



Mark R Christel

December 3, 1958 - December 12, 2024

Mark R Christel, age 66, of Columbus, Ohio, passed away at home on Thursday, December 12, 2024. Mark was diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's disease, in July of 2023. He was born the son of Robert & Lois (Peake) Christel, on December 3, 1958. Although born in Columbus, he lived in Springfield from age of 2 until after high school graduation. Mark graduated from Springfield North, but spent most of his school years at Northeastern.

He is preceded in death by his parents. Mark is survived by his wife Barb Christel; sister Beth Christel of Cincinnati; aunt and cousins and numerous friends. Mark attended The Ohio State University, with studies focused on Agronomy. For numerous years Mark tended bar in Columbus, his favorite during that time was The Pewter Mug. In later years, he began working at Kroger, where shortly thereafter, he met his wife, Barb, as a customer. After 29 years at Kroger (in the meat, floral & deli departments), he retired in early 2021. Mark also was one of the original part-time employees of the Columbus area Duluth Trading Company retail store.

While attending OSU, Mark was an employee of Farm Science Review, a 3 day agricultural show now held on Ohio State property located in London, Ohio. He continued his affiliation with FSR in 1983, as a volunteer with the Antique Crew and continued to do so up until this past September. Although

he hadn't played in a number of years, Mark was an accomplished violinist. He played in the Ohio State Symphony Orchestra. Mark was a fabulous cook, traits he and his sister learned from their mother. He also enjoyed gardening, a hobby learned early from his father. He was always willing to share the fruits of his labor.

Mark and Barb shared 30 years of marriage. They spent time going to various concerts over the years. They didn't travel often, but were able to make trips to northern California, Colorado & Utah, Germany and just this past October, to Boston. For many years, they made an annual trip to southern Ontario, Canada to witness hawk migration. They also made numerous trips to Niagara Falls over the years. Barb & Mark had season's tickets to the OSU Women's Basketball program as well as being members of the Rebounder's Club, a booster club for the team. They often joined the group on away bus trip outings. Mark also followed the Cleveland Indian's closely (he had difficulty calling them the Guardians).

Mark was a witty, intelligent man who could have a conversation with just about anyone. He kept up with current events. He was a true Christel in that a day wouldn't pass without reading a newspaper. Once diagnosed with ALS, Mark knew his remaining time with us was limited. He was at peace with his ALS diagnosis. The support he received from both the Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center ALS Clinic as well as the ALS United Ohio chapter was above and beyond. It was comforting to know there were people who were there to help every step of the way.

Those who wish to remember Mark and the joy he brought others can join family and friends on January 18, 2025 at Byrne's Pub 1248 West Third Ave. Columbus, Ohio 43212 from 1:00 – 4:00. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Mark's name online at ALSOhio.org or by calling 614-273-2572

Tribute Wall

MT

“ I acquired my first home at the beginning of the year. To some, lottery players appear ridiculous, while we view it as a chance for an improved future. I'm known as Megan Taylor and I have played the lottery for ten years, yet I haven't won anything substantial. In my pursuit of understanding how to win better, I was advised to consult Lord Meduza the Priest who provided me with the precise 6 numbers that helped me secure the Mega Millions jackpot of \$277 million after using his spell powers and following his guidance. Lord Meduza services is top notch and I believe your dreams aren't finished unless you decide they are. Contact Lord Meduza the Priest, and he will assist you in realizing your aspirations..

Email: lordmeduzatemple@hotmail.com

Whats-App +1 (807) 798-3042.

Website: www.lordmeduzatemple.com

Megan Taylor - January 18 at 06:49 AM

RO

“ Living with ALS has been one of the hardest challenges of my life. The muscle weakness, fatigue, and gradual loss of mobility were heartbreaking. Conventional treatments offered little more than temporary comfort, and I was starting to lose hope. That’s when I discovered NaturePath Herbal Clinic. Skeptical but desperate for relief, I decided to try their herbal therapy. To my surprise, by the fourth month, I began noticing steady improvements less muscle twitching, better coordination, and renewed energy. It wasn’t an overnight miracle, but the progress felt real. For the first time in a long while, I felt a sense of control returning to my body. Today, I move more freely, sleep better, and most importantly I feel hopeful again. This journey with NaturePath has been life changing. If you or someone you love is battling ALS or any other neurodegenerative condition, I genuinely encourage you to explore natural alternatives. You might be surprised at what’s possible. I’m truly grateful I gave them a chance. www.naturepathherbalclinic.com

Robert - July 15, 2025 at 04:04 PM

CM

“ My first ALS symptom occurred in 2016, but was diagnosed in 2018. I had severe symptoms ranging from shortness of breath, balance problems, couldn’t walk without a walker or a power chair, i had difficulty swallowing and fatiue. I was given medications which helped but only for a short burst of time, then I decided to try alternative measures and began on ALS Formula treatment from Aknni herbs centre, It has made a tremendous difference for me (Visit ww w. [aknniherbscentre.c om](http://aknniherbscentre.com)). I had improved walking balance, increased appetite, muscle strength, improved eyesight and others.

Cory Merlon - May 17, 2025 at 05:46 AM

BC

I have no idea why you posted this information on my husband's tribute wall. Who are you?

Barb Christel - July 03, 2025 at 05:36 PM

JH

“ *Over the last 4 years of being the Concierge on the Huntington level of the Schottenstein Center, I was blessed with meeting this lovely couple who regularly attended the OSU girl's basketball games. They would come in and leave holding hands, stop to say hello and goodbye and then go on to their seats or car. As Mark's health became more visible, Barb felt comfortable sharing with me. I am grateful that something so natural as a listening ear meant so much to them. Barb always thanked me for showing the both of them a caring and compassionate smile and greeting. Mark would stand at my desk as I offered him a warm touch and he smiled back. Mark will be missed; however, Barb told me she will also attend the games knowing that Mark will always be with her in the seat next to her. Love and Blessings.*

Judy Hartley - January 03, 2025 at 10:42 AM

LH

“ *I am grateful that I was able to get to know Mark, even though it was only for short time. His contributions to the Griswold group were always intelligent. He was very empathetic and extremely funny. Rest in peace, my friend.*

Linda Holcomb - December 29, 2024 at 10:31 PM

MG

“ I’m a tenant of Mark and Barb for 5 years. I admire the care and toil that both have given to their houses, so I can enjoy a true craftsman home. Mark graciously turned over two ivy beds to me and the rest of the yard to Tarly who nevertheless always announced visits at the back gate with barking! Barb and Mark mustered true grit for these last couple years of his illness, including making it to beloved concerts, games, and little trips out of town. I admire that too, and trust those special memories to linger. May his memory be a blessing.

Merle Graybill - December 27, 2024 at 07:02 PM

CF

“ So sorry to learn of Mark's passing. He was the only violinist to work as a student employee of the Farm Science Review to the best of my knowledge and that was only one of his attributes that made him a standout. Prayers and thoughts are with his family at this time.

Craig Fendrick - December 26, 2024 at 03:41 PM

MG

“ Mark was a a very valuable addition to our Griswold Friday discussion group contributing his very intelligent commentary and knowledge to the various topics brought forward for discussion. I was very fortunate to have had the opportunity to get to know him in the few short months he attended the meetings, as I was able to drive him home after the meetings. We were fast becoming good friends on those short drives down High Street to his home, and we very much enjoyed each others company. I am so sorry I only had the chance to know him for such a short time. I will miss having those conversations with him driving home after the meetings now, but I am grateful to have had a chance to know him. I am sure I can speak for everyone at the Griswold discussion group that we all will miss Mark.

MICHAEL P GIBSON - December 23, 2024 at 02:58 PM