

Paul Michael DeVivo

May 8, 1941 – March 12, 2021

With peace in our hearts, the family of Paul Michael DeVivo has released him to his Lord Jesus Christ. Paul died after COVID infection on March 12, 2021, but he had lived bravely under the limitations of Multiple System Atrophy for 11 years. Most of that time he was able to be home and remain connected with community, especially his church. Paul was born in Flushing, NY, on May 8, 1941 to Michael and Alberta Morris DeVivo. He married Joyce Cottone in 1964, and was the beloved son-in-law of Frank and Mary Cottone of Grand Gorge. Paul is survived by Joyce, son Michael and wife Na'ama of Boulder, CO, son Andrew, wife Angela, and their children Leslie Joyce and Andy, Jr. of Clinton, MA, also his sister Jeanne DeVivo of Winter Park, FL, and cousins Tom Schneider, Patricia Moore Brown, Robert Moore and Peggy Ann, Brad, and Jeff Morris.

After he served in the U.S. Army in Germany, Paul and Joyce returned to Troy to further his education at his alma mater, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He earned an MS in Management, which led to work in Massachusetts for Raytheon Service Company doing logistics for the space program. Later he joined Digital Equipment Corporation, the #2 computer company after much bigger IBM. At DEC he was happily employed for 16 years. One of his achievements was the creation of the Employee Locator File, the first computerized list of their worldwide employees. After early retirement from DEC, a few more years of consulting work had him involved in the big "Y2K" effort of 1999 to get computers ready for the new millennium. They lived in Acton, MA, for almost 35 years, and moved to the Cottone farm in Grand Gorge, New York, in 2002.

Paul enjoyed downhill skiing with his sons and cross-country with Joyce, traversing trails in Acton and on their own land in the Catskills. In 1985 they took square dance lessons and joined Acton Square Wheelers. In NYS they continued with Schoharie Valley Hayshakers even into the years when Paul could only watch from his wheelchair. For both clubs he did the job of scheduling callers and round-dance callers.

A more central key to Paul's aspirations and efforts is that, after the couple received salvation through Jesus Christ in the early 1970's, they both became committed to doing their part to strengthen the body of Christ and see to it that those who had not yet heard would get to hear the Gospel. There were prayer meetings and youth group gatherings (with their sons) in their home. They helped edit and write a church magazine. At Digital, Paul took turns leading a lunchtime Bible study that is still remembered as a turning point in one friend's life. He was part of a group that organized the New England Tape Ministry, a free lending library of worldwide preaching, Bible teaching, and new music on cassette tapes. There was always a need for Paul's administrative expertise. In one church he was on the fund-raising committee for the new building project. When a new church was forming closer to their home, Paul researched and wrote the constitution so it could be established with the state as a charitable entity. Later, they joined another church, and with other mature couples they were part of the pastor's advisory council. That church was starting a K-12 academy, and he set up the computer lab for the high school. Paul's final professional job was as a part-time volunteer for Vision New England, formerly New England Evangelical Assoc., arranging for transfer of all data to a new computer system and training all the staff. After moving to Grand Gorge, much of the same kind of support of the local church continued. Sometimes Paul's efforts were to research online and contact companies for maintenance supplies and upgrades to the buildings, such as installing safety EXIT signs. His pastor from Lowell, MA, summed up his life this way, "Paul was a Kingdom man." "And He (Jesus) died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again." (2 Cor 5:15)

A private prayer service will be held at Hynes Funeral Home in Roxbury on Monday, April 12, 11 am, with burial at Fair View Cemetery in Grand Gorge. Memorial donations may be made to Prattsville Community Church, Prattsville, NY 12468.