## Patrick E. Klein March 24, 1959 to February 21, 1987

## by Bruce Sering

**Pat Klein** — Golf Course Superintendent at Hillcrest Club from March 1983 until his death on February 21, 1987. Pat is survived by his wife Sue, Matthew, age 4 and Sarah age 2. Other survivors include his mother Mary Spartz, stepfather Vernon Spartz, two sisters Marge and Laura Klein and a brother John.

Pat's love for golf course work began when he was a youngster of 12. He started working on Little Crow Country Club as a crew member in his hometown of Spicer, Minnesota. He worked his way up the ladder of responsibility to become, as a teenager, the Assistant Superintendent of Little Crow. Pat attended Michigan State University's Turf Grass Management Program starting in the Fall of 1977. He began working at the Glen View Club, Golf, Illinois in March 1978 as a student intern. Following his graduation in 1979 he returned to Glen View Club as Assistant Superintendent and remained there until becoming Superintendent at Hillcrest in March 1983.

These are the facts of Pat's life, but those who worked with him and were privileged to know him, realize there is so much more to say about him. His integrity and honesty were above reproach, no mean feat in today's world.

Pat loved his family and did not neglect them even though the demands of being a superintendent always beckoned him. It was a familiar sight for the members and neighbors at Hillcrest to see Pat, Sue, Matt and Sarah on a golf cart touring the Club in the evening.

Pat believed in God. His faith, his love for his family and his courage in facing the cancerous brain tumor were an example for us all. Pat learned about his condition about 2 years ago. Instead of withdrawing from life, he faced it fearlessly. Enduring radiation treatments and chemotherapy, he never complained or said, "Why me Lord?". Pat's quality of life for the past two years was good. He worked everyday, took his family on vacations, and kept his spirits on a high plane. Near the end when the debilitating effects of his brain tumor began to take hold, I asked Pat, "How it's going". What he said to me sums up the way Pat Klein approached life. He was lying in his family room, paralyzed, his eyes could not focus, and he could just barely hear out of his right ear. He said, "Well, it's a little tough now, being winter and all, but come the spring, I'll be able to get around better, and it'll be better." Pat stopped breathing early on the morning of February 21, 1987 with his mother, Mary and his wife, Sue by his side.

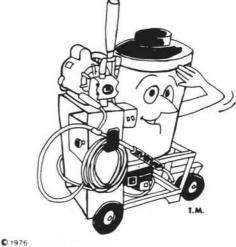
Sue Klein asked me to publicly thank the members and staff of Hillcrest Country Club for all their many kindnesses, their generosity and support. Also, Sue is very appreciative of the members and staff of Glen View Club for their love and generosity. And to Pat's many friends, Sue expresses a special thank you.

Donations are being accepted by the:

Patrick E. Klein Fund, Bank of Buffalo Grove, P. O. Box 6, 10 E. Dundee Rd., Buffalo Grove, IL 60090.



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