



Mr. Bruce Joseph Hoffstetter, Jr.

September 14, 1955 - July 19, 2023

UPLAND, CA - Bruce Joseph Hoffstetter passed away unexpectedly at Pomona Valley Hospital in Pomona California on July 19, 2023.

He was born in Utica, on September 14, 1955, the son of the late Bruce Hoffstetter and Joan Shires Hoffstetter. He attended local schools and was a graduate of TR Proctor High School.

Bruce was an outstanding high school athlete and ran cross country, track and field at Proctor High School. He set many cross-country records throughout the Utica and Central NY area. He was recruited and ran for the reigning National Junior College Champion cross country program at Allegheny located in Pittsburgh Pa.

After college, his focus turned to Ballet and within a two-year internship with The Munson William Proctor Institute, he drew the attention of the NYC Ballet Company and was invited to dance professionally with them.

Bruce moved to Los Angeles California in 1980 and continued to dance professionally with the Palos Verdes Ballet Company. He also did a six-month internship with the Mexico City Ballet Company.

Bruce worked in Health Care most of his life and for the past fifteen years in Hospice as a Marketing Director. It was there that he found his true calling. He helped hundreds of families navigate through the many emotional difficulties of their loved ones impending death, providing comfort, support or a shoulder to cry on.

Bruce leaves behind his wife Bethlehem and son Ian of Upland California,

daughter Bianca NYC.

He is survived by his brother, Len Hoffstetter and wife Debra of Covina, CA and their children, Jason and wife Andrea, Erin & James along with his brother John Nasby of Saugerties, NY, and his children, Janina Stiebel, Janice Cotrell and Devin Nasby of CA.

Also predeceased by his brother Richard Nasby, niece Renee Baker, and first cousins Marilyn, Carol and Randy Shires.

He is survived by his sister-in-law Linda Nasby, nieces and nephews, Rick Nasby, Ruthann Serdah, Rosalyn Dragun, and Russell Nasby. Also first cousins Linda Kelly, Patricia Shires and Joseph Shires of Utica, NY. Along with many grand nieces and nephews.

Beloved son-in-law to Tesfaye Kemisso and wife Jerusalem Tesfaye, brother-in-law to Sarah Tesfaye, Anteneh Tesfaye, Meron Ki Tesfaye, Teshale Tesfaye, Aberash Fuller, Soliana Tesfaye, Tirsit Kebede, Montrell Fuller, and Ken Ki Tesfaye. Beloved Uncle to Khalil Fuller, Amel Ki Tesfaye, Aden Ki Tesfaye, Abigail Tesfaye, Abel Teswfaye, and Leona Tesfaye all from California.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Bruce's funeral service which will commence on Saturday, August 26, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. at St. Louis Gonzaga Church, 520 Rutger Street, where his Divine Liturgy of the Faithful Departed will be celebrated by Father Boutros El Hachem. The family graciously accepts floral offerings. Entombment will follow in Christ Our Savior Mausoleum at Calvary Cemetery.

This tribute to Bruce's life was lovingly written by his family.

Cemetery Details

Christ Our Savior Mausoleum at Calvary Cemetery

2407 Oneida Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 735-2727

Previous Events

Funeral Service

AUG **26**. 9:00 AM (ET)

St. Louis Gonzaga Church
520 Rutger Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 732-6019

Tribute Wall

HE

“ Bruce, You will be missed so much. I enjoyed our friendship and dancing with you in Palos Verdes in the 1980s and 1990s. I am so glad to read here that you found a calling as a Hospice Director. Much love and comfort to your family. Heather


Heather - February 09 at 05:31 PM

ME

“ With your last breath you saved my soul. You smiled at me like Jesus to a Child.
For every single memory has become a part of me. You will always be my love
Who knew lyrics to one of our favorite songs would ring true, even decades later
Through our ups and downs and periods of time apart ,
reconnecting even though it was just through words our love will continue through and into our next lifetime like we talked about .
Medusa

Medusa - April 28, 2025 at 09:59 PM

PB

“ I JUST FOUND OUT BRUCE HAS GONE TO HEAVEN WHICH IS WHERE HE WILL REIGN AND BE OUR GUARDIAN ANGEL AS HE HAS ALWAYS BEEN HERE ON EARTH. I truly will miss you and heartbroken .



We met in 2006 at Starbucks in LA Verne and you were one of my favorite customers. As time moved we always kept in touch here and there. And then we were destined to reconnect in 2014 on a mournful but joyful journey with my dad's last months here on earth. You guided my family through the hospice arrangements and stuck by my side and my son's throughout until my dad passed on in 2015.

I wish we could have had more time but life takes us in there directions.

I will always remember our times we did have and thank you for all you did for us. My heart and prayers go out to your family and especially Your handsome/BASEBALL player son and beautiful wife.

Love for you always in your heavenly state. Patti

Patricia butler - August 25, 2024 at 11:59 AM

PB

I meant to say your amazing son Ian. Your dad was so proud of you and I am sure you will miss him immensely.

Patricia butler - August 25, 2024 at 12:03 PM

JR

“ I met Bruce as a freshman at Proctor High.
I was trying out for the football team and that's when I met Brice.
Our coaches were not happy with our performance and all of a sudden Bruce jumped in and said (i can do it coach i can do it!)
He was a leader then and till the end!
Played many a game of ping pong with him at MVCC.
Visited him in Saratoga when he was dancing with the NYC Ballet.
He always had things figured out!
Always ahead of his time!

James Rusdo - August 26, 2023 at 02:47 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of
Mr. Bruce Joseph Hoffstetter, Jr..



August 24, 2023 at 07:05 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Bruce Joseph Hoffstetter, Jr..

August 24, 2023 at 07:05 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for
the family of Mr. Bruce Joseph Hoffstetter, Jr..



August 23, 2023 at 02:05 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Mr. Bruce Joseph Hoffstetter, Jr..



August 22, 2023 at 07:59 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Bruce Joseph Hoffstetter, Jr..

August 22, 2023 at 07:59 PM

PD

“ Len and Family,

I was so sorry to hear of your loss. Bruce was a respected and fierce competitor and when needed, a helping hand. We competed in High School in track and cross country...Proctor & Notre Dame, a rivalry of the ages. At the 1973 State XC meet we ran as COL teammates. Spikes were somewhat useless in 3" of snow and as usual Bruce and I were running together. I lost my footing and was going down but Bruce caught me and were able to finish as teammates that day.

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

2 Timothy 4:7

God speed Bruce.

Peter Dunn



Peter Dunn - August 17, 2023 at 02:40 PM

LH

Peter, thank you so much for sharing the memories. Those were great times that none of us who were there will ever forget. We were rivals but also athletes trying to be our best not just for ourselves, but for our teammates. Bruce and I would often talk about those races and how much he loved competing with you. His race is over now, but the memories shared, will live on.

Len Hoffstetter - August 22, 2023 at 10:51 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Mr. Bruce Joseph Hoffstetter, Jr..



August 15, 2023 at 01:38 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Bruce Joseph Hoffstetter, Jr..

August 15, 2023 at 01:38 PM



“ Willie Taylor and Family purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Mr. Bruce Joseph Hoffstetter, Jr..



Willie Taylor and Family - August 14, 2023 at 12:23 PM



“ DEAR FAMILY,
We so very saddened for your loss of Bruce.
We were good friends in high school we played CYO basketball together. Bruce was a good man. May we express our condolences, thoughts, sympathy and prayers to his family.
MAY HIS MEMORY BE ETERNAL With our love
Deacon Dan and Cindy Klockowski
and Family

DEACON DANIEL A KLOCKOWSKI KLOCKOWSKI - August 14, 2023 at 07:56 AM