



## Matthew Zavac

July 25, 1962 - December 13, 2020

Matthew J. Zavac, age 58 of Toledo, passed away peacefully in his sleep on December 13, 2020. He was born to Louis and Carol (Fosty) Zavac on July 25, 1962. He graduated from St. John's Jesuit High School, St. Louis University and he obtained his law degree from the University of Toledo. Matt loved all aspects of sports: playing, watching, coaching and refereeing. He was also a member of a Golf league and Pool league for a number of years. Matt never met a stranger, he was a people person whose laugh was infectious. When a subject interested Matt, he delved deeply into the nuts and bolts of the subject, whether it be the oil industry, politics, computers or the coronavirus, and as a result he was a tremendous conversationalist and very witty. Matt enjoyed lending a helping hand to anyone. He had a methodical perseverance and determination and was always the last one working on a project.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Lou and Carol and his loving dog, Ramses. He is survived by his siblings: Jeff (Nancy) Zavac, Gina (Ray) Okoroski, Becky (Fred) Braker, Joe (Amy) Zavac, Dave (Joanne) Zavac and his twin brother, Mike (Judy) Zavac. In addition, mourning his loss are many loving nieces and nephews. Elizabeth (Adam) Kolwicz, David (Angie) Zavac, Danny Okoroski, Christopher Zavac, Andrew (Katie) Zavac, Catie Braker, Kayla Zavac, Brittany Zavac, Maddie Zavac and great nephews Aidan and Mason Kolwicz and great niece, Annie Zavac.

Due to the pandemic, there will be no visitation or services at this time. A Memorial Mass and Celebration of Matt's Life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Toledo Humane Society or UT Foundation - Satellites Fund, 2600133. Please view and sign our online "guest registry" at [CoyleFuneralHome.com](http://CoyleFuneralHome.com)

# Tribute Wall

DO

“ *I didn't Learn of this till recently. We worked Together for years in st Louis. There has never been a better guy to watch a game with, go to a game with or just spend time with. A tragic loss.*  
*Doug*

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**Doug** - November 09, 2021 at 12:41 AM

RS

“ Dear Zvac Family,

*I read of Matt's passing in the St. Louis University publication Universitas. Matt was my first room mate at St. Louis University. I was from a small town in Missouri and didn't know anyone. Being Matt's roommate, it wasn't long before I knew just about everyone, including the president of the university at the time, Father Fitzgerald. Matt and I worked together as Maintenance Technicians at the brand new Recreation Center on campus. We were really just janitors but Maintenance Technicians sounded better. We started at 6:30 in the morning, which didn't work out so well. Some days we were just a little late for work and other days we would unplug our phone from the wall, so when our boss started calling us it wouldn't wake us up. Eventually we got dismissed. We weren't very upset about it since it was a horrible job and our boss was a jerk. Matt was a good student and really set a good example for me on how to study. He was a hard worker and always encouraged me to do my best. He loved to talk and listen to music. Bruce Springsteen was his favorite for sure. He knew a lot about sports and always talked about working on the grounds crew for the Toledo Mud Hens. Matt got me involved in many things including intramural sports, student government, and other activities I probably never would have participated in. He had an amazing three point shot. We lost touch for awhile after college and then wound up living just blocks from each other in the same neighborhood in Webster Groves. Our lives took us in different directions again and then one day we ran into each other in Clayton. It was like no time had passed at all. I always thought I would run into Matt again and we would continue our friendship. I'm sorry that day never came. Peace to you Matt, I know you are in Heaven. Your Kindness and friendship will never be forgotten.*

*Robert Sylvia - Webster Groves, Missouri*

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**Robert Sylvia** - August 20, 2021 at 04:10 PM

BD

“*Dear Zvac & Okoroski Family,  
We would like to offer our condolences to you and your family on the loss of our Dear Matt. We met Matt years ago through Gina. Gina and I worked together at Rogers HS. Matt was always so kind and loving to my family and I. He never met a stranger. From the first time we met him, he always made us feel welcomed and loved. Each time we would visit the Zvac's home, Matt always told us stories about his dog Ramses and Ramses would be sitting right by his side. Matt will truly be missed by all who knew him. Please know your family will continue to be in our thoughts and prayers.  
Love Davis Family (Charles, Bettye & Kescia)*”

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**Bettye Davis** - December 26, 2020 at 12:42 PM

JL

“*My thoughts and prayers are with you. I loved Matt as a friend and always competing in sports. Lots of great memories working with Matt at the recreation center. The last time I spoke with him I challenged him to get a book printed he wrote. I hope he did his story was awesome. Until we meet again, RIP Matt, God Bless Jon Leidel*”



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**Jon Leidel** - December 24, 2020 at 12:52 PM

BT

“ *Mike and the Zovac family.  
My heart aches hearing this sad news. I have so many fond memories growing up together though grade school at OLPH including lots of laughs, shenanigans, and character building moments. Matt could always talk his way out of trouble with the teachers. My deepest condolences and prayers for the whole family during this difficult time.*

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**Becky Kosier Taylor** - December 22, 2020 at 11:21 PM

GE

“ *My memories of Matt are talking with him way back in the Portside days when downtown was the place to be on a Friday night after work.*

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**Grace Elwell** - December 22, 2020 at 02:32 PM

TM

“ *Always enjoyed playing golf with you, and talking at Goody's. Very knowledgeable man.  
Tom Meagher*

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**Thomas Meagher** - December 22, 2020 at 06:54 AM

CG

“ *LOVED our movie trivia conversations and our shared love of Hockey. Biggest St. Louis fan ever!! Going to miss you Matt❤️*

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**Claudette Gill** - December 22, 2020 at 12:21 AM

MM

“ We met Matt when we were out singing karaoke - He was such a fun and nice guy and always had big smile on his face - He loved to sing Rocket Man by Elton John and believe me...no one could sing it like Matt - Going to miss seeing him around South Toledo - RIP Matt / Mike & Sherry Miller

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**Mike Miller** - December 21, 2020 at 08:41 PM

RJ

“ My deepest condolences.

*Bob Johnson*

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**Robert Johnson** - December 21, 2020 at 04:09 PM

DZ

“ To my Zovac cousins and their families - Bets and I send our deep felt sympathy to all of you. While we are still in shock over Matt's sudden death, our wonderful memories of him will always live on. While my wife Bets describes all of my Zovac cousins as "enthusiastic souls who were born to party", Matt won the award for being consistently the most enthusiastic at the family weddings, family reunions, and all the wonderful Thanksgiving celebrations at Joe and Amy's Beverly home. And he was one of the kindest men I have ever known.

*We will miss him dearly.*

*Bets Howland and Dennis Zovac, Friend and Cousin*

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**Dennis A Zovac** - December 21, 2020 at 01:42 PM

CA

“ To Mike and all Zovac family...  
Matt helped out to remove my 'fractured femur' ramp. The Zovac family has been a blessing in my life. Continue to love and take care of each other...I know you will.

*Coletta Allen, neighbor and friend*

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**Coletta M. Allen** - December 21, 2020 at 12:44 PM

SA

“ Our deepest sympathy to the Zovac family. Matt was such a loving and caring person. When we would visit at Zovac family reunions or other events, Matt would always welcome us and ask how we are doing. We pray that God would bring peace and comfort to the family and friends of Matthew during this time.

*With love from Scott & Crystal Austin, (Patricia Rounds)*

*John 16:33*

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**Scott Austin** - December 21, 2020 at 07:08 AM

JC

“ To Mike & family...my deepest condolences on the loss of your twin brother. Many memories of Matt and Mike telling stories or talking politics to me. Always a pleasure to be around. May God be with you and your brothers and sisters during this time. Jennifer Cox-Fletcher

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**Jennifer Cox-Fletcher** - December 20, 2020 at 11:24 PM

AF

“ Dear Mike & family. Sorry to see the news about your dear twin brother Matt. He has made his journey to his heavenly home to be with the Lord. May memories of your times together bring you comfort & peace.  
Aggy Finfera

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**agnes finfera** - December 20, 2020 at 08:54 PM



“ Sending our deepest sympathy and condolences to Matt's whole family. He was such, kind, caring person and was always willing to help others whenever they needed it. Our thoughts and prayers are with you through this difficult journey.  
Jay and Mary Ellen Kolwicz and Family

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**Mary Ellen Kolwicz** - December 20, 2020 at 05:08 PM

JB

“ Deepest sympathies and condolences to Matt's family. Matt was a great person, neighbor, and friend. We are so saddened by his passing. He moved next door to us when my son, Carlito was about 12. Over the past few years, he and Carlito spent hours talking, about world events, movies, dogs, and golf. He made him feel like a person, not just a kid and was always so positive and encouraging. Matt was always ready to lend a hand or a kind word. He was never afraid to climb a ladder or be a test subject in a 7th-grade science fair project! His smile and chats at the fence will be missed.  
With sad hearts,  
Jennifer, Carlito, and Enzo

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**Jennifer Barto** - December 20, 2020 at 04:09 PM

WC

“ so very sorry to hear about the loss of your brother and especially your twin Mike. I know how close you kids all were and that his passing is a great loss to all of you. May God give you comfort and blessings. Our greatest sympathy to you, Harold and Winnie Cox

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**Winnie Cox** - December 20, 2020 at 04:08 PM

DC

“ My condolences to Matt's family. Matt was a great friend. My heart is broken. He was always there if you needed him. I will miss him very much. God bless his family.

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**David Cunningham** - December 20, 2020 at 01:35 PM

QC

*My condolences go out to his family, Matt was such a great guy, he was always up beat and cheerful always a smile on his face, and he was one to carry on a conversation in depth I really liked our talks you will be missed RIP GOD BLESS*

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**Quinn Cunningham** - December 20, 2020 at 01:48 PM

DK

“ I was very sorry to read of Matt's passing. Please accept my condolences. Dan Killam

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**Dan Killam** - December 20, 2020 at 12:17 PM

DF

“ So many fond memories of Matt (and Mike) when I had them in the 7th grade at OLPH. Not just fond memories, but FUN memories. That class taught me a lot about how to deal with young students becoming teenagers and finding their place in relationships and social groups. We had fun and could laugh a lot! Matt was a hard worker and could easily put you at ease. My prayers to the Zovac family for comfort and peace as you mourn but also prayers for courage and faith as you forge ahead keeping Matt's spirit and energy alive within you. He was loved and God loves Matt also.  
Sr. Donna Frey, OSU

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**Donna Jeanne Frey** - December 20, 2020 at 09:57 AM

DM

“ We are sorry for your loss. Matthew was an amazing lawyer and person. He was fair, funny and he sought fairness. May God wrap his loving arms around you each, and remember the good times together, as those will be with you always. May you each find peace in knowing that you will be rejoined at the time that God chooses.

*The Morrison  
Family*

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**Debra Morrison** - December 20, 2020 at 09:25 AM

DP

“ I only met Matt once. Across the street from the main entrance to the downtown Toledo Public Library is an office building. In the office building there is a very small diner. It had to be 15 years ago when I went in there and Matt was sitting at the counter a couple of seats from me. I graduated from St. John's in 1974 and everyone knew saxophone playing Jeff. We talked for an hour and it was great. My deepest sympathies.

*Dave Pilliod Swanton, Ohio*

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**David Pilliod** - December 20, 2020 at 08:58 AM

BG

“ Dearest Zvac Family,  
So sorry for your loss. I am sending hugs to all. I will keep you in my prayers. Matt was such a great guy. He will be greatly missed.  
Sincerely,  
Barb Gail and family

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**Barb Gail** - December 19, 2020 at 11:53 AM

DC

“ My deepest condolences go out to the Family for their loss. I have many fond memories of Matt through the years. One of many that comes to mind is when he and Kathy rode with us on one of our trips to go white water rafting in Virginia. We had many conversations on that trip as Matt was quite the conversationalist. May you find peace and comfort in legacy of memories of Matt. Hugs



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**Debbie Carroll** - December 19, 2020 at 09:22 AM

UB

“ *My family's deepest condolences go out to the Zovac family. He was a close friend to my two youngest brothers, Vijay and Russ Puligandla. My family and I moved out of Toledo more than 35 years ago but I still remember him as a kid playing with my brothers. Thoughts and prayers go out to the Zovac family.*  
*Usha and Dhar Bharatula*  
*Salem N.H.*

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**Usha Bharatula** - December 19, 2020 at 08:43 AM

DS

“ *Mike, Joe and Family,*  
  
*So sorry for your loss. I have many fond memories of Matt at St. John's.*  
  
*Rest easy brother!*  
  
*Dave Skoczyn*

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**Dave Skoczyn** - December 19, 2020 at 08:23 AM

JZ

“ *I wish to send my condolences to Matthew's family.*  
*Gina, I am so sorry that you have lost your brother.*  
*My sincere sympathy,*  
*Jeanne Andrews Zajac*

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**Jeanne Zajac** - December 18, 2020 at 08:14 PM

SW

“ So sorry to hear about Matthew , he was a wonderful guy who always was helpful . We enjoyed his intellectual prowess . Loved his laugh and his jokes , sending everyone hugs and love ❤️ at this difficult time , Sita and Ken Wiczynski.



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**Sita Wiczynski** - December 18, 2020 at 08:00 PM

JA

“ Mike & Family,

*Many fond memories over the years...May our Lord wrap his arms around all of you at this time.  
Hugs from Columbus,*

*Jeff*

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**Jeff Arman** - December 18, 2020 at 02:35 PM

HH

“ I had the wonderful pleasure of working with Matt many years ago and I still hold him close to my heart! We had so much fun and I will always hold wonderful memories of those days!

*Holly (Schoen) Hoffman*

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**Holly Hoffman** - December 18, 2020 at 01:18 PM

PH

“ I have only beautiful and fun memories of Matt and his vibrant personality. He was so full of life and energy. His legacy is one to be remembered and emulated. God speed Matt.

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**Patrick Hickey** - December 18, 2020 at 12:25 PM

MR

“ Dear Zvac Family,  
Brent and I are so very sorry to hear of the passing of your brother and uncle Matt.  
We have fond memories of running into him and other family members and hearing of your growing family.  
I know that your parents are wrapping their arms around him as they are at peace.  
We want you to know that you are in our thoughts and prayers.

*Maggie and Brent Reed*

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**Maggie Reed** - December 18, 2020 at 12:05 PM

ST

*We are all so sooty. We have the fondest memories of Matt. He always took a sincere interest in me and I enjoyed him.*

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**sarah Tangenan** - December 18, 2020 at 06:08 PM

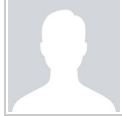
GL

*Matt was more than just a friend... There was a group of us growing up who were more like brothers than anything. We all had the unique opportunity (Blessing) to not only be the best of friends when we were kids, but to share that love and friendship as we all grew older. I know I speak for so many of us when I say we truly lost someone who meant so much to so many. We were all so lucky to have had a friend like Matt in our lives. I can not begin to express how much I will miss my friend. My thoughts and prayers to the Zvac family.*

*Greg Lawrence*

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**Greg Lawrence** - December 23, 2020 at 04:06 PM



*Dear Zvac Family,*

*I was shocked and saddened to hear of Matt's passing. He was a dear friend from law school who was beloved by his classmates (UT Law 1988). I will always remember our beautiful conversations and his zest for life. When he was around, you knew you had a friend present. I had not seen him in years, but we all mourn his passing. Peace to your family.*

*Joe Simpson (UT Law 1988).*

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**Joseph Simpson** - January 05, 2021 at 12:56 PM