



Paul Voynalovich

November 19, 1966 - August 16, 2023

Paul (Pasha) Voynalovich, raised in Eastern Ukraine and a long-time resident of Washington, D.C., passed away suddenly and far too soon, on August 16, 2023, at the age of 56. He is survived by his beloved wife of 12 years, Melissa Roover, his brother Sasha, sister-in-law Lena, his niece Julia and her family, his father- and mother-in-law Charlie and Toby Roover, brother- and sister-in-law David and Michelle Lecks Roover, nephew Benny and niece Hailey Roover, all of whom loved Paul dearly. He was predeceased by his mother and father in Ukraine. Paul was a fiercely loyal, loving and caring husband and friend who made everyone smile and laugh. He lived to help others. He was a nurturer of plants, flowers, and his beloved Melissa. He loved to delight others with his cooking and made everyone in his presence feel at ease. Paul was the unofficial mayor of Home Depot, a talented and creative craftsman who enjoyed helping others care for and improve their homes. Paul lived his life with a spark of childlike joy and wonder. That spark brought Paul to America over 30 years ago, where he often said he felt like he was walking on air.

Paul's loyalty and passion for Ukraine once led to a dust-up with a pro-Russian heckler at a demonstration in support of Ukrainian independence in front of the White House. He was tackled by a secret service agent and subsequently arrested and released to Melissa. Paul gleefully served his sentence of community service at a soup kitchen and even more gleefully

recounted the story to friends and family who laughed until their sides hurt.

Paul exemplified service and built community wherever he went. No one was allowed to be lonely or hungry when Paul was around. The world will be less interesting and kind without him and he will be sorely missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

A Celebration of Life for Paul will take place from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm, on Sunday, October 1, 2023, at the Friends Meeting of Washington, DC located at 2111 Decatur Place NW, Washington, DC 20008. In keeping with Paul's love of the outdoors, the Celebration will take place at the Lower West Gardens under a tent.

Memorial Contributions in Paul's memory may be made to support Ukraine at www.donationforukraine.com

Paul's family welcomes and encourages sharing special memories of Paul. To share, please click the Share Memories button.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

OCT 1. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Friends Meeting of Washington, DC
2111 Decatur Place NW
Washington, DC 20008

Tribute Wall

EL

“ We always loved having Paul in the house—he was the presence of a fun and welcome friend. He was so capable that he made me feel our lives were always in control, things could always be fixed. He moved so smoothly through the world (not even in his native language!), traveled, hung out with monks! He had a true kind of worldliness and it felt special to know someone like that. A privilege.

Elizabeth - September 18, 2023 at 07:01 PM

AB

“ I remember the story when Paul first met his wife at the halloween party. He had a hilarious costume of a baby. We were laughing so hard looking at that picture. Does anybody have that picture by the way I would love to see it again.

Anna Belaschenko - September 07, 2023 at 07:36 PM

TK

“ We were heartbroken when we heard about the death of our downstairs neighbor Paul. Such a kind, fun and funny person—always doing a chore or project, or on his way to help someone else do one. He clearly never met a stranger and his friendly demeanor made an impression from the very first moment we met him. Our deepest condolences to Melissa and his entire family.

Tim Kaine and Anne Holton

tim kaine - September 05, 2023 at 06:15 PM