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## **Neal Lombardo, 74, Darien High School Class of 1960**

**Author :** David Gurliacci

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**Date :** March 12, 2017

Neal Michael Lombardo passed away at The Brian Center in Durham, North Carolina on Feb. 21 after battling cancer for three years.

Neal, the son of Nicholas and Mildred Lombardo, was born on Sept. 9, 1942 at Boulevard Hospital in Queens, N.Y. and lived in Mebane, N.C., close to his daughters and grandchildren.

Neal graduated from Darien High School in 1960 and went on to Allegheny College where he was a member of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. Neal graduated from the University of Bridgeport in Connecticut with a bachelor's degree in business administration.

After graduation from college, Neal married Mary Elizabeth Fraser had two wonderful daughters, Beth and Christine. His career took him to places such as Johannesburg and Cape Town, South Africa; Morristown,

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N.J.; Johnson City, Tenn.; Columbus, Ga, and finally, retirement in Mebane, N.C.

Neal had a passion for baseball and was a brilliant first baseman in Darien Little League and Babe Ruth League. Another passion was music. Neal not only listened to and collected various styles of music of the 1960s and beyond, he also became an excellent bass guitar player and was locally famous as a member of a band called The Belvederes.

Neal is survived by his brother John Lombardo of Norwalk, also a graduate of Darien High School and co-member of The Belvederes, his daughter Beth Brickner of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, her husband Dr. Tom Brickner and Neal's grandchildren Emily, Amanda and Ben, also, his daughter Christine McGrath of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, and Neal's grandchildren Robert (Bobby), Jason and Connor.

A remembrance was held for immediate family on Sunday, March 5. (After the remembrance, Neal's ashes were scattered at his beloved home in Mebane, North Carolina.)

We are all going to miss Neal/Dad/Grandpa but, we should be happy knowing that his pain is over and he is now with his mom and dad.