

# Michael J. Fahey, retired Buffalo police officer

News Staff Reports

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Michael J. Fahey of Grand Island, a retired Buffalo police officer whose battle with cancer led him to counsel others facing the disease, died Wednesday in his home. He was 50.

The Buffalo native, a graduate of McKinley High School, began his career with the Buffalo Police Department in 1980 as a patrol officer. He also did volunteer work with the department as a confidential peer counselor. He retired after 20 years with the department.

After being diagnosed with cancer in 2004, Mr. Fahey underwent surgery and chemotherapy and had what his doctor then called a remarkable recovery.

"I believe I am the luckiest person in the world," Mr. Fahey said in an interview with The Buffalo News in 2007.

That's when he decided to help others and became a volunteer cancer coach for the recently diagnosed. In 2007, Mr. Fahey was named one of the Roswell Park Cancer Institute Stars of Hope.

At the time of his News interview, Mr. Fahey urged people to make peace with themselves and to show love to everyone.

"Remember, there's always hope," he said.

Survivors include his father, Jack; three brothers, John, Mark and Joseph; three sisters, Trish Cosgrove, Franny Antoniadis and Mare Fahey; and dear, longtime friend George Snyder.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 11:30 a.m. Saturday in St. Aloysius Gonzaga Catholic Church, 157 Cleveland Drive, Cheektowaga. <br><br>