u will missed for sure. All the two day fishing tournaments where u would cook and bust chops. Rip my friend!!!

Michael Korbel - February 20, 2025 at 05:39 PM

ES

Maggie, So sorry for your loss, my deepest condolences to you and your family.

Emilio Scoccia - February 24, 2025 at 05:10 PM