



Christopher John Giles

September 6, 1956 - April 18, 2012

Christopher J. Giles, 55, of Toledo, passed away peacefully on Wednesday April 18, 2012 at Perrysburg Care and Rehabilitation Center, from complications of multiple sclerosis.

Chris was born in Toledo, Ohio, September 6, 1956 to Paul and Audrey Giles. He graduated from Maumee St. Joseph Catholic grade school and in 1974 from Maumee High.

Chris's early aptitude for music led him to purchase, at age 13, a \$30 electric bass, form a 3-man rock band, and play his first gig at his brother's wedding reception in 1970. He continued to play rock, pop, disco through the 70s with such groups as Swift Kick and Solid State.

His musical interest then shifted to jazz, and he taught himself to play acoustic (upright) bass, and began appearing regularly at Fifi's Restaurant with pianist John Mast. Chris always credited Mast with teaching him the fundamentals of the jazz style. Toledo pianist Jim Gottron was another important musical influence during these formative years, and would also become a lifelong friend.

During the 1980s Chris's accomplished style led to a 7-year engagement as house bassist at Rusty's Jazz Café, playing alongside pianist Eddie Abrams. He would also have the good fortune of playing with several other jazz luminaries, including Ernie Krivda, Johnny O'Neal, Eddie Russ, and Bill Heid. In 1986 Chris formed his own jazz group, Line One, playing numerous gigs throughout the Midwest. In 1988-89, the group performed at Keihan

Fisherman's Wharf on Yoshima Island, Japan.

In 1990 Chris moved to Chicago, where he was discovered by jazz pianist, John Wright. The two performed at a variety of Chicago venues, but "home base" was the cozy atmosphere of Philander's Restaurant at the Carleton Hotel in Oak Park, Illinois. Chris and John continued their collaboration until 2006, when the progression of Chris's MS ended his performing career. He continued his day job as a data analyst with the US Dept. of Labor in Chicago, finally returning to Toledo in 2008 to be near family and friends. His passion for music and listening to live jazz never waned.

Chris was preceded in death by his parents and is survived by his brother Mark (Mary Kay) Giles, two nieces and two nephews.

A memorial gathering will be held at the Coyle Funeral Home, 1770 S Reynolds Rd on Saturday April 28, 2012 from 1-5 p.m. Interment will be private. Memorials may take the form of a contribution to Hospice of Northwest Ohio.

Tribute Wall



“ My condolences to Chris' family. Chris was a wonderful person and a great bass player. I had the privilege of knowing Chris as a friend and performing many gigs with him.##imported-begin##Will Kinsey##imported-end##

April 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Dearest Mark and Mary Kay,
I share your sadness. It's hard to let go of a loved one. And Chris was a fine fellow from all accounts and truly loved and loving. My best thoughts for your comfort and peace.
Love,
Anne Therese##imported-begin##Anne Bathurst Click##imported-end##

April 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I knew Chris was special the first time I met him, and I'm so glad he came into my life! Peace to you, dear man, to Mark, Mary Kay, all Mark's children, and also to all who will never forget him.##imported-begin##Grace Bathurst##imported-end##

April 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Uncle Chris you were so cool, too cool for school, and probably the 1990's Man you shoulda been a 1960's jazz Cat I will remember you as a 110% good person who got hit by a train while crossing the street to go to work - so unfair your life was shortened. Rock on Up There. You are missed by many.##imported-begin##Albert going2mi ami@yahoo.com##imported-end##

April 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Chris' bountiful kindness, gentleness, humour, utter coolness, and of course his sensational musical gift will never be forgotten. Uncle Chris will forever live on in our hearts and minds as one of the best men we've ever known, or will ever know. Loving thoughts go out to all the family at this time.xO##imported-begin##Diana##imported-end##

April 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ My prayers are with Chris' family. I worked with Chris for over a decade. I'll never forget his kind heart, the great laughs we had, his love for chocolate and our long debate over whether or not Tootsie Rolls were "real chocolate". I'll miss you Chris.##imported-begin##Nicole Howard Howard.Nicole@dol.gov##imported-end##

April 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ thanks Chris for all the smiles and your emmense musical talent you shared with all of us that were with you at Rusty's Jazz Cafe.. you were a joy to be around soul brother and may you now rest in peace.. and please tell Miles, Bird, Chet, Bob Lee, Jimmy Cook and all of our other musical soulmates we said hello!###imported-begin##Tim Oehlers###imported-end##

April 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I knew Chris as a co-worker at the US Dept of Labor. He was a gentleman and a gentle soul. Always a pleasure to be around, very gracious in his ways. May he rest in peace.###imported-begin##Philip Hanrahan###imported-end##

April 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Please accept my deepest condolences for the loss of your dearly beloved brother (Christopher) during this most difficult time. May his entire family draw comfort from the promises made to us by Our Very Loving Creator Jehovah God. In John 5:28,29 & Rev 21:3,4 where he promises to bring Christopher back to life in the resurrection right here on earth in the very near future and end all suffering, sickness and death forever.###imported-begin##Susan George susanlg53@gmail.com###imported-end##

April 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Rest in peace and the beauty of the music in heaven.###imported-begin##Eileen###imported-end##

April 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mark & Mary Kay,
Our thoughts and prayers are with you.*

*Chris greatly appreciated your care-giving
the past several months.*

*He'll be remembered as an upbeat, friendly
guy who suffered quietly, endured difficulties
and was an accomplished musician.*

*May he rest in peace. He will be missed.##imported-begin##Mike &
Cindy Wray mwray846@bex.net##imported-end##*

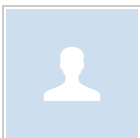
April 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *In the early 80s, I worked as a recording engineer in a small studio
in downtown Toledo. Chris was a regular on many of the jingles and
demos we recorded there. As a young bassist myself, I was struck
not only by Chris' technique and style as a musician, but also his
positive attitude and easy-going personality.*

*It has been nearly 30 years since I last saw Chris, but he and his
family are in my thoughts during this difficult time.##imported-
begin##Jon Diener##imported-end##*

April 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *I knew Chris during his two years at Holy Spirit and enjoys his great
musical talents, friendship and sense of humor. He was a great guy
and he will be in my prayers. I wish all best to his present friends
and surviving family members.##imported-begin##John F. Kostyo jf
k@johnfkostyo.com##imported-end##*

April 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I will always remember Chris for his wonderful love of music, his incredible talent, and his sweet, generous spirit. Rest in peace my friend.

Love.

Lori Lefevre Johnson##imported-begin##Lori Lefevre Johnson##imported-end##

April 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ My deep and heartfelt condolences to the Giles family. Chris was a good friend and respected colleague. We would often sub for each other on various gigs. He had nothing but positive vibes and an indomitable spirit, and played beautifully.

May he rest in peace.

Rich Armandi##imported-begin##Rich Armandi richard@armandimusic.com##imported-end##

April 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM