

## Obituary

**Died:** Monday, November 24, 2014

Robert P. McCarthy, Jr., age 65. Born July 15, 1949 and passed away Monday, November 24, 2014. Died after a heroic battle with cancer. In a life that was cruelly cut short, he was a spontaneous comic, a funky drummer, a lover and companion, a reveler, a protector, a doting uncle and loving brother, a good son and generous husband. He was a selfless tough guy and quiet intellect, who dedicated his life to loving his family and friends, and to music and his hard work on behalf of the developmentally disabled. Bob had a way of drawing in the strongest and best people, not least of them his wife and soul mate, Pam. He enjoyed many deep friendships in his lifetime. He could break up a roomful of people with his swift, sometimes lacerating wit, softened by his humility and radiating kindness. With his eternal love for Pam, who defended and cared for him until his last moment on earth, Bob's lifelong inspiration was music. His life as a musician began in childhood and he continued playing music virtually all of his life. Self-taught, Bob was a distinctive drummer of both power and nuance, he co-founded and played with many local bands. Bob was a voracious consumer of all that was bright and new in music, and he was a trailblazer for his siblings, nieces, nephews and a wide circle of friends. His interests ranged from rock & roll and soul to jazz. He found profound inspiration from the likes of James Brown and Miles Davis. Bob's life by day was dedicated to helping people find happiness and fulfillment in life and work. He began as a caseworker for FCDJFS. Next, with the Franklin Co. Board of DD for 33 years, he trained the developmentally disabled for jobs in local businesses beginning as an assistant teacher, then as a trainer with ARC Industries and later as a job training specialist. He was born in Vermont and moved to east side of Columbus, which became his home for the rest of his life. Bob's family is forever grateful for the gift of life that was given to Bob by special friend, Becca Evans, 11 years ago. Bob was predeceased by his parents Gloria E. and Robert P. McCarthy, and dear Aunt Mary Dowling Daley. He leaves behind his loving wife, Pam; and his siblings, Paul (Lori) McCarthy, William (Lisa) McCarthy, Steve (Ellen) McCarthy, and Beth (Mike) Bianco; mother-in-law, Betty Stassfurth; brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Bruce and Vi Stassfurth; nieces, nephews, Nicole, Maria, Katie, Michael, Damian, Brett and their families; cousins, Bill, Tom and Katie Daley and many loving and dear friends. Memorial service will be 2 p.m., Saturday, December 13, 2014 at the First Unitarian Universalist Church in Clintonville, 93 W. Weisheimer, Columbus, OH 43214. Donations may be made to the James Fund for Life designated for Merkel Cell Carcinoma in memory of John P. McCarthy, at OSU Foundation, 1480 W. Lane Avenue, Columbus, OH 43221. Arrangements by NOVAK FUNERAL HOME, 4476 N. High Street, Columbus, OH 43214.

Funeral Home

Novak Funeral Home

4476 North High Street Columbus, OH 43214

614-268-8811 Funeral Home Details

Published in The Columbus Dispatch on Nov. 29, 2014

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## Service Summary

### Memorial Service

2:00 PM Sat Dec 13, 2014

Location: - *Not available* -