



## Jon Novak

April 22, 1964 - July 22, 2024

Jon Novak, 60, passed away peacefully on Monday, July 22, 2024 at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX. Born in Gorlice, Poland on April 22, 1964, son of the late Fred and Maria A. (Kaczmarek) Novak, he lived locally and enjoyed traveling worldwide. Jon earned an MBA, and was head of Workforce Planning for Mass Mutual Global Capabilities Centers. He was a parishioner of St. Stanislaus Basilica, a member of the Chicopee Knights of Columbus, and the former owner of Petros restaurant in Chicopee. A standout Chicopee High School cross-country runner, Jon was inducted into the Chicopee Athletic Hall of Fame in 2013. He put family first and was open-hearted to everyone. Jon is survived by his beloved wife, Halina (Sowka) Novak; loving children, Ray Novak and wife Elizabeth Biddle of NY, and Karina Kondub and husband Pawel of Poland; cherished granddaughters, Olivia and Victoria; sisters-in-law, Dorota Betka and husband Ryszard, and their children of New Jersey and Krystyna Socha and husband Krzysztof of Chicopee; nephew, Krzysztof Socha, Jr.; niece, Zaneta Graskis and husband Tony, and their children, Nicholas and Eliza; uncle, Henry Kaczmarek and wife Christina; cousins, Lisa Moore and Mariusz Kaczmarek; and extended family locally and in Poland. Funeral services will be held Saturday from Kozikowski Funeral Home, 565 Front St., Chicopee, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10:30AM in St. Stanislaus Basilica. Committal service and burial will follow in St. Stanislaus Cemetery. Calling hours are Friday (today) from 4-6PM and Saturday from 9-10:15AM.



# Cemetery Details

## St. Stanislaus Cemetery

800 Montgomery St.  
Chicopee, MA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 26. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Kozikowski Funeral Home  
565 Front Street  
Chicopee, MA 01013  
(413) 592-9256  
kozikowskifh@gmail.com

## Visitation

JUL 27. 9:00 AM - 10:15 AM (ET)

Kozikowski Funeral Home  
565 Front Street  
Chicopee, MA 01013  
(413) 592-9256  
kozikowskifh@gmail.com

## Mass of Christian Burial

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JUL 27. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Stanislaus Basilica  
Chicopee, MA

# Tribute Wall

JS

“ *Jon and I worked together twice...starting out in Keene at NGM in the late 90s then again at deNovis in the Greater Boston area in the early aughts. He was a delightful coworker and an extraordinary friend when I was going through a particular rough patch in life. I don't know that I would have had the courage to leave an unhealthy relationship if it wasn't for his counsel and support.*

*I am so saddened to learn of his premature passing and to a disease that is just dreadful.... pancreatic cancer is all too close to home for me too. :(*

*To his family, that I never new, may Jon's memory always be a blessing to you and all those who loved and cherished him. I know he left a deep imprint on my life and will live on in my memories til the day I die.*

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**Jennifer Schachter** - October 30, 2024 at 06:44 PM

AR

“ Jon and I worked together at MassMutual for the past 5 years. He was a key member of a very small team who created MassMutual India and MassMutual Romania and grew them to include 2500+ people. As our head of workforce planning, nearly every one of those 2500 roles was documented, followed, processed and accounted for through Jon. His diligence and work ethic were second to none. On a personal level, Jon was an eternal optimist and always ready to tackle a challenge. I last met Jon for lunch back on 3/6/2024 at Red Rose in Springfield and he gave me insights into his amazing life. I never could have imagined what his life's journey was like.

*Jon touched many people in his life. I am one of those fortunate enough to have spent time with him and work closely with him. I will miss him dearly.*

*My condolences to his family, friends, colleagues and all of those who knew Jon and his energetic spirit.*



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**Arthur Riel** - July 28, 2024 at 08:31 PM

AM

“ Uncle Jon was a fabulous, fabulous man, I cannot accept the fact he’s gone now. Last time I talked to him was in April, he sounded all fine and I hope he felt that way till the very end. I believe he wasn’t scared at all, he was a very strong man, so I believe in that. He will never be fully gone, will always stay in our hearts, that’s a sure thing. He’s always been around in my childhood, then my teenage years, always been somewhere there in my family’s narrative. He had a great career, a wonderful life, surrounded by beloved friends and family. Take care Uncle, say hi to my Dad up there, you guys liked each other a lot. We will miss you. Alex & Iza.

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**Alex & Iza Michalik** - July 27, 2024 at 05:58 AM

IM

“ Dear Halina, Ray! It is with great pain that we received the news of the death of your beloved husband, my Cousin, our Uncle, your Dad. Please accept our most sincere expressions of sorrow, sympathy and love. Our thoughts and hearts are with you and the entire family. Cousin Ilona, Bartosz and Irena.

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**Ilona Michalik** - July 27, 2024 at 05:25 AM

CI

“ Jon (Jas) was an amazing brilliant Human Being. Our paths crossed number of times: when Jon was a very special and very smart boy, later when he was an undergraduate student, coming to Princeton University as a star athlete. I followed his incredible life when he pursued his studies, professional passions, built a remarkable career, and created a great family. Always compassionate and giving. He was a true fighter. I cherish my last memories seeing Jon in the last June, meeting him and his family in New York. I would like to convey my sincerest condolences do Jon's beloved wife Halina and beloved son Ray, and the Family. Celina Imielinska and family.

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**Celina Imielinska** - July 26, 2024 at 03:33 PM

AM

“ Jon and I worked together for many years and on the same team for the last several. Jon's positive attitude and kindness was unwavering, quick with a joke and just a true pleasure to work with. He will be deeply missed. My thoughts and prayers go out for Jon's family, friends and loved ones.

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**April Mazarella** - July 26, 2024 at 10:14 AM

KC

“ Jon and I worked together at Mass Mutual in supporting the creation and development of the Global Capability Centers. Jon's spirit of teamwork and positive attitude made the work environment an enjoyable place during critical deadlines. His love of family was intrinsically a part of who he in demonstrating his love of life. I will miss sharing his knowledge and my thoughts are with his loved ones.

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**Keith Pixton, CPA** - July 26, 2024 at 09:35 AM

LG

“ Jon and I have worked together in some capacity over the years at MassMutual. He was a kind-hearted, fiercely driven individual who was fighting this as hard as he could. We would often talk about the future, and he was so positive in his outlook and determination to beat this disease. Jon, I will treasure those moments, and how you made people feel, and the work you did. Rest in Peace. Condolences to your entire family and may their memories bring them peace in the future.

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**Lisa St Germain** - July 26, 2024 at 09:06 AM

RV

“ I met Jon after joining MassMutual India. In a short span of 4 years Jon became more of a friend than a colleague. I had made a pact with Jon that we both will meet either in US or in India after he overcomes the health issues. We were lucky after the first phase in 2022 but luck was not on our side in 2024. I will dearly miss him. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.



Rajesh Veliyaveetil - July 25, 2024 at 09:08 PM

GR

I met Jon once on a phone chat and was immediately taken by his positive energy, humor, kindness and intelligence. I knew these traits well through Ray, whom I worked with for 6 years at Liberty Mutual. I'm so sorry for his early passing - the world needs people like Jon. Ray is a wonderful legacy and testament to Jon's life, parenting and spirit. Thank you Jon, and my healing prayers go out to all of the family.

Greg - August 01, 2024 at 08:05 AM

VK

I am deeply saddened by the passing of my dear friend, Jon. Having met Jon almost 20 years ago at Vision Financial, I had the privilege of knowing him both personally and professionally. Jon was a remarkable human being, always optimistic and caring. As a true professional, he took excellent care of his team, earning the respect and admiration of everyone around him.

I feel incredibly fortunate to have spent so much time with Jon over the years. Our last meeting in Chicopee on April 24 will always hold a special place in my heart. Despite knowing what he was going through, Jon's smile never wavered, showcasing his incredible strength and positivity.

His loss is immense, not just to his family but also to me, as we were very close. I will miss him dearly and cherish the memories we shared.

Vinay Kumar - August 05, 2024 at 05:15 PM