



## Paul L. Weafer

January 30, 1946 - April 3, 2020

Albany-Paul L. Weafer, 74, of ALBANY, NY, passed away peacefully on April 3, 2020. He was born January 30, 1946 in Winchester, Massachusetts, the only child of Kenneth A. Weafer and Kathleen Kelly Weafer.

Paul is survived by his beloved wife of 45 years, Patricia Collins Weafer and is the devoted father of Kenneth C. Weafer (Tierney Dugan) of Latham, N.Y. and Christine Weafer Deegan (Michael Deegan) of Cohoes, N.Y. He is the cherished grandfather of Rayne, Camille, and Brice Weafer, Tyler Dugan, and Michael P. and Patrick Deegan.

Paul was a graduate of Vincentian Institute in Albany, NY, Niagara University, and Albany Law School. He worked for 30 years at the New York State Legislative Bill Drafting Commission, the last 20 of which he served as the Chief Counsel to the Commission and was often referred to as “best bill drafter in Albany” since Robert Moses. Upon his retirement from state service, Paul was a partner of Weafer and Venter Government Services. He was active in Albany politics his entire life. He served as the CEO of the Albany County Industrial Development Agency, past Chairman of the Albany Water Board, and was also a past member of the Albany Charter Review Commission and the Albany Citizens’ Police Review Board.

Paul, like his father, was a lifelong fan of the Boston Red Sox. (He was endearingly referred to as “Papi” – after David “Big Papi” Ortiz – by his grandchildren.) He was also a dedicated fan of Notre Dame Football. He took an active interest in youth sports in the Capital Region, following and fostering the athletic careers of the best in the area. When his son was younger, he coached Pop Warner football and all levels of youth baseball and became President of the Central Babe Ruth baseball league in the early 1990s. He rarely missed a game; he could be found at Albany Academy football, basketball and baseball games, even long after his own kids had graduated.

Paul, known as “Weaf” to his friends, had a magnetic personality and a larger than life presence that filled a room. He had a quick wit and a playful sense of humor. He was inquisitive, had a sharp mind, and was a wellspring of knowledge; he knew a lot about a lot and could speak with anyone on just about anything. Few were more gregarious than Weaf; he couldn’t help but strike up a friendly, and never dull, conversation with whomever came into his orbit. He was a loyal and devoted friend, who summoned all his gifts and talents to help a friend in need. His extraordinary generosity extended well beyond his friendships; he was a champion for the underdog and a relentless advocate for those who sought his aid and counsel. Paul developed a strong faith in his youth and maintained it to the very end, reassuring the nurses who took such loving care of him of the unconditional and boundless love of the Blessed Mother.

But above all, for Paul, family was supreme. Of all his achievements, nothing was more important to Paul than being a faithful and loving husband and a supportive father. And when each of his grandchildren arrived, he doted on them inexorably.

The family would like to thank the selfless nurses and physicians of the ICU of St. Peter’s Hospital, who compassionately treated and cared for Paul.

Due to the health crisis, a Mass and memorial celebration of Paul’s life will be held at a later date.

Contributions in memory of Paul L. Weafer can be made to Autism Speaks online at [act.autismspeaks.org](http://act.autismspeaks.org). To leave a message of condolence for the family, please visit [www.McVeighFuneralHome.com](http://www.McVeighFuneralHome.com).

# Comments

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“ I am so deeply saddened to learn of Paul's passing. I have fond memories of Paul from my days in the Governor's Counsel's office in the 80's. Paul was always the consummate professional and a delight to work with. I know I speak for many of my former colleagues in saying that Paul will long be remembered! Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Pat Bucklin

Pat Bucklin - May 08 at 11:00 AM

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“ Dear Patty and family  
Lou and I send our sincerest sympathy. We just heard of Paul's passing and are truly shocked. We enjoyed our conversations with Paul when he came in to our deli. He was so pleasant and are so happy and blessed to have known him these past few years.

Lou & Cathy Sainato - May 04 at 06:36 PM

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“ Pat, please accept my thoughts & prayers on Paul's passing. We had many a laugh over the years & he always remembered where he came from.  
Regina DuBois

Regina - April 15 at 12:39 PM

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“ Paul was truly a good man. He always gave sage advice when asked or would be a good ear when that's what was needed. He would always leave me smiling. Our sincere condolences to the entire Weafer family. May he rest in peace.

Patrick and Laura Jordan

Patrick Jordan - April 15 at 11:56 AM

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“ A great person with a terrific mind. This is a giant loss!

Richard Runes - April 15 at 10:55 AM

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“ Paul was a wonderful supporter of the members of the City of Albany Police Department and an advocate for the residents, businesses and visitors to the City that he loved and served. It was my pleasure and honor to have worked with Paul on many important issues to the Police Department and the larger community, Paul - your family may be humbly proud of you, Jim Turley.

**Jim Turley** - April 14 at 08:56 AM

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“ Dear Pat, KC, Chrissy and family, Peter and I are so sorry to hear of the passing of Paul. We are sending you our condolence and deepest sympathy. We will never forget Paul. His smile and kindness, his generosity and his love of friends and family was always so heart warming. Marie and Peter McHugh

**Marie-Louise McHugh** - April 14 at 08:49 AM

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“ Pat,  
I can't tell you how shocked and sorry I am to hear of Paul's passing. His zest for life, his immeasurable knowledge of so many interests that we shared and his love of people will remain with me forever. Please accept my prayers and thoughts. Every Friday or Saturday he would ask me to sing his father's favorite song "Spanish Eyes" at the Paradiso. So, as the last phrase of the song went: "Please smile at me once more before I go. Soon I'll return. Bringing you all the love your heart can hold. Please say Si, si. say you and your Spanish eyes will wait for me."  
Love,  
Tom Scarff

**Tom Scarff** - April 13 at 07:46 PM

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“ Paul was an unbelievable and loyal friend. I LOVED talking Red Sox baseball with him and not so long ago had lunch with him where he demonstrated once again what an awesome friend he was. I am very sad to hear about this. I will miss him. My deepest sympathy to the entire family.

Phil Gallant

**Philip Gallant** - April 13 at 04:38 PM

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“ To Paul's entire family - I am so sorry for your loss. Weaf and I go way back to grade school. Brian Austin

**Brian Austin** - April 13 at 03:34 PM

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“ Pat, Mary Gay and I are so saddened to hear of Paul's passing. Only great memories pop up when I think of you and Paul. Please be well. Our prayers to you and family Mary Gay and Andy Wood

**Andrew Wood** - April 13 at 11:48 AM

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“ PAT and family...Paul was a great friend to so many people. His intelligence and wit will be warmly remembered..Our prayers are with you.

**Phil and Chris Donnelly** - April 13 at 11:19 AM

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“ Our entire family was grieved to hear of Paul's passing. We extend our deepest sympathy and condolences to the Weafer family. He was of particular help to our younger son which was greatly appreciated.

Fred, Donna, Geoffrey and G. David Hershey

**Fred Hershey** - April 13 at 11:02 AM

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“ I would like to send my condolences to the Weafer family, Pat and the entire family. I had known Paul as a young man who frequented the Albany Parks, where Paul was a park director when he was a young man. Paul and I befriended each other at a young age, and he became a role model for many of us youngsters back then. Paul was exceptionally loyal and caring for me and my brothers, as we were attracted to his welcoming personality. This relationship carried on for years during my college days, and through my professional career as a college football coach. Paul was always there to advise, encourage, and to cheer on your accomplishments. He was a selfless leader who will be missed tremendously. There are not many men who carried themselves with the class that he did. He was always there for his friends and family. What a great man, and servant of the people he touched in his everyday life.

Sincerely,

John Audino and family



“ Laurie Watson lit a candle in memory of Paul L. Weafer



Laurie Watson - April 13 at 12:30 AM

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“ We used to see Paul so often on his brisk walks passed our house.

May he be walking with the angels now. God speed. Karole and Dick Doyle

Karole Doyle - April 12 at 02:45 PM

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“ To Pat, Christy, and KC...

It is with profound disbelief that we heard of the passing of Weaf. It only seems like a short time ago that we were laughing and telling stories at TJ's.

While we are deeply saddened, we also know that Paul's deeply religious conviction has resulted in his eternal reward. His place with God will help steer each us and strengthen our moral compass.

Please accept our sincerest condolences, thoughts, and prayers.

May he rest in peace.

God Bless,  
Bob and Barbara Van Amburgh

Bob Van Amburgh - April 12 at 12:35 PM

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“ Pat and family, my deepest condolences to you for the loss of Paul. Pat, I am so sorry for what you are going thru now. . It's such crazy times and to have this to deal with, ,you have my deepest sympathy.. Miss you.

Doug Townsend

doug townsend - April 12 at 12:18 PM

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“ Pat and family, My deepest condolences to the family for your loss. His obituary says it all for Paul's love for family, friends and willingness to help anyone who called, no truer words can be stated. He was a great drafter always thinking outside the norm. I had the honor and pleasure to have worked with Weaf for 25 plus years at LBDC. I have many fond memories of our times there together, forming a life long friendship, and deep respect for him. He will be missed and may he RIP. Your in our hearts and prayers.

Dave Marcy

Dave Marcy - April 12 at 10:28 AM

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“ Pat, KC, Christy  
Marie and I are so sorry to hear of Paul's passing. Paul and I have been friends since the early 60's when we played baseball together for his Dad with Scully Post. Later when our sons were of age we got together at Central Babe Ruth and then Paul got our Mickey Mantle team going for our sons to continue baseball. He was great to both of my sons as they started their working careers with advice and help. Even though he was a Red Sox fan, I always loved to run into Paul and Pat at the Gingerman on Thursday nights. There are so many great memories I have with Paul. Certainly you know it, but Paul was a wonderful guy and even a better friend.

Gary & Marie Furlong



Gary Furlong - April 12 at 10:28 AM

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“ So sorry for your loss. I worked with Paul at LBDC for 30 years and would run into him occassionally after we both retired. He was a good person and would give me political advice whether i asked for it or not. He will be missed.

Dominick Calsolaro

Dominick Calsolaro - April 12 at 10:23 AM

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“ One of the greatest bill drafters ever, and so generous with his advice. I will always remember those long nights working together to get the last-minute changes to some of the most important legislation of our time just right. Often, we would just talk about almost anything for hours. Paul was a special man.  
Rest In Peace.  
Mark Glaser

Mark Glaser - April 12 at 09:44 AM

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“ Pat and Family  
My sincerest condolences for your loss, probably only Pat will remember this, but will miss you Pierre LaPuck, may God hold you all in his loving care during this period.  
may Paul RIP

Pat Cerniglia - April 12 at 09:15 AM

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“ Paul was my big brother who guided me through the first few weeks at Niagara U. He also was a great baseball pitcher who struck me out many times with his excellent knuckleball. I think he learned how to throw it from his father.  
It's your 1st Easter in heaven, please look after us all. Rest in peace, our friend.

Glenn and Joan Viele

Glenn Viele - April 12 at 09:06 AM

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“ God Bless You Paul. Today You live with our Lord. I will miss your humor, and stories. From a fellow weed picker from the Albany Airport. God Speed .Tom Regan

thomas regan - April 12 at 08:12 AM

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“ He was the man that listened to me when a fatherly figure was not present in my life. Never judged; always listened and most importantly gave his support with advice. He loved us kids as if we were ALL his own and for that I loved and respected him.  
Here's to the good times the bad times, till the next time and never the last time. A saying we had amongst friends and with him. God bless we miss you.

Jason Dube - April 11 at 09:27 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Childhood Friends



**Pete Zinkovitch** - April 11 at 06:38 PM

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“ I am so sorry to hear of Paul's passing and I send my deepest condolences to Kathleen and the entire family. I had the pleasure of knowing Paul way back in the 1970's. I had painted his father's house on Woodlawn Ave, and I guess Paul liked my work and he hired me to paint his home on Winthrop. He was one of the friendliest customers I ever had. I can still hear the sound of his cheerful voice in my head. He will be missed, that I am sure of. Rest in Peace Paul.

Former Painter,

Joe Gioco

**Joe Gioco** - April 11 at 03:49 PM

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“ Tim and I are so sad to have learned of Paul's passing. He was an absolutely lovely man. Your entire family has our love and support. - Alison McLean Lane and Tim Lane

**Alison McLean Lane** - April 11 at 02:06 PM

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“ Rr



**James Smith** - April 11 at 12:54 PM

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“ Condolences from Cathy, Garrett and kids. I will never forget Mr. Paul Weafer. A class act through and through. Our thoughts and prayers are with the many people's lived touched by him.

**Garrett** - April 10 at 08:33 PM

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“ In the beginning you were a co-worker; you then you became my boss, and later my partner. But you were always my confidant, friend and brother. I don't know what I'll do without you to talk to, laugh with, and confide in.  
RIP Big Guy, and until we meet again, I know you will always be by my side.  
TV

**Tom** - April 10 at 07:41 PM

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“ Mr Weafer was the kind of Dad that let us have fun. We were always welcome, we swam in the pool, he took us out to eat, to football games, baseball games, he wanted to make us laugh and see us happy. He knew everyone and he cared about us. I am so proud to have been part of Club 193. Will treasure the memories forever.  
Love you Christy, Mrs Weafer and KC. Love, Rachel

**Rachel Scatton Pantoja** - April 10 at 09:01 AM

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“ In this time of grief, it is difficult to imagine that Paul, so full of life, our friend, is gone. I imagine him editing that beautiful obituary, which captures him so well and needs no improvement, simply from the joy of editing. He loved the art and craft of bill drafting. Another thing he loved was movies but not the movie Fargo which I recall he hated with a Pauline passion. Yet, and this was so Paul, he, with equal passion, wanted to understand why others, myself included, liked the movie. For me, a lot of Paul is captured in that memory minor, in some ways, as the case may be.

Godspeed Sweet Paul and may flights of angels sing thee to thy rest.

**Brien Downes** - April 10 at 06:45 AM

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“ neil Breslin is following this tribute.

**neil Breslin** - April 09 at 08:23 PM

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“ Pat,

Ellen and I are deeply saddened by your loss of Paul. We have had the privilege of friendship for over sixty years and we have had the generosity that Paul gave to that friendship. There is only one Paul Weafer, a person wore his heart on both sleeves. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

With sadness,,  
Neil

neil breslin - April 09 at 08:18 PM



“ So sorry to hear the sad news of Paul. I first met Paul around 1963 at Ed Rooney house in playing basketball. Right away I said he is a great person. One of the best I ever met. Over the years I did see him and did catch up with Paul for coffee at Gateway Diner. Again sorry Ellen! Burkie Adams

**Burke Thomas Adams** - April 09 at 09:49 PM



“ Pat, you are in my thoughts and prayers at this time of sadness. You and Weaf had a great relationship as far back as I can remember. May your memories help you through this difficult time.

**Tracy Langlais** - April 10 at 02:03 PM



“ Working closely at the Bill Drafting Commission with Paul, I saw his humanity and intellect. Paul took a genuine interest in mentoring, giving opportunity to those starting out and giving a second chance to those deserving. His professional and personal guidance were based on decades of legal experience and an understanding of how best to give advice. His sense of humor, his knowledge of local and national politics and his bill drafting expertise were without peer. A year ago I had lunch with Paul and his friend Tom Venter. We reminisced about shared workplace experiences, the state of the world and the importance of family. I most remember Paul's genuine concern and warmth.

Ron Backer

**Ron Backer** - April 10 at 07:40 PM



“ Deeply saddened by the loss of Paul. He was a great friend during my early years growing up in Albany New York. We shared many memorable times while attending VI elementary school and through our high school years at Vincentian Institute. We competed in Little League and Babe Ruth baseball during our summers growing up. I now live in Colorado Springs, Colorado and was informed of his passing through our mutual friends in Albany. Thoughts and Prayers for the family.

**Pete Zinkovitch** - April 11 at 06:31 PM



“ Pat and family,  
My condolences to you on your loss. Summer of 1989 I received a phone from Weaf for an interview at LBDC. Of course, the fact that I was also a Niagara University grad didn't hurt my chances. Paul was tremendously patient with me and I learned much about the world, politics and life in general from him. My thoughts and prayers go out to all of you.

Michael Verrastro

**Michael Verrastro** - April 12 at 12:45 PM



“ My deepest regrets for Pat and family, and for myself and all that called Paul friend. For there could be no other that fills that title better. I have missed our hours of discussions about the Sox , Yanks and baseball in general. We know a lot of people, but none more sincere and none with a bigger heart. I'm sure the big guy is debating Ted Williams right now. You get him Weaf.

**Jim Severino** - April 12 at 02:36 PM



“ With deepest sympathy and love to you, Pat and the family. I remember when you and Paul became engaged (very romantic). You made a beautiful couple. Your lovely children are a reflection of that goodness. Thinking about you. Sheila Sheridan

**Sheila Sheridan** - April 12 at 10:47 PM



“ Pat. KC and Christy,  
I am shocked and saddened at the news of Paul's passing. Weaf was one of the most unique individuals I had the pleasure to know. We, and debated so many interests that we shared. Mostly politics. The true stamp of a loyal friend is when one person is not a fan of a certain person, and the other goes to the ends of the earth to explain the reasons why he is, indeed, a fine man. Paul was loyal to a fault. But that is what mattered he stuck to his convictions. I called him often for political advice, even though we were usually on opposite sides. He never turned me down. Pat, on Weekend nights after you guys had dinner at Paradiso, he would ask me to sing his father's favorite song "Spanish Eysys". I'll leave you with this line: "Soon I'll return. Bringing you all the love your heart can hold. Say Si si. Say you and your Spanish eyes will wait for me".

Love and Prayers,  
Tom Scarff

**Tom** - April 13 at 08:26 PM



“ I remember Weaf well from ALS as a larger than life person. We shared an apartment together in the Summer of 1970 when he was studying for the NYS bar. He was a memorable and great guy that I never forgot. I was not aware that he had accomplished so much in life post ALS, but not remotely surprised. God bless all.

**Robert Mc Dougall** - April 14 at 12:43 PM



“ Worked with Paul at LBDC probably forever. No nicer, smarter, better drafter, no better person I've ever had the privilege of being associated with or friend of. Got very sick in 1996 and forced into retirement. Shortly after I received a beautifully written letter from Paul. That was 1996. I still have that letter. That's who Paul Weaver was. I'm so sorry for his loss, will keep him in my prayers. Thank you for Paul. God bless.

Sal Rico

**Sal Rico** - April 14 at 05:29 PM