Louis M. Pulner

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Pulner, Louis M., 66, passed away on Monday, June 10, 2024, at Rhode Island Hospital in Providence.

A proud Rhode Islander, Lou was born in Providence on July 13, 1957, to Norma (Shapiro) Ryan and the late Sidney Pulner. Growing up, he attended Classical High School, before heading off to Providence College, and eventually Suffolk University Law School, in Boston, MA, where he received his JD.

For all of Lou's achievements and passions, nothing was more important to him than his family. He is survived by his adoring mother, Norma and his sister, Pamela Pulner. He was a loving and devoted father to Stephanie Pulner and Andrew (Lauren) Pulner, grandfather to Jonathan and Madeleine Pulner, and uncle to Alexa Auerbach. He also leaves behind his chosen family, Stacey and Eugene Mihaly of Jamestown.

Never one to shy away from a good debate, Lou was an accomplished attorney and litigator. He began his legal career at the RI Attorney General's office as a Special Assistant Attorney General, where he soon made a name for himself prosecuting drunk drivers in conjunction with the state's crackdown tied to the campaign "In Rhode Island, Drunk Drivers Get Court."

From his varied experiences under two Attorneys General, Lou moved into the areas of law tied to divorce and family law as an associate with Lipsey and Skolnick, where he spent two years before beginning his own practice with a concentration in divorce, family, custody, adoption, personal injury and criminal law.

Closest to his heart and central to his character were his many, many years of pro-bono work, earning him numerous recognitions and awards from the Bar Association throughout his career.

He gave his time and expertise to help those who needed it most. He found hope and meaning in moments of goodwill and navigated his career with heart. Helping families and children was a great source of pride for Lou, as was his 35-year term as solicitor for the Town of Barrington. His tenure would often be a source of amusement as he'd joke it was his longest relationship. Lou was also a legal analyst on Rhode Island news for many years, making regular radio and television appearances, including Rhode Island PBS' A Lively Experiment.

When not working, he was connecting with family and friends over food, the latest stand-up comics, and his beloved Patriots, Red Sox, and Celtics. A Sunday didn't officially begin until Lou started the NYT Sunday Crossword. He was a logophile through and through. He appreciated the power of words, as was quickly evident to everyone who knew him.

He was sharp, funny, authentically himself always, and had the kindest heart. His ability to deliver a punchline was only accentuated by his ability to bring joy and comfort to so many.

To know Lou was to love him and he will be deeply and forever missed by his family and friends. His life will be celebrated by his family every day, and a private celebration of Lou's life will be held at a future date. A graveside service will be held on Friday, June 14, 11am, at Lincoln Park Cemetery, 1469 Post Road, Warwick, RI. In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to RI Community Food Bank, 200 Niantic Avenue, Providence, RI 02907. For online condolences, please visit ShalomMemorialChapel.com.

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