



## Robert J 'RJ' Sokol

February 9, 1957 - March 26, 2021

Robert J. "RJ" Sokol, 64, of North Belle Vernon, passed away on Friday, March 26, 2021, in UPMC Magee Hospital after a brave and valiant battle with Covid 19. A son of the late Robert E. Sokol and Jacqueline Bruno Sokol who survives and resides in Rostraver, he was born in N. Charleroi on February 9, 1957. A resident of North Belle Vernon for the past 35 years, he was a member of St. Sebastian Roman Catholic Church, a life member of the Rostraver Central Volunteer Fire Department, and was a former North Belle Vernon Councilman. RJ had been employed at the former Sony Plant for 20 years and most recently at Eastman Chemical in Monongahela as a production supervisor for 8 years. He also was very proud of recently becoming a card dealer at Live! Casino in Greensburg. RJ spearheaded the efforts to clean up the former Graham Street Park, currently Community Bank Park, to make it a better place for families in his community. He spent countless hours raising funds to complete his vision of a valuable community asset. RJ enjoyed horse races, vacationing to Ocean City, loved his Hallmark and cowboy movies, and his cat, Smokey. In addition to his mother, he is survived by his wife of 33 years, Lynn Rusnak Sokol, his 'Princess'; a loving son, Bobby Sokol of N. Belle Vernon; three brothers and sisters in-law, Carmen "Buddy" Sokol, his twin, of Pittsburgh, Brian and Candy Sokol of Rostraver, and Scott and Paula Sokol of Rostraver; and several nieces and nephews. In addition to his father, he was preceded in death by a sister in-law, K.C. Henninger Sokol. Friends will be received on Saturday from 7 to 9 P.M.

and on Sunday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 P.M. in the Ferguson Funeral Home and Crematory, Inc., 700 Broad Avenue, Belle Vernon. 724-929-5300. [www.FergusonFuneralHomeandCrematory.com](http://www.FergusonFuneralHomeandCrematory.com). A Funeral Mass will be held on Monday at 12 noon in St. Sebastian Roman Catholic Church. Everyone is asked to go directly to the church. Social distancing and face masks are required in both the funeral home and the church. Interment will follow in Belle Vernon Cemetery. If friends wish, memorial donations may be made in RJ's memory to the Humane Society of Westmoreland County, 139 Humane Society Road, Greensburg, PA 15601.

# Cemetery Details

## Belle Vernon Cemetery

1000 Broad Avenue  
Belle Vernon, PA 15012

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 27. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Ferguson Funeral Home and Crematory, Inc.  
700 Broad Avenue  
Belle Vernon, PA 15012  
(724) 929-5300

# Tribute Wall

JG

“ I was traveling and then had medical procedure, so I apologize for taking so long to share my condolences to family and friends of R.J., an inspiration to so many and a very hard-working, dedicated community member. He never gave up on his dreams for North Belle Vernon. He succeeded where others would have failed. He leaves a legacy as well as projects that continue to this day. Anytime R.J. asked for help, I could never say "no," inasmuch as I knew what was in his heart and on his mind. The community needs more people of his ilk, proactive attitude and participation that make this a better place to work, live and play. God Bless. Your work ethic, your spirit and your leadership are missed but efforts and enthusiasm to make this a "Better BVA" continue in your memory. On behalf of many, thank you and rest in peace, my friend. --Joe Grata

---

**Joe Grata** - April 13, 2021 at 12:50 PM

CM

“ RJ was a force for good in the Mon River Valley. He worked tirelessly to better both his community and the region. His generous and outgoing manner drew people into his vision for a great community park and it stands as a legacy to his work and vision. My deepest sympathies to his family and all who knew and loved him. He will be missed and remembered by the many who were privileged to have known him.

*Cathy McCollom*

---

**Cathy McCollom** - April 06, 2021 at 11:15 AM

AF

“ RJ was always smiling and laughing! I can never forget his well intended sarcasm ❤️. I was honored to know him as my previous supervisor at a local company. I am glad we both got out of there!

Prayers to his family, find healing in all the memories, the laughter, the caring and love he showed to everyone he met.

God Bless,

Amy Fitzsimmons



---

Amy Fitzsimmons - April 03, 2021 at 06:49 AM

AD

“ Our condolences go out to the entire Sokol family regarding RJ's passing. A great guy, always looking for ways to improve things in NBV. He will be very missed!

Alan & Diane Dongilli

---

Alan Dongilli - March 30, 2021 at 05:23 PM

JB

“ so sorry for your loss...

---

jeff bielawski - March 30, 2021 at 07:17 AM

JS

“ Van Meter will miss you. I will miss you , luv you RJ. R.I.P. Jeff

---

Jeff Seich - March 29, 2021 at 07:08 PM

KC

“ *My deepest sympathy to the Sokol family. He was a wonderful man who cared for everyone. He will be deeply missed.*



---

**Kimberly Cope** - March 28, 2021 at 07:36 PM



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Robert J 'RJ' Sokol.*



---

March 28, 2021 at 01:46 PM

DK

“ *Brian, Candy & Family. I am so sorry to hear about your brother, brother in law and uncle. I pray God will get you through such a difficult time. Diane (Williams) Koget*

---

**Diane Koget** - March 27, 2021 at 06:23 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert J 'RJ' Sokol.*



---

March 27, 2021 at 01:53 PM

RO

“ *Bob was one person who could always make me laugh. Rest in piece Ron O'Toole*

**Ron O'Toole** - March 27, 2021 at 01:46 PM

MS

“ *Maria Spranger lit a candle in memory of Robert J 'RJ' Sokol*



**Maria Spranger** - March 27, 2021 at 01:26 PM

TF

“ *The Hart Family purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Robert J 'RJ' Sokol.*



**The Hart Family** - March 27, 2021 at 01:24 PM

FF

“ *From Bob's Friends purchased the Divine Light for the family of Robert J 'RJ' Sokol.*



**From Bob's Friends** - March 27, 2021 at 01:19 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert J 'RJ' Sokol.*



---

March 27, 2021 at 11:00 AM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss. His passing is a great loss not only to your family but to the community. From the time I met him in High School, I don't ever recall him not being happy and joking around. My thoughts and prayers are with his family at this most difficult. His legacy will live on through all of his good deeds in keeping Belle Vernon a great community. With deepest sympathy.*

---

**Sharon Worry McCalmont** - March 27, 2021 at 08:13 AM



“ *So very sorry to hear of the passing of a very good friend of mine RJ who I got to know very well from being on counsel with him RJ always was looking at ways to make North Belle Vernon a better community for the people I surely will miss you my friend my prayers and thoughts will always be with you God bless you. Dennis Simboli*

---

**Dennis Simboli** - March 27, 2021 at 07:35 AM



“ *Lynn, Brian and Families:*

*Sorry and sad to read of R J's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you all at this difficult time.*

---

**D W Las Vegas, NV** - March 27, 2021 at 06:06 AM

PE

“ So sorry for you loss. We had some great times playing hockey on RJ's teams. Lynn & Bobby you are in our thoughts and prayers.

*Ray, Vineta & Steve Perry*

---

**Perrys** - March 26, 2021 at 11:05 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Robert J 'RJ' Sokol.*



---

March 26, 2021 at 08:53 PM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Robert J 'RJ' Sokol.*



---

March 26, 2021 at 06:47 PM

KC

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you all during these difficult times. God Bless.*

---

**Kevin Carney** - March 26, 2021 at 05:03 PM

TF

“ *The Carney and Mundy Families purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Robert J 'RJ' Sokol.*



---

**The Carney and Mundy Families** - March 26, 2021 at 04:59 PM

JS

“ *So very sorry to hear of the passing of my buddy RJ. We shared some wonderful times at dealer school which I will always remember. I will miss you my friend! God Bless!*  
*Jerry Sorice*

---

**Jerry Sorice** - March 26, 2021 at 04:54 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Robert J 'RJ' Sokol.*



---

March 26, 2021 at 01:22 PM