



Christopher James Vincent

November 22, 1964 - March 26, 2021

Christopher James Vincent, 56, of Hampshire passed away peacefully March 26, 2021, at his home surrounded by his family. He fought a courageous Pancreatic Cancer fight with the love and support of so many.

He was born November 22, 1964, in Streamwood the son of William and Donna (Yeager) Vincent. He was a 1989 graduate of Southern Illinois University. Chris worked at GE Healthcare in Arlington Heights for 20 years and then United Airlines for the last 3 years.

He married the love of his life, Laura Kostka on April 20, 1996 in Rockford. Chris was an avid family man, a devoted husband and father, and lover of nature. He loved to coach and watch his children's sports. Chris was an active athlete who loved fishing, boating, biking and was a man of faith. He had an infectious smile that lit up a room. He will be deeply missed.

He is survived by his wife of 25 years, Laura; children, Jake, and Grace; brothers and sisters, William (Sally), Thomas, Steven (Cindy), Patrick, Terry (Deb), Susan (Jeff) Werner, David, Sheri (Eric) Chastain; in-laws, Mark and Mary Pieri; brothers and sisters-in-law, Lisa (Daron) Domino, Jimmy (Heather) Kostka.

He is preceded in death by his parents.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 AM on Wednesday, March 31, at St. Mary Catholic Church, 11307 Dundee Road in Huntley. Burial will follow in the St. Charles Borromeo Cemetery in Hampshire.

Visitation will be on Tuesday, March 30 from 4 to 8 PM at James A. O'Connor Funeral Home, 11603 E. Main Street in Huntley.

In lieu of flowers, memorials in Chris's name should be directed to the family c/o of James A. O'Connor Funeral Home, PO Box 74, Huntley, IL 60142 for a future Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Foundation.

Cemetery Details

St. Charles Borromeo

Getzelman Road
Hampshire, IL 60140

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **30**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

James A. O'Connor Funeral Home
11603 E. Main PO Box 74
Huntley, IL 60142
(847) 669-5111
jaoconnorfh@att.net

Mass of Christian Burial

MAR **31**. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary Catholic Church
10307 Dundee Road
Huntley, IL 60142

Tribute Wall



“ *Gone but not forgotten Chris - I pop back here every now & again to check on you - we think of you still my friend*

Dean Wetterlind - Yesterday at 04:19 AM



“ *4 years have passed since you left us. Missing you every day.*

Patrick Vincent - March 26, 2025 at 06:16 PM



“ *Christopher James Vincent*

January 17, 2023 at 03:12 PM



“ *I am beyond shocked to learn of Chris' passing. I met Chris at GEHC and what I most remember was his smile. We worked on many projects together and he always made them all fun. May God be with your family now and may they be comforted knowing his impact on others. God bless you all.*

Kathryn Morrison - April 05, 2021 at 10:53 PM

NA

“ I worked with Chris at United and he was wonderful to work with. My husband and I also traveled into the city on the same train. He had a special seat he always liked to sit in (he sat on top and my husband and I sat across from him down below). Before I knew Chris well, we were both on the same early morning daily conference call that we both took from the train, it took us a few days until we finally realized we could have just turned and talked to each other on the train, we had a good laugh about this! He was always so nice to both my husband and I and he frequently shared stories with us about his family. He will be missed and our thoughts and prayers are with your family. Dave and Nancy

Nancy - April 02, 2021 at 11:27 AM

MG

“ I worked Chris at GEHC for many years. A man of great passion for all that he did. I remember walking into his office to ask a question and it would turn into a chat about his children and family. A devoted family man and great friend whose larger than life personality always filled a room. He will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers to Laura, Jake and Grace.

Madhavi Ganesan - March 31, 2021 at 10:20 PM

RO

“ Chris - I worked with you at United Airlines. You were always so welcoming, open and smart. You will be miss and UAL loses a valuable member of the team. I rejoice in your memory, you are home.

Roxanna - March 31, 2021 at 06:26 PM

AF

“ Chris and I worked on an important program together for GE Healthcare before he left to join United. When Chris entered the room, he brought big energy and perseverance towards the end goal. I had the opportunity to get to know him well - learning about his background and love for his family. One of the many things I'll miss is his ability to make me laugh through the ups and downs of our work. Laughing so hard I doubled over in the photo. His smile lights up the room. He will be very much missed and my heart goes out to his family and those lives he touched along his journey. With love and greatest sympathies,
-Amanda Fitzgerald



Amanda Fitzgerald - March 31, 2021 at 05:51 PM

RG

“ So so sad.

Thankyou Chris for all great times we have had over the last 25+ years. You were a great colleague and friend. I hold onto all of the fond memories of the times we spend working and having fun together.

Love and prayers to all of your family at this time

Roger Gudge - March 31, 2021 at 11:52 AM

GG

“ I had the pleasure of working with Chris over the past few years at United and enjoyed sharing stories with each other about our love of the outdoors. My sincere condolences to the family.



Gerry Gulli - March 30, 2021 at 07:06 PM

GR

“ I don't know where to start.... so many memories and so many laughs from our 25 years of friendship. You were larger than life and I will miss you so much my friend.
Love and prayers to Laura, Jake, Grace and all the family.



Graham - March 30, 2021 at 05:38 PM

LF

“ Chris was an amazing man, leader, friend, coworker, mentor...he was so many things to so many people. I'm grateful to have worked with him at Amersham/GEHC and always admired how he could bring a team of very different people to work together (even those of us who had some jet-lag after the journey across the pond). He left a bit of the Chris energy spark on every life that he touched. My heart goes out to Laura, Jake and Grace and all of the family. I hope that you can find some comfort in the happy memories that you shared.



Louisa Fiorita - March 30, 2021 at 04:06 PM

DA

“ Chris had an office behind my cubicle. He was always so nice and you could tell he was one of the good ones! So sorry to hear he passed.

Diane Arden - March 30, 2021 at 03:58 PM

SS

“ Wow Chris, even though we only knew you briefly you certainly left an impact. I enjoyed the time spent diving with you in New Zealand and the knowledge and passion you shared with our Team. Kia Kaha Chris



Shane Swinehart - March 30, 2021 at 03:37 PM

ET

“ *Esther Terrier purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Christopher James Vincent.*



Esther Terrier - March 30, 2021 at 02:09 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Christopher James Vincent.*



March 30, 2021 at 02:00 PM

TO

“ *Chris was a great boss and mentor. Larger than and life and made an impact on a lot of lives. Hard to believe. He was adventurous in every aspect of his life...but his food. I can still hear him say "I'm a meat and potatoes guy" everytime we were in a different country for work trying to decide what type of food/restaurant to pick. My deepest and sincere condolences to Laura, Jake and Grace. He will be missed dearly...*

Tola - March 30, 2021 at 01:26 PM

JR

“ Chris you have been an incredible colleague and a great friend over the years. It is very rare to meet someone with such strong family values, a strong work ethic but also so lighthearted. We have been through many restructures, many acquisitions and mergers since our Amersham days, and you always jumped in with "Chris intensity" which I always tried to emulate. Our jobs required a lot of travel, and was often difficult to spend so much time away from home but you always made it that much easier. You left such a lasting impression on everyone you touched and we will miss you!

Justin Revoredo - March 30, 2021 at 11:10 AM



“ Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Christopher James Vincent.



March 30, 2021 at 10:26 AM

DR

“ I had the pleasure of meeting Chris at GEHC and saddened to hear this news. My enduring memory of Chris was a consummate professional at work and a loving husband and Father. I vividly remember him saying that 'whatever may happen in life, I know that with my family we will always get through it'. I suspect it was Chris' obvious senserity and conviction that made this an enduring memory. God bless you and your family old friend, Dermot.

Dermot Ryan - March 30, 2021 at 08:58 AM

PR

“ Just heard the sad news of Chris’s passing, what a terrible shock. I had the immense pleasure of working with Chris at Amersham and GE in the early 2000, what a great and likeable bloke he was, hard working, never giving up on any problem and always good for a laugh! Sadly missed Chris, love and thoughts are with his family and friends.

Peter Ranwell - March 30, 2021 at 06:08 AM

MA

“ I had the pleasure of working with Chris at GE Healthcare. His passion for doing the right thing for his family, his friends, and his colleagues was at the heart of every decision he made. My deepest condolences. I am shocked to hear this sad news.

Margot - March 29, 2021 at 10:08 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Christopher James Vincent.



March 29, 2021 at 08:54 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Christopher James Vincent.



March 29, 2021 at 07:32 PM

RC

“ Rick Cornell purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Christopher James Vincent.



Rick Cornell - March 29, 2021 at 04:46 PM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Christopher James Vincent.



March 29, 2021 at 04:36 PM

SA

“ So saddened to hear of your sudden passing. Thanks for everything you did (Support, teaching, friendship, tour guide and shopping companion to name but a few) when our paths meet many a time across the years, finishing with being my "Grandfather" boss, before you left GE.
My thoughts go out to Laura, Jake and Grace.



Sandy - March 29, 2021 at 03:52 PM

LT

“ Laz Kulcsar, Ray Rugebregt and the ASI Team purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Christopher James Vincent.



Laz Kulcsar, Ray Rugebregt and the ASI Team - March 29, 2021 at 03:24 PM

HV

“ Chris, your passing is hard to absorb. How unjust that a strong and forceful man gets ripped out of our lives so quickly. Life is not fair

At GE during Project Symphony, I got to work alongside Chris to set up and execute the project. His knowledge of the IT organisation was impressive, and we put together a high-performance team that delivered. Your people skills were all over the place. You were coaching and training team members with the aim to make them better. They were players and needed to get better, just like the American football players that you trained in the weekend. That is where your heart was.

You were always up early to work-out and chose your hotels selectively. You also shared your stories about the “Boat” and were an entertainer at heart. Just you did not like any fancy food, resulting in many Italian restaurants. Kunal, me and you got together for some excellent dinners in London.

I learned a lot from you, and I am thankful for that. My thoughts are going out to your wife Laura, your children Jake and Grace, to carry this loss. Chris was a great man and he will be in our memories for ever.

Henk Vrijheid - March 29, 2021 at 02:49 PM

FF

“ *From Your United Family purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Christopher James Vincent.*



From Your United Family - March 29, 2021 at 02:43 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Christopher James Vincent.*



March 29, 2021 at 02:42 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Christopher James Vincent.*



March 29, 2021 at 02:12 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Christopher James Vincent.*



March 29, 2021 at 02:02 PM



“ *Heavenly Sentiments Spray was purchased for the family of Christopher James Vincent.*



March 29, 2021 at 01:15 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Christopher James Vincent.*



March 29, 2021 at 12:29 PM



“ *I was so fortunate to work with Chris on our Vistex RMS project in GE. He taught me so much about being a leader and how to mix hard work with fun. He leaves me with many happy memories of our times in Marlborough, but especially of his generosity. He gave his time freely to whoever needed it, but he also showed me how to tip waitresses. He once went back into a restaurant to leave more money when he learned how much I'd left. He was so full of life and energy that I can't believe that he has gone. My sincere thoughts and best wishes go to his family. He was a great man ... and always our vision of what a Captain America should be.*



Scott Hodgson - March 29, 2021 at 12:11 PM

PG

“ Oh Chris your passing hit me hard.....I was just talking to Carl in the UK about our times during "Project Symphony" just last week. I actually reached out and sent you a text to see how things were with you and your new job. Come to find out I sent the text on the day you passed. Thank you so much for seeing my potential and bringing me in to work with SAP. You were always there for every bump in the road. Until we meet again my friend.....

Penny Gonzalez - March 29, 2021 at 10:22 AM

GG

“ I enjoyed working for Chris and I am shocked and saddened by his death. He taught me quite a bit. We used to rib him about his lack of excitement in his food but made sure he had plain wings no sauce. I once ate two steaks because his came with peppers and onions on it. Chris left his mark on the world.

Greg Gegner - March 29, 2021 at 09:35 AM

SO

“ Diane and I are so saddened to hear of your passing. We have learned so much from you over the years working together at GE. You were always available to talk to if questions needed to be answered. Especially the close time we spent together working Project Symphony was amazing, and not only were you the Project Leader, you also took the time to teach. Prayers go out to you and your family; you will be truly missed.



Scott O'Bannon - March 29, 2021 at 09:08 AM

DW

“ I was lucky enough to have worked alongside you Chris for a number of years.
Still in shock to some extent, hence the appalling rhyme in your honour below.

*Someone who gave more than they took, a mountain of a man who made the ground shook
Who always found the giggle or saw the funny side, who engaged & then delivered, wasn't there for just the ride*

*I remember you training in the hotel room next door, lots of pushup's & squats & loud grunts from the the floor
I remember getting up at 5am so we could go to the gym, me on the runner & you with your weights - both desperately trying hard just to get trim
A lost cause that but we drove each other on, lots of good hearted banter about which of us won*

*I stole your team members & you stole mine, we bickered like schoolboys until the boss called "Time!"
We gave each other help & supported where we could, you covered my ass in Piscataway & deserved a knighthood
Not that you would have accepted it, with your view of the UK, I gave as good as I got & we wouldn't have had it any other way*

*3am Karaoke in Krakow that time, the happiest men alive, though the songs were a crime...
Four over 50's hogging the stage when the rest of the guests were mostly teenage*

*You delivered some huge projects that put mine in the shade, the 42 million "Symphony" (I still say it was just an upgrade...)
Gosh we had some laughs while battling it out, and some drinks at the bar too (I recall it's your shout..)*

*Our End of Year reviews in front of a 100 IT staff, you as a News Presenter giving highlights with a laugh
Shaming me as a cry baby for you stole my best man, a blubbering me to your fantastic anchorman*

For years we planned our Swedish boating event, it would be perfect - two Captain's with one wheel going round & round I suspect

Damn we never made it, we missed our trip, I'll miss getting the tough Chicago boy to do a Swedish skinny dip

You always demonstrated the effort Chris, whether in serious work or just having fun.

I am sad because you are gone but I am equally happy to have been a small part of your life

We will think of you often & we will think of you well

With love, your friend Dean

P.s. Get the beer ready & prep whatever boat you find there...

Dean Wetterlind - March 29, 2021 at 08:24 AM

SW

“ Thank you for being a mentor and sometimes even like a dad to me during the time we worked together at GE Healthcare. I will miss you! Prayers to your family from your German friend Stefan.



Stefan Weitze - March 29, 2021 at 07:43 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Christopher James Vincent.*



March 28, 2021 at 10:21 PM



“ *Really saddened to hear this news as I had a Team's call with Chris a few weeks ago and he was his usual jovial self. I noticed all his trophies behind his office desk and Chris talked about the projects that he had done that earned those. Chris was a wonderful guy with a great smile. Rest In Peace dear Chris. My deepest sympathy to your family and pray God gives them the strength at this difficult time.*



Vanessa Lindstrom - March 28, 2021 at 10:00 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Christopher James Vincent.*



March 28, 2021 at 08:19 PM

CG

“ This is a photo of the Denver United Airlines Catering team that Chris worked with on January 22, 2020. Chris was a great team member, and I loved having him as my IT partner. Such an incredible guy!



Charlean Gmunder - March 28, 2021 at 08:15 PM

WL

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Wendy Leakeas - March 28, 2021 at 07:52 PM

WL

“ My heart is heavy with the passing of my dear friend Chris. I first met Chris when I moved to GE Healthcare. Knowing that I was new to the area, Chris adopted me onto his team and made sure I was supported and I wasn't alone. Over the years, our work relationship turned into a friendship. I could always count on Chris when I needed an ear, a laugh, or an example of someone living a life of humility, grace, and a fierce love and protector of family and friends. Chris will always shine brightly on those of us he touches. Love and prayers to the Vincent family.
Wendy Leakeas

Wendy Leakeas - March 28, 2021 at 07:44 PM

NF

“ Nancy Skocy and Family purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Christopher James Vincent.



Nancy Skocy and Family - March 28, 2021 at 07:23 PM

SB

“ 1 file added to the album Champion



SCOTT BUCKNER - March 28, 2021 at 06:14 PM

SB

“ Always admired his work ethic – I was fortunate enough to have known Chris in JH, HS, College and afterward. During our HS Sophomore football season we were both sitting on the bench - I took the easy way out and quit playing football but not Chris. He set his mind to it, dedicated himself to the weight room, became a student of the game, and turned himself into an outstanding Varsity defensive back. My sons were fortunate enough to play Spring Football on his Team and call him Coach – he was great at passing along the lessons he learned about not giving up to the next generation. And oh yeah – that smile! So many great memories ... going to miss you Chris – God Bless You Champion

SCOTT BUCKNER - March 28, 2021 at 05:56 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Christopher James Vincent.*



March 28, 2021 at 05:38 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Christopher James Vincent.*



March 28, 2021 at 04:53 PM



“ *Pete and Julie Reece purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Christopher James Vincent.*



Pete and Julie Reece - March 28, 2021 at 03:31 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Christopher James Vincent.*



March 28, 2021 at 01:24 PM

GP

“ I don't have a football memory of my son without Chris next coaching my son! But the best was the first time my husband and Chris were coaching the kids in T-ball and Chris pulled out a white board to explain something to the kiddos! The kids were 4! We knew then the kids would have one of the best coaches ever! Chris you are already dearly missed!
The Pearson's

Gina Pearson - March 28, 2021 at 11:09 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Christopher James Vincent.



March 28, 2021 at 09:30 AM



“ Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Christopher James Vincent.



March 28, 2021 at 09:08 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Christopher James Vincent.



March 28, 2021 at 03:22 AM

TG

“ We are just heartbroken with this loss. Chris was such a wonderful man. We enjoyed watching him coach, loved being on the board of HYF&C debating with him about cheer spankies, we had fun golfing and fishing with him and just being in his presence. He made us laugh and was such a great guy. Chris...you will be sorely missed and you made us all better people! Love the Gara Family

Tim and Julie Gara - March 28, 2021 at 12:59 AM

SA

I am so very sorry for your loss. My prayers are with you all 🙏🙏🙏

sharon almquist - March 28, 2021 at 12:11 PM

SA

I'm so very sorry to hear this. Prayers to you all 🙏🙏

sharon almquist - March 28, 2021 at 12:12 PM

LW

Coach, you will be so missed by everyone. When I think of Hampshire...I think of Chris- patience, nurturing, and a passion for the game. He was a great coach and mentor for my son Phillip Wilkins. I have a few pictures of Chris with his hand on Phillip shoulder on the sidelines at a game coaching him on something. You will be greatly missed. Prayers to your family.

Leah Wilkins - March 28, 2021 at 05:50 PM

TS

I had the joy of watching Chris cheer Grace on during volleyball. You could always tell how proud he was of her. He was good to the other girls on the team as well offering words of encouragement and never forgetting to have fun as well.. Great family man. My prayers are with them during this difficult season.

Toni Seagren - March 30, 2021 at 04:29 PM

CJ

I was so shocked and saddened to learn of the passing of my friend Chris. We spent much time together at GEHC going backwards and forwards across the pond him from Chicago, me from Amersham. His work hard, play hard ethic was one that he was a total master at and it was a great lesson when the going got tough. Chris was a larger than life character and one who had a totally infectious zest for life, totally devoted to his family. I will treasure his friendship and miss him terribly. Until we meet again Chris - no doubt is some bar somewhere!

Clare Jewson - March 31, 2021 at 03:39 AM

JR

There are no words to describe the sadness I feel to know that I won't see or talk to Chris again...my colleague, my sounding board, my boss for a bit, but most importantly a very special friend. We started working together over 17 years ago and right from the beginning it was as if we knew each other forever. So many memories...punting in Oxford, pasta bolognese, card games at the Bellhouse or Bull, being accepted into the "DA" team, Tiz ordering food in Italian and then I got my chance to order food in Greek, Chris realizing Life Sciences wasn't the "dark" side to name only a few. His presence was always known when he walked into a room and his smile was infectious. His love for Laura, Jake and Grace was immense as was his passion for whatever he was doing at the time. My sympathies to all that were fortunate and blessed to have had Chris in their lives but mostly to his family. I will miss you Chris...Joanne

Joanne Ramirez - March 31, 2021 at 08:44 AM

TD

Chris, thanks for brightening our lives. One of the most committed and caring people I had the pleasure to work with. My sympathies to your family

Tony Daly - April 01, 2021 at 06:33 PM

DR

I had the pleasure of working with Chris at Amersham and GEHC for 8 years, supporting IT and various projects from a Finance perspective. He was a real professional and would always get back to me with any information I needed for budgets, projects, and analysis. Even though I was in Princeton and he in Chicago, we had some great laughs together on telecons .Rest in Peace Chris.

Daniel Rubens

Daniel Rubens - April 08, 2021 at 08:08 AM