



Spiros Cocoves

December 7, 1953 - May 17, 2023

Spiros Cocoves (December 7, 1953 - May 17, 2023) - the defense rests.

Spiros P. Cocoves, a caring father, devoted husband, and accomplished attorney, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, surrounded by his loving and supportive family at ProMedica Ebeid Hospice Residence in Sylvania, Ohio. He was 69. His death marked the end of an arduous 15-year battle with Parkinson's disease. This cruel condition gradually eroded his quality of life, ultimately leading to complications that robbed him of it completely.

Spiros was born in Detroit, Michigan, on December 7, 1953, to Matina and Euthymius Cocoves, followed by his siblings, Thea Cocoves and Nicholas Cocoves. He worked at automotive factories to fund his education, earning a Bachelor of Arts from Oakland University, a Master of Arts in Politics and Government from the University of Kent at Canterbury, England, and a Juris Doctor degree from The University of Toledo College of Law.

While pursuing his law studies, he met Kyle Cubbon and determined that she was the love of his life after only two weeks of dating. They formed a remarkable partnership and raised their beloved children: Tasso Cocoves, 33, and Athena Cocoves, 32. August 24, 2023, would have marked their 38th marriage anniversary - a testament to their enduring love.

A dedicated student of human nature, Spiros worked as a criminal defense attorney in an attempt to quench his tireless passion for justice. With exceptional ambition, profound influence, and a brilliant legal mind, he achieved a storied and distinguished career as a trial lawyer.

Spiros made multiple appearances before the Ohio Supreme Court and the Federal Courts of Appeals, earned a spectacular reputation for his appellate work and cross-examination skills, and was bestowed with awards from his colleagues, including the inaugural Liberty and Justice Award from the Maumee Valley Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. Guided by an unyielding dedication to the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights, Spiros fought relentlessly for his clients. He prevented the innocent from being incarcerated and fought for the release of the wrongly convicted, setting precedents that continue to protect against unjust treatment.

With his distinctive long ponytail, often juxtaposed with handsome bespoke suits, Spiros was a seemingly contradictory man, tempered by an unwavering moral foundation, who relished opportunities to perplex the uninformed. He was, to quote Winston Churchill, "a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma" - though his profound complexities wore much more charm than the source of Churchill's reference, the Soviet Union (coincidentally, an object of utter fascination for Spiros).

Befitting a man with such charming complexities, Spiros enjoyed diverse and eclectic interests: immersing himself in Opera, singing along to Frank Sinatra, devouring a steak with Kyle's homemade Caesar salad, sneaking candy (most kinds), hoarding chocolate (all kinds), carefully reading "boring and dense" historical non-fiction (as described by his family, not him), studying James Bond paperbacks, staying up late for Hogan's Heroes and Perry Mason reruns, playing handball, cycling upwards of 100 miles at a time, and bringing

laughter to a room full of people. He loved cheering on the Red Wings with his son, recounting history with his daughter, and simply being by Kyle's side, regardless of the activity.

Spiros was a smart, loyal friend with a legendary sense of humor. He will be remembered as a courageous man with incredible wisdom who bore a long and harrowing disease with dignity. Though taken too soon, his family finds solace in knowing that the diagnosis he called his "misfortune" never forced him to live a quality of life that he would deem unacceptable. After death, Spiros' brilliant mind, which helped so many while he lived, will continue to help many more through his donation to the Harvard Brain Tissue Resource Center.

Please join his friends and family to celebrate Spiros' inspiring life and legacy on Wednesday, May 24, from 4-7pm, with a short program at 5:30pm, at the Nederhouser Community Hall within Olander Park in Sylvania, Ohio. To share stories with the family, visit the online registry at CoyleFuneralHome.com.

In honor of Spiros and his memory, the family suggests donations to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research.

Tribute Wall

JS

“ I only had occasion to work with Spiros and spend time with him on occasion. What a wonderful and gracious man. He was a Lion of the local bar and will be sorely missed.

Joe Simpson

Joseph Scott Simpson - May 24, 2023 at 03:32 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Spiros Cocoves.



May 21, 2023 at 11:04 AM



“ I met Spiros when we were both in our formative 20s and am very thankful to him for the many things he introduced me to - like the Marx Brothers and opera, to name only a few. Although we lost touch for a long time, I was happy to reconnect with him in recent years, and even happier to learn how successful and fulfilled he was in his life. I'm so glad he and Kyle found each other. I offer my sincerest condolences to Kyle and her family.

Laurie Vassallo - May 21, 2023 at 03:45 AM

LC

“ A beautifully written tribute!

Linda Cotsonika - May 20, 2023 at 09:20 PM

JG

“ Spiros was a great guy, a good friend, & a terrific lawyer. I had the honor - and pleasure - of co-counseling with him in many cases. His passing is a real loss. He'll be missed.

Jeff Gamso - May 20, 2023 at 04:59 PM

PF

“ He was always a pleasure to be with. May he rest in peace

paul frankel - May 20, 2023 at 02:44 PM

AC

“ 10 files added to the album Spiros Cocoves



Athena Cocoves - May 20, 2023 at 09:26 AM