



Chief Warren W. Abriel Jr.

January 19, 1949 - April 3, 2025

Albany-Warren W. Abriel, Jr., 76, of Albany, NY entered eternal life surrounded by his loving family on April 3, 2025. He was born January 19, 1949, in Albany, New York, the oldest child of Warren Sr. and Gladys (Hart) Abriel. Warren was raised in North Albany, attended School 20, Philip Livingston and graduated from Albany High School. At a young age Warren, a fourth-generation firefighter, acquired a love for the fire service as his father, Warren Sr., grandfather, Franklin Abriel, and great grandfather, Reuben Abriel, all were members of the Albany Fire Department dating back to 1867. Before joining the Albany Fire Department in 1972, Warren briefly attended Hudson Valley Community College and then served his country by joining the United States Navy where he was a Gunners Mate Technician 2nd Class between 1967-1971 on the USS Canopus based in Holy Loch, Scotland.

Over his 46 years of service with the Albany Fire Department, Warren was appointed to the positions of Firefighter, Lieutenant, Captain, Assistant Chief, Deputy Chief, Executive Deputy Chief and Chief. While working at the Albany Fire Department, Warren earned an Associate's Degree from Schenectady County Community College, a Bachelor's Degree from Empire State College and a Masters of Public Administration from Russell Sage College. For nearly three decades Warren was a part-time Tutor/Advisor for the National Fire Academy program run through Empire State College and also served as a New York State Fire Instructor for six years. Warren was awarded in 2006 the

Arnold L. Steigman Award by the State Academy of Public Administration recognizing excellence in teaching public administration. Warren's professional associations included the International Association of Fire Chiefs, National Fire Protection Association, New York State Association of Fire Chiefs and State Academy for Public Administration. Warren most recently served as a Commissioner on the Albany Port District Commission, a Member of the City of Albany Water Board and a Member of the Albany Firefighters Museum Board.

For fun, Warren enjoyed watching his grandsons' sporting events, including hundreds of baseball games, including ten years at Tri-Village Little League, multiple New York State Little League Championship Tournaments and Cooperstown Dreams Park Tournaments and Bethlehem High School Baseball. Warren enjoyed dinners and breakfasts with friends and family, following the stock market, watching professional golf events, attending USS Canopus reunions and chronicling the history of the Albany Fire Department, particularly the 46 years during which he was a member. Warren was also an avid photographer and fan of the James Bond franchise and the music of Roy Orbison and Gene Pitney. Later in life Warren took up the sport of golf and enjoyed playing many rounds with his friends and family at Wolfert's Roost Country Club (where he was active with the ROB's), Town of Colonie Golf Course, Seven Oaks Golf Course and Lake Buena Vista Golf Club. Warren also enjoyed a long affiliation with the University Club of Albany, where he served as its President, and was an active participant in its Tuesday night bowling league and annual Duck Dinner. Warren enjoyed vacationing with his family at Disney World and Ogunquit, Maine, and spending time with family at Lake Moraine, Hamilton, New York.

Warren's life was exemplified by his service to others and he was a generous and humble man of great faith and he had a quick wit, wonderful sense of humor and big heart. He will be sorely missed by his family and friends, but he

would also want everyone to be comforted by the fact that he lived a full, meaningful and prosperous life and leaves behind a lasting family legacy, including a grandson and several nephews in the fire service. Warren is survived by his beloved wife of 53 years, Mary Theresa; his daughter, Michele; his son-in-law, John N. Vagianelis; and his grandsons William N. Vagianelis and John J. Vagianelis (Jack); his sister, Linda Meservey and sisters-in-law, Janet Abriel and Linda Abriel and many nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews.

Warren was predeceased by his brothers, Theodore Abriel and Henry Abriel; brother-in-law, Bruce Meservey, and infant granddaughter, Cathryn Marie Vagianelis.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Warren's family Sunday, April 6, 2025 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at McVeigh Funeral Home, 208 N. Allen St., Albany NY 12206. Please enter the funeral home from rear parking lot entrance only.

Funeral Services Monday, April 7, 2025 at St Pius X Church Loudonville, NY at 1:00 p.m. where his Funeral Mass will be celebrated with Full Departmental Honors.

The Rite of Committal will be held in St. Agnes Cemetery Menands, NY immediately following the Mass.

For those wishing to make a donation in Warren's memory, please consider making a donation to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or a charity of your choice.

To leave a message for the family or view other helpful services please visit w

www.mcveighfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

St. Agnes Cemetery

48 Cemetery Ave
Menands, NY

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 6. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc.
208 N Allen St
Albany, NY 12206
(518) 489-0188
info@mcveighfuneralhome.com
<http://www.McveighFuneralHome.com>

Please enter funeral home from rear parking lot entrance only.

Funeral Mass

APR 7. 1:00 PM (ET)

St. Pius X Church
23 Crumitie Rd
Loudonville, NY 12211
(518) 462-1336

Tribute Wall



“ *McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Chief Warren W. Abriel Jr.*



McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc. - April 05, 2025 at 11:23 AM

KL

“ *I grew up in North Albany and Warren was in my class. He was a quiet boy. Warren was ALWAYS a wonderful and caring person. Everyone liked Warren. He was brave, very smart and a good listener! I was thrilled when Mary Theresa started to go out with Warren in high school. They were a beautiful couple. Years later...The night that my father was dying, I called 911 for help! It was Warren and his crew who came immediately! He calmed my mother and me and they did all they could do for my dad... My husband and I moved from Albany to New Hampshire 26 years ago. The day we heard from friends that Warren had past, was the day of Warren's funeral. I couldn't believe it. My heart hurts for Mary Theresa & Michele! And all their family! May they know that we send LOVE & PRAYERS for their family! God Bless all the family & friends! Kate & Mike Lancor*

Kate Lancor - April 08, 2025 at 09:47 AM

KK

“ Heartfelt condolences to Mary Theresa and family. I grew up in North Albany and was often at the Abriel house with Linda. It was interesting to learn about their long family history of firefighting. May the love and dedication of Warren bring you peace and comfort in the days ahead.

Karen VanAmburgh Kelefant

Karen M. Kelefant - April 07, 2025 at 08:43 AM

SD

“ Mary Theresa, Michele & John, our heartfelt condolences on the passing of Warren. Hosting several AFD retirements, credit union dinners and of course weddings (M & J) I've known Warren and family many years. May God give you strength at this sorrowful time. Again my deepest sympathy to your family. RIP Warren.

*Steve & Karen DiBella
Murrells Inlet, SC*

Steve & Karen DiBella - April 06, 2025 at 06:09 PM

RF

“ A wonderful mentor and a great colleague. He has had a great impact on generations of firefighters of all ranks for the past 27+ years and still today his legacy continues with the courses he authored.

*Robert Fruchter
Adjunct Instructor
Past Coordinator of Fire Service program at SUNY/Empire State College*

Robert Fruchter - April 06, 2025 at 01:43 PM

DH

“ To the Abriel family I want to express my sadness for the loss of your husband, father, and grandfather, I know the fire service brought him great joy and being happy at what you do is a blessing in itself. May he rest in peace and may the Lord in some way give the family peace in such a difficult time!



David Miesowicz/Gretchen Haas - April 05, 2025 at 09:38 PM

BS

“ Michele, I'm very sorry for your loss.

Barbara Seebode - April 05, 2025 at 03:05 PM



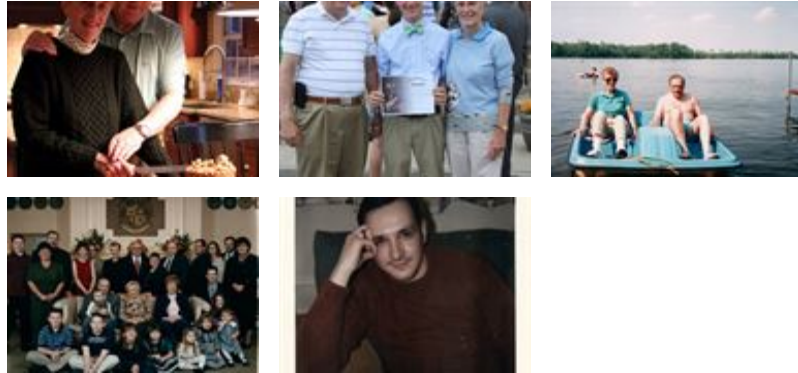
“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Chief Warren W. Abriel Jr..



April 05, 2025 at 01:30 PM



“ 44 files added to the album LifeTributes



McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc. - April 05, 2025 at 11:15 AM

DD

Mary Theresa , Michele and John and family. We were so sad to learn of Warrens passing. He was a wonderful person and he will be missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him. Our prayers will be with you. Dottie and Larry Dack

Dorothy Dack - April 07, 2025 at 09:54 AM



“ 416 files added to the album LifeTributes



McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc. - April 05, 2025 at 09:27 AM

DS

“ Although I expect I crossed paths with Chief Abriel at fire service events during my 47 years in the fire service. I really never met him until his Grandson Will graduated from Colgate and became a valuable member of the Hamilton Fire Department. I often think that our greatest contributions to society besides ourselves are in the difference our children and grandchildren will make in the lives of others. The example of service that Chief Abriel demonstrated will certainly continue on in the continued service of both his immediate family as well as the fire family he served with and led. May his memory guide your future and warm your heart in the future.

Douglas Shattuck, Madison County Fire Coordinator

Douglas Shattuck - April 05, 2025 at 09:25 AM

RD

“ Regina DiLella lit a candle in memory of Chief Warren W. Abriel Jr.



Regina DiLella - April 05, 2025 at 07:04 AM

KC

“ Mary Teresa and Michelle, so sorry to hear the news. I will be thinking of you both and praying for strength in these difficult days.

Kim Ciprioni - April 04, 2025 at 09:56 PM